



# Health & Human Services Agency COUNTY OF TULARE AGENDA ITEM

KUYLER CROCKER
District One
PETE VANDER POEL
District Two
AMY SHUKLIAN
District Three
EDDIE VALERO
District Four
DENNIS TOWNSEND

District Five

AGENDA DATE: October 15, 2019 REVISED

SUBJECT:

Approve an agreement with Central Valley Health Information Exchange and Manifest MedEx

#### REQUEST(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

- Approve an agreement with Central Valley Health Information Exchange and Manifest MedEx in an amount not to exceed \$6,120, effective retroactively from October 1, 2019. This agreement is retroactive due to administrative oversight;
- 2. Find that the Board had authority to enter into the proposed agreement as of October 1, 2019 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 three (3) copies of the agreement.

#### **SUMMARY:**

The Public Health Branch received a grant from the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) in July 2016: Communities in Action – Lifetime of Wellness. The funding was made available through the Centers for Disease Control Prevention Fund. One of the major components of the grant was to have the Public Health Branch enhance the use of electronic health records for the identification, monitoring, referral, and reporting of health issues across the County.

On April 24, 2017, Tulare County Board of Supervisors approved and signed Agreement No. 28015 with Inland Empire Health Information Exchange (now Manifest MedEx), along with its local affiliate Central Valley Health Information

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and Manifest MedEx

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Exchange (CVHIE), to facilitate health information sharing and aggregation for treatment, payment, operations, public health and other lawful purposes. Manifest MedEx is a statewide Health Information Exchange formed through the merger of Inland Empire Health Information Exchange and Cal INDEX. Through this agreement, Manifest MedEx will continue to provide data transmission and related services to allow participating providers to conduct searches for patient data, and to exchange patient data identified from those searches from a centralized computer system that facilitates the sharing of patient data among exchange participants. CVHIE facilitates membership into the exchange to maximize participation thereby creating the most comprehensive medical information database possible for the Central Valley.

As part of the association with CVHIE and Manifest MedEx, the County will have connectivity to more than 150 organizations providing access to more than 11 million claims and 5 million clinical records. Local participants in this association include Altura Centers for Health, Valley Children's Hospital, Family Health Care Network and Community Medical Centers, just to name a few. The system is compliant with all current protected health information and patient confidentiality laws. Manifest MedEx services include establishing and applying standards for such exchange of patient data; the system will maintain a repository of patient data for up to 7,000 participating county clinic patients, but has the potential to be extended to all health care providers in Tulare County.

The following terms deviate substantively from the County's boilerplate: (1) the agreement does not include an expiration date; (2) the County and CVHIE may terminate the agreement with or without cause upon 30 day's written notice to Manifest MedEx. In the event CVHIE terminates the agreement, it will continue between Manifest MedEx and the County; (3) Manifest MedEx may terminate the Agreement for cause; (4) each party's liability is limited; and (5) mutual indemnification.

#### FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

This agreement with the Central Valley Health Information Exchange and Manifest MedEx is in an amount not to exceed \$6,120. The agreement is effective as of October 1, 2019 and does not include a termination date. It is expected to cost approximately \$6,120 per year and will be charged to the Visalia Health Care Centers budget line 3014-7043 Professional and specialized expenses. This expense has been budgeted in the Fiscal Year 2019/2020 budget and will be covered by clinic visit revenue annually. There is no additional net County cost to the General Fund.

#### LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF TULARE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN:

This request furthers the Quality of Life Initiative that promotes public health and welfare, educational opportunities, natural resource management, and continued improvement of environmental quality. The requests will directly meet this initiative by providing the Public Health Branch with access to information on the health

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status of the county. This will support better formulation of public health solutions that are more timely, targeted, and strategic.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:**

Karca M Speliet H

Karen M. Elliott

Public Health Director

cc: County Administrative Office

Attachment(s) Agreement

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

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVE AN AGREEMENT WITH CENTRAL VALLE HEALTH INFORMATION EXCHANGE MANIFEST MEDEX	,		). 	
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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, AT AN O	FFICIAL M	EETING HELD		
, BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:				
AYES: NOES: ABSTAIN: ABSENT:				
ATTEST:	COUNTY	T. BRITT / ADMINISTRAT BOARD OF SUF		
BY:				_
		Deputy Cle	rk	
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