



Board of County Commissioners Agenda Request

4A
Agenda Item #

Requested Meeting Date: 04/11/2017

Title of Item: Inmate Medical Services

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> REGULAR AGENDA <input type="checkbox"/> CONSENT AGENDA <input type="checkbox"/> INFORMATION ONLY	Action Requested: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approve/Deny Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Adopt Resolution (attach draft) <i>*provide copy of hearing notice that was published</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Direction Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Item <input type="checkbox"/> Hold Public Hearing*
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Submitted by: Sheriff Scott Turner	Department: Sheriff's Office
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Presenter (Name and Title): Sheriff Scott Turner	Estimated Time Needed: 5 minutes
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Summary of Issue:

Please see the attached concerning increases in our inmate medical services costs.

Alternatives, Options, Effects on Others/Comments:

Recommended Action/Motion:

Authorize amendment to Medical Service Agreement with Mend Correctional Care, increasing nursing hours from 16 hours per week to 24 hours per week.

Financial Impact:

Is there a cost associated with this request? Yes No

What is the total cost, with tax and shipping? \$

Is this budgeted? Yes No *Please Explain:*

SCOTT A. TURNER
SHERIFF OF AITKIN COUNTY

217 Second Street NW, Room 185
Aitkin, MN 56431

218-927-7435 Emergency 911
Sheriff Fax 218-927-7359 / Dispatch Fax 218-927-6887
TOLL FREE 1-888-900-2138

MEMO

TO: Aitkin County Board

DATE: April 5, 2017

FROM: Sheriff Scott Turner

RE: Inmate Medical Services

Attached is a proposed contract addendum and memo from Jail Administrator Karla White in reference to our contract with our inmate medical services provider, MEND. Due to increased inmate numbers, it is necessary to increase our weekly nursing services from 16 to 24 hours. This increase in time is due to an increase in inmate numbers (both borders and Aitkin County inmates) and the increased needs of those being incarcerated.

The increase of .2 FTE in this service will cost an additional \$17,800. This cost, while not budgeted, can be offset by the revenue from the boarding of inmates from other counties.

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MEMO

TO: Sheriff Scott Turner DATE: April 4, 2017
FROM: Karla White RE: Mend Correctional Care

I am writing in regard to the Medical Service Agreement we have with Mend Correctional Care. This original agreement was signed in August of 2015. It included 16 hours of nursing in the jail facility each week, an onsite visit by the provider every other week and other services.

Since the start of the contract we have experienced an increase in arrests of Aitkin County inmates and the frequency of boarders coming in and out from other facilities. Each of these inmates must be seen by nursing staff for an initial assessment and any needed medications must be obtained. According to nursing staff the number of diabetics and critical care inmates has also been increasing. Another issue that has been steadily increasing and impacting nursing service is the number of inmates needing mental health assistance within the jail. Inmates that need mental health care can meet with a mental health provider via "Tele Med". This allows them to meet on a video conference over the computer. The nurse must be present during these calls to inform the provider of what steps have already been taken and for security reasons with the equipment.

Nursing staff is required to meet with each new inmate to perform a health assessment. Also, each inmate must have a mantoux test within 14 days of incarceration. All of these factors have played together to make it increasingly difficult for nursing staff to complete the required work load, assessments and tests within the specified time frames.

In recent months, additional Mend staff has assisted the Aitkin nursing staff to catch up on their required duties. Since extra help has been needed due to the issues stated above, I am requesting we accept Mend's amendment to the Medical Service Agreement. This will increase nursing hours to a much needed 24 hours per week.