



CalSAWS JPA Background and History

February 13, 2019

Purpose:

To provide Counties with some history and background on why we are forming a 58-County JPA and migrating to a single statewide system to support any discussions needed or input to the board letter needed to prepare Counties' Boards of Supervisors to approve the CalSAWS JPA Agreement and MOU.

Background and History:

The Statewide Automated Welfare Systems (SAWS) are the case management systems that are currently managed and operated by two consortia representing the 58 counties of the State of California. The SAWS of California support the delivery of services to applicants and beneficiaries of the State of California's public assistance programs and other county programs. Such systems automate program enrollment, eligibility determination, benefits payroll, reporting, and other case management functionality.

The SAWS provide support for the administration of programs such as Medi-Cal, California Work Opportunity & Responsibility to Kids/Temporary Aid to Needy Families (CalWORKs/TANF), CalFresh/Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants (CAPI), Foster Care, Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA), Kinship Guardianship Assistance Program (KinGAP), California Food Assistance Program (CFAP), General Assistance/General Relief (GA/GR), Adoption Assistance, and other health and human services programs or subprograms.

Currently, there are three separate SAWS in California, managed by two separate consortia of counties, as follows:

- > Welfare Client Data Systems (WCDS Consortium) maintains and operates the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids Information Network (CalWIN) system supporting 18 counties.
-> California Automated Consortium Eligibility System (CalACES Consortium) maintains and operates the Los Angeles Eligibility, Automated Determination, Evaluation and Reporting (LEADER) Replacement System (LRS) supporting Los Angeles County, and the Consortium IV (C-IV) system supporting 39 counties.

For the State to continue to receive Federal Financial Participation (FFP) for the SAWS, and to comply with State and Federal technology architecture standards, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) require that California implement a SAWS single system by the end of 2023. Further, the enacted Assembly Bill 16 (ABX 16) codified



the migration of the 39 C-IV counties to a system jointly designed by the 39 counties and the County of Los Angeles under the LEADER Replacement System (LRS) contract, to result in a combined 40-county system and single consortium in California.

The CalACES Consortium, established in September 2017, supports 40 member counties in the administration of public assistance programs and services. CalACES is planning to migrate said C-IV counties onto the CalACES to form a single system for 40 counties as a first step towards a single statewide system in California followed by the transition of the 18 CalWIN counties, thus establishing a single statewide system which will provide uniform experiences for our customers, users and consumers.

In order to accomplish the transition to a single system by 2023, California requested and received funding to conduct a planning effort to determine the level of effort and cost to move to a single system by 2023. The planning effort began January 5, 2018. As part of that planning effort, the California counties formed a CalSAWS Leadership Team to finalize a formal Joint Powers Authority governance structure by June 2019. This Leadership Team, in conjunction with CWDA, CDSS, DHCS, and OSI, provided guidance, oversight and decision making to the CalACES and CalWIN Consortia Executive Directors throughout the planning effort preparation of the documents that will govern the 58-County CalSAWS Consortium JPA. Those documents included the SECOND AMENDED AND RESTATED JOINT EXERCISE OF POWERS AGREEMENT, the MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CALSAWS CONSORTIUM AND each of the 58 COUNTIES, and the CALSAWS CONSORTIUM BYLAWS.

The CalSAWS Leadership Team has been meeting for over a year as the governance documents have been developed. The team sanctioned the formation of an attorney work group made up of several county counsels to review the draft governance documents and provide input to the documents and process prior to the documents being sent to all 58 county counsels for review and comment. All 58 County Counsels have reviewed and approved these documents.

The CalSAWS JPA shall be formed in accordance with the provisions of Article 1, Chapter 5, Division 7 of Title 1 of the Government Code of the State of California, commencing with §6500, et seq. The CalSAWS JPA shall be organized into a governance structure of six (6) Regions comprising of one or more counties. Each County will have one member representative with the exception of Los Angeles, which has three representatives to reflect its proportion of the state population. The CalSAWS JPA will be governed and administered by a 12-member Board of Directors appointed by Member Representatives from their region, who will represent their regions. Representation for each region is based upon aided person counts in public assistance programs. Regions 1 & 4 will have two (2) representatives each, Regions 2 & 3 will have one (1) representative each and Regions 5 & 6 will have three (3) representatives each. Each Director on the 12-member board has one (1) vote each.



At least seven (7) of the Directors or Alternate Board Directors from five (5) Regions shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, except that less than a quorum may adjourn. The affirmative votes of at least seven (7) of the seated Directors from five (5) Regions shall be required to take any action by the Board except during the migration period while the Consortium is operating more than one (1) automated welfare system, the Board shall take affirmative action as approved by those Members who are the users of their respective systems, as provided in Section VIII.B (System Subcommittees) of the Bylaws; provided, however, that the Board retains discretion concerning any such action if the Board determines the decision could materially adversely impact the design, development or implementation of the single statewide automated system. This provision shall automatically sunset when the Consortium is operating a single automated welfare system.

The CalSAWS Board of Directors, CalSAWS Executive Director, and WCDS Executive Director shall govern and manage multiple technology projects and parallel operations in the CalACES portfolio, including LRS and C-IV Maintenance and Operations (M&O), the WCDS/CalWIN M&O portfolio and the CalSAWS Design, Development and Implementation (DD&I) Project until the 40 CalACES counties have migrated to the single statewide system and, subsequently, the 18 WCDS/CalWIN counties have migrated to the single system.

The CalSAWS JPA shall operate under a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with each member county. The purpose of the MOU is to delineate the areas of understanding and agreement between the parties surrounding the various vendor agreements and other areas of mutual interest (including without limitation human resourcing, compensation and other personnel matters) in fulfillment of the CalSAWS Consortium's mission, vision and objectives.

The CalSAWS JPA also has proposed revised Bylaws that it will consider adopting for the conduct of its government business once the CalSAWS JPA is effective. The CalSAWS Board of Directors may amend or revise such Bylaws from time to time for the conduct and performance of its business and operations. The CalSAWS JPA Bylaws will be amended and adopted after the formation of the new CalSAWS JPA (scheduled to be effective on June 28, 2019).