UNION COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ACTION AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT
Meeting Date: January 22, 2007

Action Agenda Item No. 11
(Central Admin. use only)

SUBJECT: Inmate Health Services

DEPARTMENT: Health Department
Sheriff's Office

PUBLIC HEARING: No

ATTACHMENT(S):
ATTACHMENTS: A, B, C, D

INFORMATION CONTACT:
Sheriff Cathey
Jenny Kirksey
Mark Watson

TELEPHONE NUMBERS:
704-296-4801
704-283-3869

DEPARTMENT'S RECOMMENDED ACTION: The Union County Health Department expressed an interest in overseeing the program of providing the required Federal and State level of healthcare to Inmates of the Union County Jail.

In order for an in-house agency to provide the inmate health service the following actions are necessary.

1. Assign the Union County Health Department as managing agency and primary service provider for inmate health services at the Union County Jail effective 12:01 AM, March 13, 2007.

2. Approve the addition of an Inmate Heath Services Budget within the Jail Program under the budgetary control of the Heath Department.

3. Approve the Schedule of Personnel (Attachment B) requested by the Union County Health Department needed to provide inmate health services on a 24 hour/ 7 day basis.

4. Appropriate funding for personnel, professional services, equipment, operating expense, prescription medication, and medical services. (Attachment C)

2006-2007 Budget appropriation for Inmate Health Services: (Attachment D)

BACKGROUND: Termination of Health Services Agreement dated March 26, 2006 between Union County and Prison Health Services. (Attachment A)

On November 10, 2006, Prison Health Services gave a 120 day notice that it was exercising the option to terminate the Health Services Agreement effective March 13, 2007 with Union County. Prison Health Services has managed the medical services provided to inmates of the Union County Jail since March 2005. They sighted financial losses on the account due to unrelenting challenges in recruiting qualified healthcare personnel and escalating healthcare costs. Prison Health Services presented the County with a demand for an additional $68,000 annually to continue providing the same level of services after December 1, 2006.

The Sheriff's Department and County Administration noted numerous deficiencies in the level of service provided by Prison Health Services and could not recommend the additional funding given no guarantee of improved service.

Currently inmate medical services are provided to the jail population on a 16 hour /7 day schedule.

This proposal recommends expending coverage to a 24 hour /7 day schedule to accommodate the required healthcare of an increasing jail population.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: Appropriation Requried: Attachment C

Legal Dept. Comments if applicable: _____

_____

_____

Finance Dept. Comments if applicable: _____

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_____

Manager Recommendation: _____

_____

_____

ATTACHMENT A

PRISON HEALTH SERVICES, INC.

Suite 200
105 Westpark Drive
Brentwood, TN 37027

(615) 373-3100
(800) 729-0069
fax (615) 376-9862

www.prisonhealth.com

November 10, 2006

Sheriff Eddie Cathey
Office of the Sheriff of Union County
3344 Presson Road
Monroe, NC 28112

RE: Termination of health services agreement dated March 29, 2006

Dear Sheriff Cathey:

Prison Health Services is committed to delivering quality correctional healthcare services for our clients and has done so for more than 28 years. During the past nineteen months PHS has worked diligently to deliver such a program to the Union County Jail. As you know, we have had unique and unrelenting challenges in recruiting qualified healthcare personnel for the Union County program. We also have experienced escalating healthcare costs. These two factors have resulted in PHS experiencing operational difficulties and sustained growing financial losses to-date.

We appreciate your willingness to consider alternatives. We have spent the last several months working with you and jail administration to identify operational changes that would reverse the negative financial trend. Per our discussion on October 23rd, the information gathered over those months indicates that, while operational changes are of some help, only an increase in the base price of the contract will restore the program to reasonable profitability. Unfortunately, based on my most recent discussion with Mark Watson, the County is unable to make any financial changes to the agreement at this time.

With no other realistic alternatives available there is no recourse other than for PHS to exercise our right to terminate the agreement. This letter will serve as written notice of PHS' intent to terminate the agreement in one hundred twenty days according to section 7.2 (b). The agreement will terminate at 12:01 AM on March 13th, 2007.

PHS remains committed to provide a quality healthcare program for the Union County Jail and we will continue to deliver on the services through the termination date of the agreement. While PHS looks forward to the opportunity of bidding on these health services and securing a contract under more favorable financial circumstances, we will cooperate fully in any transition should Union County choose another alternative.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you.

Sincerely,

Jesse Hubling
Group Vice President

ATTACHMENT - B

Estimated Cost of Additional Health Department Personnel

FTE	Position	ANNUAL SALARY	HOURLY RATE	NO. OF HOURS	AMOUNT PAID	SEPARATION ALLOWANCE	RETIREMENT	FICA	FICM	401K	INS	TOTAL COST	Prorated 4 Months
0.3	TPT Physician III	$170,834	$82.1317	156	**$12,812.55**	$ 180.66	$ 626.53	$ 794.38	$ 185.78	$ 640.63	$ -	$ 15,240.53	$ 5,079.67
1	Physician Extender II	$ 71,838	$34.5375	2,080	**$71,838.00**	$ 1,012.92	$ 3,512.88	$4,453.96	$1,041.65	$3,591.90	$1,302.423	$ 86,753.72	$ 28,915.02
1	Liscensed Practical Nurse	$ 38,012	$18.2750	2,080	**$38,012.00**	$ 535.97	$ 1,858.79	$2,356.74	$ 551.17	$1,900.60	$ 689.158	$ 45,904.43	$ 15,299.95
1	Liscensed Practical Nurse	$ 38,012	$18.2750	2,080	**$38,012.00**	$ 535.97	$ 1,858.79	$2,356.74	$ 551.17	$1,900.60	$ 689.158	$ 45,904.43	$ 15,299.95
1	Liscensed Practical Nurse	$ 38,012	$18.2750	2,080	**$38,012.00**	$ 535.97	$ 1,858.79	$2,356.74	$ 551.17	$1,900.60	$ 689.158	$ 45,904.43	$ 15,299.95
0.6	RPT-LPN (Weekends)	$ 38,012	$18.2750	1,248	**$22,807.20**	$ 321.58	$ 1,115.27	$1,414.05	$ 330.70	$1,140.36	$ -	$ 27,129.16	$ 9,042.15
0.6	RPT-LPN (Weekends)	$ 38,012	$18.2750	1,248	**$22,807.20**	$ 321.58	$ 1,115.27	$1,414.05	$ 330.70	$1,140.36	$ -	$ 27,129.16	$ 9,042.15
0.2	TPT-LPN prn	$ 38,012	$18.2750	416	**$ 7,602.40**	$ 107.19	$ 371.76	$ 471.35	$ 110.23	$ -	$ -	$ 8,662.93	$ 2,887.36
1	Medical Office Assistant	$ 29,399	$14.1341	2,080	**$29,399.00**	$ 414.53	$ 1,437.61	$1,822.74	$ 426.29	$1,469.95	$ 533.004	$ 35,503.11	$ 11,833.19
6.7	**TOTALS**				**281,302.35**	**3,966.36**	**13,755.68**	**17,440.75**	**4,078.88**	**13,685.00**	**3,902.90**	**338,131.92**	$ 112,699.37
													$ 28,174.84 MONTHLY

ATTACHMENT C

APPROPRIATION SCHEDULE (March 13, 2007 –June 30, 2007)
UNION COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
INMATE MEDICAL SERVICES

PERSONNEL	
Compensation	$93,800
Benefits	$19,000
Total	$112,800
OPERATING EXPENSE	
Psychiatric Services	$4,900
On-Site Lab	$1,953
Medical Supplies	$1,400
Administrative Expense	$3,150
Equipment	$700
Total	$12,103
PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION	
Total	$20,000
MEDICAL SERVICES	
Total	$100,000
EQUIPMENT (one time expense)	
Computer	$1,500
Exam Table	$1,305
Airlift Stool	$145
Pulse Oximeter	$368
Gooseneck Light	$161
Suretemp Oral Therm	$225
Digital Scale	$382
Pocket Doppler	$663
EKG Machine	$3,450
Pharmacy Cart	$700
Microscope	$825
AED	$1,375
Total	$10,829

APPROPRIATION TOTAL: $255,732

ATTACHMENT - D

APPROPRIATION SCHEDULE July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2007
UNION COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, JAIL
INMATE MEDICAL SERVICES

PHS CONTRACT:	
Personnel, Operating and Prescriptions	$365,953
MEDICAL SERVICES	
Total	$184,047
BUDGETED TOTAL	$550,000

EXPENDITURE ESTIMATE July 1, 2006 – March 12, 2007

PHS CONTRACT:	
Personnel, Operating and Prescriptions	$263,296
MEDICAL SERVICES	
Total (Projected)	$286,704
EXPENDITURE TOTAL	$550,000

BALANCE ON MARCH 12, 2007	**$ 0**

While Personnel, Operating and Prescription Drug cost remain relatively constant and can be projected with a higher degree of confidence, the utilization of Medical Services is less predicable for a constantly changing population such as the inmate population of the Union County Jail.

Union County has experience several large, unpredictable medical claims for Union County inmates housed both in the Jail and in the "safekeeping" program at Central Prison. These medical claims will have depleted the budgeted appropriation for 2006-2007 by the end of the PHS contract on March 12, 2007.

BUDGET AMENDMENT

BUDGET	Jail - Inmate Health Services	REQUESTED BY	Mark Watson & Sheriff
FISCAL YEAR	FY2007	DATE	January 22, 2007

INCREASE		DECREASE	
Description		Description	
Inmate Health Services	255,732	Contingency	105,477
Fund Balance	150,255		

Explanation: Assumption of inmate health service from the contractor and additional funds for medical services

DATE _____ APPROVED BY _____

Bd of Comm/County Manager
Lynn West/Clerk to the Board

FOR POSTING PURPOSES ONLY

DEBIT			CREDIT		
Code	Account	Amount	Code	Account	
10543135-5121-1080	Salaries & Wages	93,800	10592000-5920	Contingency	105,477
10543135-5132-1080	Separation Allowance	2,195			
10543135-5134-1080	401K	4,690	10499100-4991	Fund Balance	150,255
10543135-5181-1080	FICA	7,176			
10543135-5182-1080	Retirement	4,587			
10543135-5183-1080	Health Insurance	330			
10543135-5187-1080	Dental Insurance	22			
10543135-5239-1080	Medical Supplies & Equip	12,682			
10543135-5260-1080	Office Supplies & Equip	3,850			
10543135-5265-1080	Computer Equipment	1,500			
10543135-5383-1080	Medical Services	4,900			
10543135-5389-1080	Other Professional Srv	120,000			
	Total	255,732		Total	255,732

Prepared By KDN/aar
Posted By
Date

Number 38