

**Item 24-0114: EHR Vendor Recommendation**

**Item 24-0115: BOTS Grant Acceptance Recommendation**

Board of Health

Wed, Feb 14, 2024 7:00AM

**Cathy Spears (Board Chair) 01:06**

Were on—there are no public hearings today. Action Item 24-0114 EHR vendor recommendations. Dr. Sepers. Oh, let's for the record just get the motion on the table. I move to accept the recommendation. Is there a second?

**Aldersperson Vered Meltzer (District 2) 01:25**

Second.

**Cathy Spears (Board Chair) 01:25**

Okay for discussion. And then Dr. Sepers.

**Health Officer Charles Sepers 01:29**

I'm gonna go ahead and turn this over to Deputy Director Jensen to present this item.

**Cathy Spears (Board Chair) 01:35**

All right. Thank you, Sonja.

**Deputy Director Sonja Jensen (Health Department) 01:37**

Sure.

**Cathy Spears (Board Chair) 01:39**

Are you on?

**Deputy Director Sonja Jensen (Health Department) 01:41**

Okay, so the first one is the recommendation for the electronic health record system vendor. This was an item that was in the budget for this year to have an electronic health record. Up to this point, we have been using a lot of paper charting. We'd like to move into the 21st century, have more efficiency, cost effectiveness, and just better organization. So, we looked into extensively—did three bids with three different EHR vendors that special—have a sub specialty in public health. And the one that met all of our needs was Champ software, and their product is called Nightingale Notes that we would use.

**Deputy Director Sonja Jensen (Health Department) 02:27**

So, this would have patient record management, appointment scheduling, and billing, and reporting. It's very user friendly. Moving from paper to this system would be more efficient and will decrease need for storage and is also environmentally friendly. So, we think this is the right choice for our department. We have the memo and we also have all three of the bids for you to look over. Does anybody have any questions I guess about this EHR vendor?

**Health Officer Charles Sepers 03:04**

And I might just add as well, we are currently scheduled to have our current data tracking platform, i-series, actually sunset in February 2025. So, another goal of the EHR will be it will take over a lot of the uses that the I-

series is currently doing. We also have an unsupported clinic scheduling program that this would also take the place of. So, this this does meet some technology capacity needs that that will be presenting themselves in 2024 as well.

**Deputy Director Sonja Jensen (Health Department) 03:48**

It is already approved budget item and line for this year.

**Cathy Spears (Board Chair) 03:51**

And what was the budgeted amount for this year? I didn't see that anywhere. What did the budget allow?

**Health Officer Charles Sepers 03:58**

I believe the line item was \$50,000 in the DHS ARPA line item.

**Deputy Director Sonja Jensen (Health Department) 04:05**

Yes.

**Health Officer Charles Sepers 04:05**

For 2024.

**Cathy Spears (Board Chair) 04:07**

Okay, and so I'm calculating that it's a \$17,000 investment right now then so we got a really good deal on that. And that is that for the gold package?

**Health Officer Charles Sepers 04:18**

That is the silver package. One of the things that we have to consider is sustainability of the annual cost which is in the memo at—its that \$12,371. We believe—we have a few things that we've got to look at but we do believe that we can offset other nursing expenses beginning in 2025 to maintain that that maintenance level—

**Cathy Spears (Board Chair) 04:49**

Okay.

**Health Officer Charles Sepers 04:50**

—without incurring any extra general fund impact so.

**Cathy Spears (Board Chair) 04:55**

Okay, any—oh, Alderperson Jones?

**Alderperson Vaya Jones (District 10) 04:59**

Are you going to be taking your paper files and transferring them into this system or is it kind of the paper files that exist are going to stay there and then moving forward, you're going to be using the software. I'm just curious if there's gonna be staff time to be uploading all of that.

**Deputy Director Sonja Jensen (Health Department) 05:14**

I don't think we have any plans because of the staff time to move them into this system at this time, you know, unless of course, it would be a client that is, you know, somebody you're still seeing. They're still active.

**Cathy Spears (Board Chair) 05:27**

Okay, any other questions? Okay. All in favor say aye. Aye. Opposed? Abstentions? Motion passes.

**Cathy Spears (Board Chair) 05:39**

We gotta get back to my—okay. 24-0115 BOTS grant accepted recommendations. I'm going to make a motion to approve this. Is there a second?

**Alderson Vered Meltzer (District 2) 05:50**

Second.

**Cathy Spears (Board Chair) 05:52**

Okay. Is this Deputy Director?

**Health Officer Charles Sepers 06:00**

I will I will also turn this one over to Deputy Director Jensen, as she's an expert on this grant as well.

**Deputy Director Sonja Jensen (Health Department) 06:06**

Okay, thank you. So, this grant, the BOTS grant, which is the Bureau of Transportation Services. This is a grant for \$4,000 that can be renewed annually. This grant would be part of our child passenger safety program. It's an opportunity to get car seats for city of Appleton residents that would have the economic need. So included with this grant as well is everybody that would—we won't just be giving car seats. They would have a child passenger safety technician who would be providing the education on how to install and care for the seat. And then they would also have a survey that they would do so they can kind of give feedback on the service and the education that they received. This is something that the other health departments in the area Calumet County, Outagamie, county, Winnebago County, all have this grant as well, for their residents. So, we are very excited to be able to provide this for residents of Appleton. And again, this would be for \$4,000 for the federal fiscal year, and then there is the opportunity for renewal every year for this grant.

**Cathy Spears (Board Chair) 06:06**

Okay.

**Cathy Spears (Board Chair) 07:21**

Okay, questions. Alderson Jones.

**Alderson Vaya Jones (District 10) 07:23**

Is this for \$1,000 to provide more car seats on top of what you're already providing? Or is this kind of taking away from the cost of what you currently provide for car seats?

**Deputy Director Sonja Jensen (Health Department) 07:35**

Good question. This is something that we've not been able to provide yet at this point. We have worked with Outagamie County over the past year since we've had a child passenger safety program to get the voucher seats through them for people that qualify, because up to this point, they were using some of our data, our—you know that we were able to serve and work something out with them. So, this is—it really is a new opportunity for us and for the residents of Appleton.

**Cathy Spears (Board Chair) 08:07**

Okay, anyone else? Any other questions? My only question is how many car seats will this provide?

**Deputy Director Sonja Jensen (Health Department) 08:14**

That is a good question.

**Cathy Spears (Board Chair) 08:19**

And if you don't have a number based on availability and the cost effectiveness of it, and does this also pay for your technician to go over that? Is there a time thing too?

**Deputy Director Sonja Jensen (Health Department) 08:31**

It's strictly just reimbursement for the cost of the car seat. So, the car seat would depend on what they need, anything from a, you know, an infant carrier to a combination that serves several ages, up to like just a booster seat. Like a booster seat could be like as low as like \$30 to \$40. A combination seat might be closer to \$100.

**Cathy Spears (Board Chair) 08:53**

And I remember in the past when we looked at this in the early, I want to say 2014 2012, the problem was finding a certified child passenger safety technician. So, there is one that's available all the time to help us with this?

**Deputy Director Sonja Jensen (Health Department) 09:10**

Yes, we currently have three nurses who are certified child passenger safety technicians.

**Cathy Spears (Board Chair) 09:16**

Oh, right here?

**Deputy Director Sonja Jensen (Health Department) 09:17**

On our staff.

**Cathy Spears (Board Chair) 09:18**

Oh, excellent. Okay. Just wanted to make sure because I know that had been a stumbling back block in the past.

**Health Officer Charles Sepers 09:25**

I would say too another sort of new change has been that there are several trainers that have, that have also sort of entered the Northeast region. I know Outagamie County has a trainer or has recently developed a train the trainer capacity. I know Calumet county is planning on doing that. Brown County has one now as well. So, the ability to train our own local staff has greatly increased as well.

**Cathy Spears (Board Chair) 10:00**

Excellent.

**Deputy Director Sonja Jensen (Health Department) 10:01**

Very much so. And just the thing is we do offer this service to anybody that lives in Appleton, all residents that would need it. It's just the car seats themselves would be for people that have the financial need.

**Emma Kane (Board Member) 10:13**

Where are you guys doing the installation?

**Deputy Director Sonja Jensen (Health Department) 10:17**

Right now, we do, like, once a month work with Outagamie County at their fitting station in Grand Chute, but we also do it wherever we can. So, we can go to somebody's home and do it there as part of a home visit. We currently are in talks to see if we can have a fitting station within the city of Appleton that we can have once a month appointments as well.

**Emma Kane (Board Member)** 10:39

Are you guys planning or thinking of working with like the fire departments for that?

**Deputy Director Sonja Jensen (Health Department)** 10:44

That could be one of the options we're looking into.

**Cathy Spears (Board Chair)** 10:47

Okay, thank you, Emma. Any other questions? All in favor, say aye. Aye. Opposed? Abstentions? Motion passes.