

Executive Summary Form

Agenda Number: 3387 HLT

Recommendation:

Approval of a contract with Palo Verde Behavioral Health (PV) to perform Title 36 mental health screenings, evaluations, and treatment as necessary. The agreement will commence upon execution and run through 6/30/19 unless terminated by either party with 90 days' written notice.

Background (Brief): Palo Verde Behavioral Health is one of the only facilities that will accept higher acuity clients who are in crisis, combative, or have a history of felony charges. PV has been a provider for Title 36 clients for Cochise County for some time. The services provided have met the client needs, as well as the needs of the County in ensuring quality assessments in a timely manner.

Fiscal Impact & Funding Sources: Inpatient services will be provided at \$1,000 per day unless one-on-one monitoring is required, in which case the rate will be \$1,200 per day; psych evaluations will be conducted at the rate of \$180 each. This is an increase from our current contract of \$900 dollars daily. This increase is reasonable, as the market base rate for psychiatric services starts at \$2000 daily, and when considering one-to-one monitoring, medications and treatments, costs can quickly escalate to well over \$5000 daily. The current cost did not consider the need for one-to-one monitoring, or the high acuity nature psychiatric clients often bring to an inpatient unit's staffing needs. This increase will allow for PV to continue seeing our T36 clients with no limit to the number of T36 clients they will accept.

Funded via General Fund: 100 6000 6210 431.322

Next Steps/Action Items/Follow-up: Your approvals are respectfully requested.

Impact of Not Approving: Not approving this contract would delay care for our clients who have serious mental illness. Those in the community would most likely end up in our jail, and those in our jail would remain in our jail longer, in crisis, increasing liability to the County, placing County employee's at risk for harm, and risking the client's safety. Additionally, there is a very limited number of qualified facilities available to meet the need of Title 36 mental health screening, evaluation and treatment. It would be challenging to locate a replacement facility.