

Item 28



Travis County Commissioners Court Agenda Request

Meeting Date: 5/07/2013

Prepared By/Phone Number:

Maria Wedhorn, Financial Analyst Lead
512 854-4474

Elected/Appointed Official/Dept. Head:

Greg Hamilton, Travis County Sheriff

Commissioners Court Sponsor:

Judge Biscoe

AGENDA LANGUAGE:

Consider and take appropriate action on the use of county funds for food and refreshments and other event costs for the inaugural Vision Summit: Looking toward the Future of Re-entry being hosted by the Sheriff's Department in Austin, TX from September 10-13, 2013. Fees paid by attendees and vendors along with sponsor donation are intended to fully cover the cost of the event.

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY OF REQUEST AND ATTACHMENTS:

Please see attached documentation

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Please see attached documentation

ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES:

Please see attached documentation

FISCAL IMPACT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

Please see attached documentation

REQUIRED AUTHORIZATIONS:

Greg Hamilton, Travis County Sheriff, 854-9788

Danny Smith, Travis County Sheriff, Counseling & Education Manager, 854-5396

Maria Wedhorn, Financial Analyst Lead 854-4474

AGENDA REQUEST DEADLINE: All agenda requests and supporting materials must be submitted as a pdf to Cheryl Aker in the County Judge's office, Cheryl.Aker@co.travis.tx.us by Tuesdays at 5:00 p.m. for the next week's meeting.



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Major – Corrections

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April 26, 2013

To: Members of the Commissioners Court

Re: 2013 Vision Summit to be held on September 10th-13th

The Travis County Sheriff's Office will be hosting the inaugural Vision Summit – Looking towards the Future of Re-Entry this September at the Austin Holiday Inn Midtown from September 10-13, 2013.

The mission of the Vision Summit is to awaken and ignite communities to attain a unified vision and thriving re-entry process that enables the incarcerated to amend their place in the work, by showcasing effective programs, listening to each other, networking and communicating to make future possibilities a reality today.

The goals of the Vision Summit are

- To host the premier summit in the country on re-entry by offering motivating, innovative, evidence based workshops that encourage attendees to awaken and ignite their communities.
- To put TCSO on a national level by being a leader on the cutting edge of re-entry.
- To create an on-going process year round, continuing collaboration and building the foundation for the future.

This will be an opportunity for both correctional professionals and community providers from Travis County and Texas to learn about re-entry programs and network with re-entry professionals. We believe through enhanced communication, coordination and collaboration we can make our community safer by improving re-entry outcomes and assisting those who return to the community from jail and/or prison.

We anticipate hosting approximately 200-300 attendees from around the state for the two and a half day conference. Each day there will be a morning session with a keynote speaker, a lunch session with a speaker and breakout workshops in the afternoon. As with most conferences, we will be providing food during breakfast and lunch on the two full days and breakfast on the final half day. The cost of the food for the conference is expected to be \$56,000 depending on the number of participants.

The County Auditor was consulted and she advises that it is necessary for the Commissioners Court to specifically approve the use of County funds for food and refreshments. She advises

that this has occurred infrequently in the past, but had no difficulties with such a decision of the Court is so inclined.

The cost of attending the Summit is \$225 for early registration and \$250 after August 25, 2013. In addition: The Travis County Sheriff's Office will be accepting sponsors to help in realizing the goal of hosting a successful Vision Summit conference.