



Agenda Date: 2/26/2008
Agenda Placement: 7H

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Shelli Brobst for Randolph F. Snowden - Director
Health & Human Services
REPORT BY: Shelli Brobst, Contracts Analyst - 253-4720
SUBJECT: Agreement with Napa Ambulance Services, Inc. dba Piner (Health & Mental Health)

RECOMMENDATION

Director of Health and Human Services requests approval of and authorization for the Chair to sign the following agreements with Napa Ambulance Service, Inc., doing business as Piner:

1. Amendment No. 2 to Agreement No. 6172 extending the term through February 28, 2011 to provide emergency ambulance services within County Exclusive Operating Area 1 ("EOA 1");
2. Amendment No. 4 to Agreement No. 4296 extending the term through February 28, 2011 to provide emergency ambulance services within County Exclusive Operating Area 2 ("EOA 2"); and
3. A new agreement in the amount of \$10,000 for the term February 26, 2008 through June 30, 2008, with a provision for automatic annual renewal, to provide transportation to inpatient psychiatric hospitals for clients of the Mental Health Program.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Approval of the requested amendments will allow Piner to continue to provide emergency ambulance services in Exclusive Operating Area 1 (EOA 1) and Exclusive Operating Area 2 (EOA 2) through February 28, 2011. Approval of the new agreement will allow Piner to provide transportation to inpatient psychiatric facilities for clients who are determined to meet involuntary detention criteria by HHSA's Emergency Response staff.

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact?	Yes
Is it currently budgeted?	Yes
Where is it budgeted?	Public Health and Mental Health
Is it Mandatory or Discretionary?	Discretionary

Discretionary Justification:	There is no fiscal impact for Agreement Nos. 6172 and 4296. Piner is a for-profit company that has an exclusive right to provide ambulance services under these agreements; no costs are passed on to the County. The new agreement is discretionary in that there is no mandate to have this specific contract. However, the County is mandated to provide emergency mental health services pursuant to the Welfare and Institutions Code. Approval of this agreement will provide ambulance transport for seriously mentally ill clients from the HHS campus to hospital facilities when medically necessary. Per the terms of the agreement, Piner will be compensated only for services actually rendered.
Is the general fund affected?	Yes
Future fiscal impact:	Agreement Nos. 6172 and 4296 will terminate February 28, 2011. Although the new agreement terminates June 30, 2008, it contains an automatic annual renewal clause, which allows the County the option to continue these services in the next fiscal year. Appropriations will be budgeted accordingly.
Consequences if not approved:	If the amendments to Agreement Nos. 6172 and 4296 are not approved, the County will not be under contract for emergency ambulance services in Emergency Operating Areas 1 and 2. If the new agreement is not approved, the County will be unable to compensate the vendor for medically necessary ambulance transport of indigent mental health clients, and the County would need to explore other alternatives for transportation to hospitals for seriously mentally ill patients who may be medically compromised.
Additional Information:	The new Mental Health agreement will be funded by a combination of budgeted Realignment and County General Funds. Under the terms of the agreement, Piner shall only bill the County for transporting patients on a 5150 "hold" whenever: (1) the patient does not qualify for insurance, (2) the patient's insurer does not pay for services rendered, or (3) the patient does not have other means to pay for the service.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

Approval of the two recommended amendments will allow Piner to continue to serve as the provider of advanced life support (ALS) ambulance services in Exclusive Operating Areas 1 and 2. The term of these agreements are scheduled to expire on February 28, 2008. Specifically:

1. Amendment No. 2 to Agreement No. 6172 will extend the term of the agreement for Exclusive Operating Area 1 (EOA 1), which includes most of the northwestern area of Napa County: the communities of Oakville,

Rutherford, Deer Park, St. Helena, Calistoga and the Lake Berryessa resorts north of the Bureau of Reclamation Headquarters. Piner also provides ALS services for the existing Angwin Community Ambulance (ACA) Service response zone, which is part of EOA 1. ACA only provides basic life support (BLS) services within its response zone.

1. Amendment No. 4 to Agreement No. 4296 will extend the term of the agreement for Exclusive Operating Area 2 (EOA 2), which includes all of Central and South Napa County: the town of Yountville, the City of American Canyon, the unincorporated area of the County of Napa, and the southern designated area of lake Berryessa. EOA 2 does not include the City of Napa.

Under Agreement Nos. 6172 and 4296, Piner also is responsible for rotating and restocking the date-sensitive Advanced Life Support (ALS) supplies in the ALS Medical Cache Trailers for EOA 1 and EOA 2. On January 24, 2006, the Board approved a Joint Powers Agreement for the maintenance and use of the three Medical Cache Trailers by the County of Napa, the Cities of Calistoga, Napa, and St. Helena, and the American Canyon Fire Protection District, and amended Agreement Nos. 6172 and 4296 with Piner to add Piner's responsibility for rotating and restocking the supplies. The medical cache supplies for the ALS trailers include IV solutions, tubing, and angiocaths. Each cache has supplies for triage and treatment of approximately 50 patients. Approval of today's requested amendments will not change Piner's responsibility for rotating and restocking the trailers' supplies in any way.

Approval of the recommended New Agreement will enable Piner to provide safe and secure transportation for indigent individuals placed on an involuntary detention by HHSA Emergency Response staff pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code Section 5150, which requires transport to inpatient psychiatric facilities in a safe and secure manner.

Piner does not provide services under Agreement Nos. 6172 and 4296 as a Business Associate to a Covered Component of the County that is subject to HIPAA. However, regarding the New Agreement, the County's Privacy Officer has determined that, for purposes of HIPAA, the terms of the Business Associate Agreement previously entered into by the parties shall apply when and to the extent that the activities conducted by Piner hereunder constitute Business Associate activities as defined by HIPAA.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Lorenzo Zialcita