

#### PROJECT AGREEMENT 22 COMMITTEE

Interregional Landscape Water Demand Reduction Program

# REGULAR MEETING MINUTES April 28, 2016

#### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT**

Joe Grindstaff, General Manager, Inland Empire Utilities Agency
Doug Headrick General Manager, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District
Paul D. Jones, General Manager, Eastern Municipal Water District
Michael Markus, General Manager, Orange County Water District
John Rossi, General Manager, Western Municipal Water District
Larry McKenney, Executive Counsel, Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority – Convener [Non-Voting]

#### COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

There were no absent Committee Members.

#### STAFF PRESENT

Celeste Cantú, Mark Norton, Ian Achimore, Dean Unger, Jerry Oldenburg, Rick Whetsel, Zyanya Blancas

## 1. <u>CALL TO ORDER</u> (Larry McKenney, Convener)

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Larry McKenney at the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, 11615 Sterling Avenue, Riverside, California.

#### 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

## 3. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: February 25, 2016

Recommendation: Approve as posted.

MOVED, approve February 25, 2016 meeting minutes as posted.

Result:

Adopted (Unanimously; 5-0)

Motion/Second:

Grindstaff/Rossi

Ayes

Grindstaff, Headrick, Jones, Markus, Rossi

Nays:

None

Abstentions:

None

Absent:

None

#### 4. COMMITTEE DISCUSSION ITEMS

## A. CONSERVATION BASED RATES PROJECT SCHEDULING (PA22#2016.6)

lan Achimore provided a PowerPoint presentation on Conservation-Based Water Rates Project Scheduling. In order to meet the Department of Water Resource (DWR) Grant Agreement schedule of December 31, 2017, SAWPA set up milestones for the agencies that had entered into contracts as of November 1, 2015. Agencies include the City of Tustin, City of Rialto, City of Chino, City of Chino Hills, City of Riverside, City of San Jacinto, City of Hemet, City of Redlands, and the West Valley Water District. Their milestones are as follows:

- June 30, 2016 Submit scope of work to SAWPA
- December 31, 2016 Agencies final draft rate study must be presented to their elected board.

Agencies that entered into contracts after November 2015 include City of Garden Grove and Cucamonga Valley Water District. Their milestones are as follows:

- August 31, 2016 Submit scope of work to SAWPA;
- March 31, 2017 Agencies final draft rate study must be presented to their elected board.

Agencies are given a 15-month time period to complete their milestones. It was reported that staff at the City of Redlands had provided a rate study executive summary to their City Council on January 19, 2016. City Council declined the option to adopt budget-based rates. City of Redlands later inquired on their eligibility for reimbursement of the executive summary. SAWPA staff analyzed the board action, board memo, rate study, and scope of work presented and determined that the City of Redlands was not eligible for reimbursement because the rate study and staff recommendation did not provide the Council an analysis and comparison of conservation based rates. On April 5, 2016, the City of Redlands elected to withdraw from the Emergency Drought Grant Program.

lan Achimore noted that DWR will not reimburse implementation costs after December 2017. In an effort to grant additional agencies a 15-month time period to complete their milestones, SAWPA staff recommended a deadline to submit a Letter of Interest by June 1, 2016. Agencies that submit a Letter of Interest after June 2016 will be brought to the Committee on a case-by-case basis, and must present their strategy to accelerate their milestones to meet the December 2017 deadline. SAWPA staff will work proactively in ensuring agencies understand the deadlines, and if it affects their reimbursable cost later they will be put on notice.

Michael Markus voiced interest in seeing a schedule that displays where each individual agency is in the process. Mark Norton reminded the Committee of other funding opportunities under Proposition 1 and Santa Ana River Conservation and Conjunctive Use Program (SARCCUP). Currently there are only two agencies that require close coordination to move them along the process.

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**MOVED**, approve the June 1, 2016 deadline for accepting additional agencies as participants in the Conservation-Based Water Rates Project.

Result:

Adopted (Unanimously; 5-0)

Motion/Second:

Jones/Grindstaff

Ayes

Grindstaff, Headrick, Jones, Markus, Rossi

Nays: Abstentions: None None

Absent:

None

# B. <u>AERIAL MAPPING PROJECT CHANGE ORDER NO. 2 TO TASK ORDER RESO504-301-01 FOR MANAGEMENT AND IMAGE SUPPORT SERVICES (PA22#2016.7)</u>

Dean Unger provided a PowerPoint presentation on the aerial mapping project Change Order No. 2 for management and image support services from Resource Strategies Inc. (RSI). It was recently discovered that the aerial imagery did not produce consistent vegetation classification due to weather delays that resulted in nonconsecutive flight days spread out longer than planned. Change Order No. 2, in the amount of \$66,425, incorporates an additional step in the data analysis process where the images are put into a mosaic based on agency service area and the color inconsistencies between flight days are rectified before the vegetation analysis is performed. This will allow for a more accurate vegetation classification and would complete Richard Schulman's work.

It was noted that the data is being kept by SAWPA.

**MOVED**, Approve Change Order No. 2 to Task Order RESO504-301-01 with Resource Strategies Inc., in the amount of \$66,425 to provide management and image support services for the Aerial Imagery and LiDAR Project.

Result:

Adopted (Unanimously: 5-0)

Motion/Second:

Markus/Jones

Ayes

Grindstaff, Headrick, Jones, Markus, Rossi

Nays: Abstentions: None

Absteritions

None

Absent:

None

# C. <u>WEB-BASED WATER CONSUMPTION REPORTING AND CUSTOMER ENGAGEMENT PROJECT CONSULTANT PRESENTATION (PA22#2016.8)</u>

Chelsea Minton, Senior Water Solutions Specialist at OmniEarth, provided a status update on the web-based water consumption reporting and customer engagement project, and presented a live product demonstration.

OmniEarth utilizes land cover classification as a foundation to understand parcel-by-parcel land cover for a particular agency's service area, allowing the agency to establish a water budget calculation and water use efficiency metric. They also provide a platform for agencies to view and analyze their aerial imagery data. DropCountr then provides the agency with a platform to track accounts and use the tools to communicate with the customer. They also provide the customer with a user friendly dashboard where they can

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keep track of their individualized water budget.

Currently, the City of Fullerton, City of Loma Linda, City of Tustin, City of Rialto, City of Brea, Monte Vista Water District, West Valley Water District, and Eastern Municipal Water District are participating agencies. It is anticipated that the Yorba Linda Water District, Irvine Ranch Water District, City of Newport Beach, City of Ontario, City of Anaheim, and City of Colton will also become participating agencies.

Ms. Minton stated that OmniEarth has partnered with Near Map to provide agencies with high resolution aerial images that are updated every two-to-four months and will soon provide historical images of a residence. She noted that OmniEarth has expanded their water budget capability to include irrigable areas. Paul Jones stated that including irrigable areas is important when retrofitting a landscape and he appreciates this expansion. He also said that when we use these tools in working with the State on a long term water use efficiency standard, we need to have the flexibility to assign different conservation factors based on the actual time of landscape installation to provide a fair budget.

The PA 22 Committee agreed that the color identifications are very helpful. Paul Jones noted that with the color identifications, they were able identify their biggest abusers, which are commercial industrial customers.

Ms. Minton presented a brief video of DropCountr platform. Paul Jones voiced his appreciation with DropCountr's Heat Maps and how they were able to do substantial targeted outreach in certain communities and thanked OmniEarth and DropCountr for their presentations.

This item was for information purposes only; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 4.C.

# D. <u>METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT CONSERVATION PROGRAM FUNDING IN THE</u> FYE 2017 AND FYE 2018 BIANNUAL BUDGET (PA22#2016.9)

Larry McKenney provided a report on recent action taken by the Metropolitan Water District (MWD) board. MWD staff proposed a Conservation Program Budget that included the continuation of the Local Resource Program and the Conservation Credits Program (i.e. rebates). Staff originally recommended that \$27M be allocated to the Rebate Program in FYE 2017 and \$32M the year after that. During the workshop process, a foreseen surplus amount of approximately \$60M was expected at the end of FYE 2016. Normally the surplus funds would go into reserve, but due to a demand in conservation, the Board decided it would be carried over; \$10M would go to the onsite Retrofit Recycling Program, \$23M to fund wait-listed Turf Removal Projects, and it is not known how the remaining \$27M will be used.

Mr. McKenney suggested this would be a good time to inform MWD of the Aerial Mapping Web-Based Water Consumption Reporting and Customer Engagement Projects and recommend it be done on a larger regional scale with the remaining funds.

Paul Jones stated he has talked to MWD staff about the projects and suggested the idea of a larger scale project. He observed that if MWD were to move forward with the suggestion, it would service about 50% of the state population. John Rossi also stated that DWR is interested in taking such actions state-wide.

This item will be discussed in detail at the next PA22 Committee meeting; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 4.D.

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## 5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

 Larry McKenney handed out a letter received April 25, 2016 from WaterSmart to the PA 22 Committee stating their interest in what the Committee will do in the future and ways they may be able to assist.

# 6. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business for review, Convener McKenney adjourned the meeting at 9:01 a.m.

Approved at a Regular Meeting of the Project Agreement 22 Committee on Thursday, May 26, 2016.

Larry B. McKenney, Conven-

Attest

Clerk of the Board