

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

226



FROM: Riverside County Regional Medical Center (RCRMC)

SUBMITTAL DATE:
12/20/05

SUBJECT: Ratify the Interim Contracts for Travel Nurse Registries

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Ratify and execute the interim contracts with Travel Nurse Registries: Emerald Health, World Health Staffing, Westways, Trustaff, and On Assignment, and;
2. Authorize the Purchasing Agent to move dollars between these contracts as needs dictate as long as the aggregate amount does not exceed \$3.0 million annually,
3. Approve an appropriation for Travel Nurse Registries of \$3.0 million annually, and;
4. Direct the Auditor-Controller to adjust the Hospitals budget as outlined in Attachment A, and;
5. Authorize the Purchasing Agent to execute interim contracts with any additional qualified Travel Nurse Registries that do not exceed \$100,000.

BACKGROUND: In fiscal year 2003, on behalf of RCRMC, the Purchasing Department issued a formal request for proposal to secure temporary nursing services at the most economical rates. Because no one provider has the ability to meet all the hospitals requirements, on August 26, 2003, ten responsive and qualified registries were awarded contracts, at an aggregate overall annual amount. These registries provide local nurses who work primarily on a per diem or daily basis.

FISCAL PROCEDURES APPROVED
 ROBERT E. BYRD, Auditor-Controller
 BY Sue A. Jones Deputy
 12/24/05

FORM APPROVED
COUNTY COUNSEL

DB:CM

DEC 8 7 2005

BY [Signature] Douglas D. Bagley
Douglas D. Bagley, Hospital Director

FINANCIAL DATA	Current F.Y. Total Cost:	\$ 3,000,000.00	In Current Year Budget:	Yes
	Current F.Y. Net County Cost:	0	Budget Adjustment:	Yes
	Annual Net County Cost:	0	For Fiscal Year:	05/06

SOURCE OF FUNDS: Hospital Enterprise Funds

Positions To Be Deleted Per A-30

Requires 4/5 Vote

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION: **APPROVE**

County Executive Office Signature [Signature: Dan Martinez]

Policy Policy
 Consent Consent
 Dep't Recomm.:
 Per Exec. Ofc.:

Prev. Agn. Ref.: _____ District: _____ Agenda Number: _____

**ATTACHMENTS FILED
WITH THE CLERK OF THE BOARD**

3.44

BACKGROUND (Continued):

In January 2004, State regulations implemented mandatory minimum nurse staffing ratios and increased them in January 2005. This increased the shortage of nurses available to RCRMC, while patient volume has continued to rise. While the current registries are permitted to provide longer-term "contract" nurses, they have only been able to supply a small number of them.

RCRMC needs the ability to contract with "travel" nurse registries to provide longer-term nurses to work a full time schedule to meet the service coverage requirements and provide a more stable nurse staffing mix.

RCRMC seeks approval for a contract allocation for travel nurse registries. These nurses are from outside the local area and will increase the total available supply of nurses to RCRMC. These interim contracts are to provide additional nurse staffing resources, while RCRMC and County Purchasing complete formal request for proposals of both Per Diem Nurse Registry and Travel Nurse Registry services.

PRICE REASONABLENESS:

Fourteen travel nurse registries were contacted to provide proposals for services. Rates received from these registries ranged from \$65.00 to \$78.00 per hour. After consulting with another county facility and reviewing the Hospital Association of Southern California's survey of 106 hospitals in 6 counties, the rates of \$65.00 to \$71.00 were deemed competitive and reasonable. These rates, along with the county's terms and conditions, were offered and these five registries agreed to the county's terms and conditions.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

As of December 5, 2005, RCRMC anticipates earned revenues to exceed the current Board approved budgeted revenue. The reason for the anticipated earned revenues projection is that RCRMC, since July 1, 2005, has been experiencing volume increases over the same period last year. No additional County General Funding is required.

JUSTIFICATION FOR DELAY:

Negotiations, along with clarifications for multiple Travel Nurse Registries required extensive time and efforts to satisfy multiple agencies.

Attachment A

Subject: Ratify the Interim Contracts for Travel Nurse Registries

Increase Appropriations:

40050-4300100000-525620 Temporary Exp-Nurse Registry \$3,000,000

Increase Estimated Revenue:

40050-4300100000-776310 Private Patients \$3,000,000

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MILLER, WALTER
BIA CHIEF COMM