



PROJECT AGREEMENT 22 COMMITTEE
Interregional Landscape Water Demand Reduction Program
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
February 9, 2021

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Shivaji Deshmukh, General Manager, Inland Empire Utilities Agency
Heather Dyer, General Manager, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District
Paul D. Jones, General Manager, Eastern Municipal Water District [Chair]
Michael Markus, General Manager, Orange County Water District [Vice Chair]
Craig Miller, General Manager, Western Municipal Water District

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

None.

STAFF PRESENT

Jasmin A. Hall, T. Milford Harrison, Richard Haller, Karen Williams, Mark Norton, Dean Unger,
Pete Vitt, Zyanya Ramirez,

OTHERS PRESENT

Andrew D. Turner, Lagerlof, LLP; Andrew Brenner, Quantum Spatial

1. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the PA 22 Committee was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chair Paul Jones on behalf of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, 11615 Sterling Avenue, Riverside, California. Pursuant to the provisions of Executive Order N-25-30, this meeting was conducted virtually.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments; there were no public comments received via email.

3. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: NOVEMBER 10, 2020

MOVED, approve the November 10, 2020 meeting minutes.

Result:	Adopted by Roll Call Vote (Unanimously)
Motion/Second:	Deshmukh/Dyer
Ayes	Deshmukh, Dyer, Jones, Markus, Miller
Nays:	None
Abstentions:	None
Absent:	None

4. COMMITTEE DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. WATER EFFICIENCY BUDGET ASSISTANCE PROJECT – CONSULTANT CONTRACT APPROVAL (PA22#2021.1)

Mark Norton provided the PowerPoint presentation contained in the agenda packet on pages 15-30.

As approved at the previous PA 22 Committee meeting, SAWPA released a Request for Proposals for a consultant to implement the Water Efficiency Budget Assistance sub-task under the Santa Ana River Conservation and Conjunctive Use Program (SARCCUP).

Through this sub-task, SAWPA will assist five-to-ten retail water agencies in the Santa Ana River Watershed by creating water use efficiency budgets for their dedicated irrigation meter customers.

Three firms responded to the RFP and were interviewed by a six-person panel composed of the Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC), Inland Empire Utilities Agency, SAWPA, and Laguna Beach County Water District. The panel unanimously recommended Quantum Spatial, Inc. Mr. Norton stated that due to the present economic challenges, participating agencies will not be asked to submit a cost share; however, there was a cost share for the member agencies under Amendment 1 of the SARCCUP agreement.

Vice Chair Markus expressed his concerns relative to retaining retail agencies' participation in the Water Efficiency Budget Assistance program. Mr. Norton affirmed that the member agencies have done great work promoting the program, and it is anticipated to be welcomed due to new legislation. Nonetheless, if there are retail agencies that back out of the program, SAWPA will seek additional participants. Currently, the Quantum Spatial contract is set to manage approximately 12,000 retail customers. If there are more retail agencies interested in receiving assistance, SAWPA would return to the Committee with a change order. Vice Chair Markus suggested staff add legal language to encourage retail agencies to remain in the program.

Vice Chair Markus questioned the difference in price between Quantum Spatial and the other firms who participated in the RFP relative to the two dedicated landscape meter customer groups (reference page 23-24 of agenda packet). Andrew Brenner, Senior Program Director at Quantum Spatial, stated that although their price for customer group 2 is higher than the other firms, most of the customers they will be dealing with are within customer group 1. He noted that it is difficult to compare their cost with the other firms and does not consider the cost to be excessive for the work being produced. Quantum Spatial has experience working with field guides and have scheduled working with approximately five retail agencies a day.

Chair Jones added that the Eastern Municipal Water District's service area has smaller retail agencies that do not have sufficient staff and resources to be able to support this program and possibly do not have meter locations. He was concerned that a large group of agencies would be left behind due to lack of resources and minimal staffing. Chair Jones requested that staff quantify the number of interested retail agencies that fall within customer group 1 and customer group 2 to understand if the program will need updating to be more inclusive.

MOVED, approve the recommended contract with Quantum Spatial for the Water Efficiency Budget Assistance Project for \$594,387 and the retail water agency recruitment process that includes milestones with a formal schedule that interested agencies must meet in order to partner on the Project.

Result:	Adopted by Roll Call Vote (Unanimously)
Motion/Second:	Miller/Dyer
Ayes	Deshmukh, Dyer, Jones, Markus, Miller
Nays:	None
Abstentions:	None
Absent:	None

**B. APPROVAL OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS | 2021 UPPER WATERSHED
AERIAL IMAGERY (PA22#2021.2)**

Dean Unger provided the PowerPoint presentation contained in the agenda packet on pages 96-111.

In July of 2020, the Committee approved funding allocation to acquire aerial imagery for the upper Santa Ana River Watershed as part of the Enhancements to Watershed-Wide Water Budget Decision Support Tool Project (Project). The Project is financed by Proposition 1 IRWM Round 1 grant funding, an in-kind staff time partnership with the Bureau of Reclamation, and cost share from the PA 22 member agencies and the Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC).

To implement the first two tasks of the Project, SAWPA has worked with the Committee member agencies and MWDOC to develop a request for proposals (RFP) for upper watershed aerial imagery. This includes:

- Task 1 Imagery: Evaluate and acquire imagery to evaluate landscape for the entire urbanized Santa Ana River Watershed and South Orange County.
- Task 2 Landscape Analysis: Measure landscapes to provide water budgets to retail agencies to support the achievement of water efficiency targets prescribed by the State.

The RFP asks for consultants to propose prices for a range of different resolutions including 3-inch, 6-inch and 12-inch pixels. It also includes provisions that the imagery would be available to the member agencies as well as available for the Project. A final schedule for the imagery flight will be determined when SAWPA receives the RFP responses and coordinates with the SAWPA member agencies.

The RFP schedule is as follows:

- February 9, 2021 – Issue RFP
- March 9, 2021 (5:00 P.M. PST) – RFP Deadline
- March 9, 2021 through April 1, 2021- SAWPA evaluation period, final negotiations/optional virtual interviews
- April 13, 2021 – PA 22 Committee Meeting for Final Contract Approval

Vice Chair Markus questioned the need for aerial imagery since the State had already provided aerial imagery of the entire state to comply with future regulations. Mr. Unger stated that the imagery being requested will be at a higher resolution and will be current as opposed to the aerial imagery collected by the State in 2018. This will allow for multiple uses of the aerial imagery. Chair Jones added that the residential zones within the Eastern Municipal Water District service area grew exponentially during the last year; current imagery would make a difference in watershed representation.

MOVED, approve distribution of the 2021 Upper Santa Ana River Watershed High Resolution Aerial Imagery Request for Proposals (RFP).

Result: **Adopted by Roll Call Vote (Unanimously)**
Motion/Second: Deshmukh/Miller
Ayes: Deshmukh, Dyer, Jones, Markus, Miller
Nays: None
Abstentions: None
Absent: None

5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- The Committee requested that agenda item 4.A. Water Efficiency Budget Assistance Project be a regular agenda item.
 - Chair Jones requested a status report of the total grant schedule.

6. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business for review, the meeting ended at 9:28 a.m.

**Approved at a Regular Meeting of the Project Agreement 22 Committee on Tuesday,
April 13, 2021.**



Michael Markus, Vice Chair

Attest :



Sara Villa
Acting Clerk of the Board