



**Health and Human Services
Agency
COUNTY OF TULARE
AGENDA ITEM**

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

KUYLER CROCKER
District One
PETE VANDER POEL
District Two
AMY SHUKLIAN
District Three
J. STEVEN WORTHLEY
District Four
MIKE ENNIS
District Five

AGENDA DATE: December 4, 2018

Public Hearing Required	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Scheduled Public Hearing w/Clerk	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Published Notice Required	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advertised Published Notice	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
County Counsel Sign-Off	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
Meet & Confer Required	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Electronic file(s) has been sent	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
Budget Transfer (Aud 308) attached	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Personnel Resolution attached	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Agreements are attached and signature line for Chairman is marked with tab(s)/flag(s)	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>

CONTACT PERSON: Nathan Arroyo PHONE: 624-8000

SUBJECT: Approve an agreement with Medical Group of Visalia, Inc.

REQUEST(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve an agreement with Medical Group of Visalia, Inc., to provide hospital physician on-call coverage retroactive from July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2020, in an amount not to exceed \$550,000 payable to the Medical Group of Visalia, Inc. by the County of Tulare. This agreement is retroactive due to the time needed for the vendor to request and complete documentation for a name change and delays in negotiating terms in the agreement. It was impracticable for the Board to take action prior to July 1, 2018, due to the time needed to process, prepare, and submit the agenda item;
2. Find that the Board had authority to enter into the proposed agreement as of July 1, 2018, and that it was in the County's best interest to enter into the agreement on that date; and
3. Authorize the Chairman of the Board to sign two (2) copies of the agreement.

SUMMARY:

The Tulare County Public Health Branch is requesting approval to enter into an agreement with the Medical Group of Visalia, Inc., previously Valley Hospitalist Medical Group, Inc., for the provision of hospital physician on-call coverage at Kaweah Delta Health Care District Hospital. This service is necessary to providing continuity and quality of care to Tulare County Health Care Center patients.

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Continuity of care is a hallmark and primary objective of family medicine and is consistent with quality patient care provided through a patient-centered medical home, an initiative and recognition that Tulare County Health Care Center received in 2017. Evidence has shown that inadequate on-call coverage creates the potential for poor quality of care leading to adverse patient outcomes and considerably higher medical costs. Physicians who follow their patients between outpatient (clinic) and inpatient (hospital) visits are able to timely treat, follow up, and monitor their patients through real-time information sharing and communication.

Hospital coverage requires a 24 hour on-call physician to be available for health center patients that present to the emergency room, and to conduct ongoing medical rounds for admitted patients. The health care centers serve over 8,000 unique patients annually, with over 400 hospital visits per month.

This agreement is a viable option due to the shortage of employed physician staff. The health centers have partnered with outside physicians and physician groups to assist with the required hospital on-call coverage. Medical Group of Visalia, Inc. has been providing this service through a professional services agreement since December 2014.

This agreement has been approved as to form by County Counsel. The following term deviates substantively from standard County boilerplate: 1) This is a multiple year agreement.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

This agreement has a budgeted amount of \$550,000 for the two year agreement period with \$275,000 budgeted in Fiscal Year 2018-2019 and Fiscal Year 2019-2020. The cost for this service will be covered by health center program revenue. The health centers have been financially sustainable in covering health operation costs. The hospital on-call expense is an existing cost and was included in the current Fiscal Year 2017-2018 budget. There is no additional net cost to the County General Fund.

LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF TULARE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN:

The Tulare County Public Health Branch has conscientiously worked to strengthen partnerships with community providers to maximize effectiveness, funding sustainability, and capacity building. This request addresses the Organizational Performance and Quality of Life Initiatives.

The approval to enter into a contractual agreement with the Medical Group of Visalia, Inc. will permit the continuation of the partnership and provision of hospital on-call coverage to the health care center patients. This effort will improve the health center's continuity of care and coordination plan, improve quality of care, and fundamentally improve organizational performance.

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ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:



Robert Stewart
Director of Fiscal Operations

cc: County Administrative Officer

Attachment(s) Agreement

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF TULARE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVE AN) Resolution No. _____
AGREEMENT WITH MEDICAL) Agreement No. _____
GROUP OF VISALIA, INC.)

UPON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR _____, SECONDED BY
SUPERVISOR _____, THE FOLLOWING WAS ADOPTED BY THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, AT AN OFFICIAL MEETING HELD _____
_____, BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

ATTEST: JASON T. BRITT
COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER/
CLERK, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BY: _____
Deputy Clerk

* * * * *

1. Approved an agreement with Medical Group of Visalia, Inc., to provide hospital physician on-call coverage from July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2020, in an amount not to exceed \$550,000. This agreement is retroactive due to the time needed for the vendor to request and complete documentation for a name change and delays in negotiating the terms in the agreement. It was impracticable for the Board to take action prior to July 1, 2018, due to the time needed to process, prepare, and submit the agenda item;
2. Found that the Board had authority to enter into the proposed agreement as of July 1, 2018 and that it was in the County's best interest to enter into the agreement on that date; and
3. Authorized the Chairman of the Board to sign two (2) copies of the agreement.