

**COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE**  
**Behavioral Health Division Administration**  
INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

**DATE:** June 14, 2010

**TO:** Supervisor Peggy West, Chairperson, Committee on Health and Human Services  
Supervisor Elizabeth Coggs, Chairperson, Committee on Finance and Audit

**FROM:** Eric Meaux, Interim Director, Department of Health and Human Services  
*Prepared by: John Chianelli, Administrator, Behavioral Health Division*

**SUBJECT: INFORMATIONAL REPORT FROM THE INTERIM DIRECTOR OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES REGARDING THE 2010 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DIVISION CAPITAL BUDGET PROJECT AND NEW ISSUES REGARDING THE RECENT STATEMENT OF DEFICIENCY**

**BACKGROUND**

The 2010 Capital Improvements Budget included a project (WE033-Behavioral Health Facility) in the amount of \$12,596,494 to renovate and upgrade the Behavioral Health Facility within the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) – Behavioral Health Division (BHD). This capital project allocated funds for four components: Planning/Strategic Master Plan, Psychiatric Crisis Services/Observation Unit Renovation, Patient Unit Refurbishing and Office Space Update/Renovation. The capital funds were placed into the allocated contingency fund, which requires a recommendation by the Committee of Health and Human Needs followed by Committee on Finance and Audit review. The County Board must then approve the release of the funds by a two-thirds majority vote. This report is intended to provide current information to the County Board regarding recent findings of physical plant deficiencies at the Behavioral Health Facility and necessary use of said Capital funds to address the identified items of deficiency.

**DISCUSSION**

The 2010 BHD Capital Budget included items related to the master plan for use of building space, remodeling the crisis service area to improve patient privacy and security and enhance work flow, remodeling and refurbishing of all patient units and finally, remodeling and updating of office space. The goal of the project was to update all patient care areas by replacing all paint, flooring and furnishing, in addition to some minor remodeling to address on-going capital and building needs.

On Thursday, June 3, BHD received a Statement of Deficiency (SOD) from the State of Wisconsin as a result of a recent State/Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) survey. The majority of the citations that BHD received were regarding the physical building. BHD is required to respond with an initial correction plan regarding the SOD by Monday, June 14. The Division's ability to implement and meet timelines will in large part be dependant upon the availability of financial resources. BHD considers this a high priority and has assigned necessary leadership and employees accordingly. As part of the planning phase, BHD operations

staff has been working closely with the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) capital staff and Department of Transportation and Public Works (DTPW) – Architectural, Engineering and Environmental Services (A&E) staff. Recently, representatives from each of the above-mentioned areas conducted a walk-through to develop solutions for the citations in the SOD and work toward a plan for addressing the citations in the most efficient and effective manner possible.

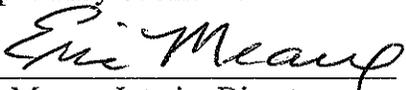
The SOD citations include addressing issues such as foundation repairs, replacement of windowsills, building of firewalls, door replacements, 250,000 square feet of ceiling replacement, sidewalk replacements and ventilation. These examples are not a comprehensive list of all environmental and facility long-term needs. At this time, BHD, DAS and DTPW-A&E are refining estimates and obtaining preliminary bids for the various projects. Due to the short turn around time by the State, firm cost estimates are not complete. DAS and A&E have indicated that it appears the majority of the items will be bondable.

The deficiencies cited in the SOD are in effect related to the physical environment and the facility. The capital project requested in the 2010 budget included plans for correcting some of the identified deficiencies. However, the SOD includes some additional issues identified by the State, such as ceiling replacements. At this time, BHD plans to return to the County Board in July with a request to release the 2010 Capital funds to address the SOD physical environment. In the July report, BHD, DAS and DTPW-A&E plan to have initial cost estimates, timelines and plans for addressing the SOD.

## RECOMMENDATION

This is an informational report. No action is necessary. A follow-up report including more detailed information will be submitted to the County Board in the July committee cycle.

Respectfully Submitted:



Eric Meaux, Interim Director  
Department of Health and Human Services

cc: County Executive Scott Walker  
Cynthia Archer, Director, DAS  
Joseph Carey, Fiscal & Management Analyst, DAS  
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