ALAMEDA COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' SPECIAL MEETING
&
JOINT HEALTH AND PUBLIC PROTECTION COMMITTEE

Friday, May 16, 2025
2:00 p.m.

Supervisor Nate Miley (Chair, Health Committee Public Protection Committee member)
Supervisor Lena Tam (Health Committee member)
Supervisor Elisa Márquez (Chair, Public Protection Committee)

Location: ***Board of Supervisors Chambers, Rm 512***
County Administration Building
1221 Oak Street, Oakland, CA 94612

Summary/Action Minutes

I. INFORMATIONAL ITEM: Request for Proposal (RFP) Timeline for Healthcare Services at Santa Jail – Kimberly Gasaway, Director, General Services Agency
Attachment

The current jail medical services contract expires September 2027. The General Services Agency (GSA) recommends Sheriff's Office begins the procurement process now. The procurement process is estimated to take approximately 14 months, possibly longer.

Define objectives, background, qualifications, requirements, and deliverables. Will possibly use consultants for complex scope. GSA will format the job specs which will be reviewed by County Counsel. The Request for Proposals (RFP) includes a mandatory bidders' conference with jail security clearance. The RFP's will be evaluated by a selection committee.

Proposals will be scored, interviews conducted, and the top bidder will be recommended. The Board of Supervisors approves final award after the protest period.

Current vendor Wellpath has long provided services, with the last RFP issued in 2021, and the contract awarded in 2022. Contracts are typically 5 years long with option to extend.

Next Steps

- Sheriff's Office to start specification development immediately.
- GSA to assist in formatting, legal review, and managing procurement.
- Future Selection Committee to be formed with subject matter experts and vetted members.
- RFP to be issued, with bidders' conference and security clearance.

Final recommendations to be brought to Board of Supervisors for approval.

Purpose:
☐ Report progress
☒ **Advocacy or Education**
☐ Request Joint Health & Public Protection Committee Recommendation or Position
☐ Other:

This item was informational only and required no Committee action.

II. INFORMATIONAL ITEM: Alameda County Sheriff's Office Forvis Mazars Audit

Attachment
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Faith Saporsantos, MSN, MHA, RN, CRRN, CCHP, Lieutenant Joseph Atienza, Alameda County Sheriff's Office and Sheriff Yesenia Sanchez, Alameda County, presented the Alameda County Sheriff's Office Forvis Mazars Audit.

Lieutenant Joseph Atienza of the Alameda County Sheriff's Office presented an update on medical services oversight at Santa Rita Jail, focusing on the Wellpath contract and quality assurance (QA) practices. He reported that the jail has a legal duty to provide adequate healthcare, and Wellpath covers all medical services for the incarcerated population. To ensure accountability, the Sheriff's Office contracted with Forvis Mazars as an independent third-party auditor to conduct monthly QA reviews, quarterly multidisciplinary evaluations, and issue corrective action plans (CAPs) when standards are not met.

Mazars representative Faith Saporsantos outlined how QA and continuous quality improvement (CQI) processes work together, with at least 45 patient charts reviewed monthly. Historical data showed persistent deficiencies: governance (12%), general patient care (42%), and medical-legal compliance (6%) remain far below the 90–95% benchmark, though chronic care has improved to 83%. Corrective actions in 2024 and 2025 targeted areas such as intake screenings, chronic care, medically supervised withdrawal, and access to care. Some progress has been made but problems with documentation, follow-up, and consistency persist.

Future Considerations for the next RFP

- Need for new electronic health record system (Epic) → must ensure continuity of care during transition
- Incorporate community and expert input into next RFP requirements

Cole Casey, President of Operations for Wellpath, addressed concerns over the Forvis Mazars audit findings. He reported that Wellpath delivers consistent, high-quality medical care, but deficiencies flagged in the Mazars reports largely stem from documentation and systemic issues—such as reliance on multiple electronic systems, overlapping agency responsibilities, and a court injunction restricting after-hours access—rather than lack of provider care. Wellpath is only responsible for medical, not behavioral care, and the compliance performance is stronger than the audit suggests.

Staffing levels exceed contract requirements, with Alameda County achieving some of the lowest turnover rates nationally across Wellpath's 154 contracts. Wellpath welcomes continued dialogue and partnership, committing to transparency, collaboration with the Sheriff's Office and Behavioral Health, and addressing broader systemic challenges.

Speakers

Richard Spiegelman, Mickey Duxbury, Daryl Ray, Mario Gonzalez Brito, Rabbi David Cooper, Jean Moses, Charis Baz, Pat Schwinn, John Lindsay-Poland, Katie Dixon, Yolanda Huang, Asad Traina, MD – Physician, Santa Rita Jail, Lonnie Hancock – former State Legislator, Myrna Schwartz, Barb Atwell, Willem Vandekamp, Ben Ogilvie, Lindsay Schachinger, Cathy Rodriguez, Angela Cray, Elaine Peng, Karen Chin, Terry Dunn, Alison Monroe, Christopher Valentine, Sarah Tyrell, Michai Freeman, and Aladrian Hillmon commented on the Alameda County Sheriff's Office Forvis Mazars Audit.

Purpose:
☐ Report progress
☒ **Advocacy or Education**
☐ Request Joint Health & Public Protection Committee Recommendation or Position
☐ Other:

Recommendation from Joint Committee: The Joint Public Protection and Health Committee will reconvene in September 2025 to review progress on corrective actions and next steps.

Supervisor Márquez and Sheriff Sanchez will co-host a community listening session in July 2025 to allow public input beyond 2 minutes

Supervisors discussed providing board input on the next medical services RFP, given its scale and impact.

PUBLIC COMMENT
None.

Start times are approximate - Board of Supervisors' Committees agendas are available via Internet at: www.acgov.org