

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

In the Matter of Exempting a Personal Services )  
Contract for the Provision of Medical and Mental )  
Health Services in the Columbia County Jail From ) ORDER NO. 70-2020  
the Screening and Selection Procedures of the )  
Personal Services Contracting Rule )

WHEREAS, Section 10 of the Columbia County Personal Services Contracting Rule, adopted by Order No. 38-2006, authorizes the County to authorize and approve a personal services contract utilizing the direct procurement procedure even though a more formal process would normally be required in an emergency, either due to time or because of unforeseen developments or circumstances which could not have been reasonably foreseen, create a substantial risk of loss, damage, interruption of services or threat to the public health or safety and require the prompt performance to remedy the situation; and

WHEREAS, the County entered into a Personal Services Contract with Wellpath LLC (formerly known as Correct Care Solutions, LLC), effective October 1, 2015, for Jail medical and mental health services; and

WHEREAS, the Wellpath contract expires September 30, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, Columbia County declared a state of emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a worldwide pandemic which could not have been reasonably foreseen by Resolution No. 25-2020; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 25-2020 authorized the emergency procurement of goods and services under Section 10 of the Columbia County Personal Services Contracting Rule; and

WHEREAS, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, staff at the Columbia County Jail have expended extensive time and energy toward dealing with the emergency, including but not limited to, mitigating the risk of infection in the Columbia County Jail, a congregate care setting at extremely high risk for COVID-19 transmission; and

WHEREAS, the risk of a surge or second wave of COVID-19 is very high in the foreseeable future until a vaccine is readily available, requiring Jail Staff to continue its vigilance in assuring appropriate mitigation measures are in place to avoid a congregate care outbreak; and

WHEREAS, additional nursing hours are needed to assist in proper mitigation of risk in the Jail; and

WHEREAS, Wellpath staff are well trained and are familiar with the needs of the inmates and staff during the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, a change in medical and mental health providers during the pandemic would be detrimental the Jail s ability to withstand the emergency; and

WHEREAS, the Request for Proposal and contracting process for Jail Medical Services is time intensive and lengthy, and when properly done takes a minimum of six months under normal conditions; and

WHEREAS, expiration of the contract with Wellpath would cause an interruption of critical medical and mental health services in Jail at a time when these services are more important than ever; and

WHEREAS, Columbia County desires to extend its existing contract with Wellpath to perform medical and mental health care at the Jail for one year to allow proper time to devote to a request for proposals and contract negotiations; and

WHEREAS, Wellpath has requested to be allowed to continue to provide medical and mental health services, including expanded nursing hours through a contract amendment extending the contract through September 30, 2021;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the contract with Wellpath LLC to provide medical and mental health services in the Columbia County Jail, is hereby exempted from the screening and selection procedures of the Personal Services Contracting Rule.

DATED this 5<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2020.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

By: Alex Tardif  
Alex Tardif, Chair

By: Margaret Magruder  
Margaret Magruder, Commissioner

By: Henry Heimuller  
Henry Heimuller, Commissioner

Approved as to form

By: [Signature]  
Office of County Counsel