



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Water Agency  
Department No.: 054  
For Agenda Of: 12/11/12  
Placement: Administrative  
Estimated Tme: N/A  
Continued Item: No  
If Yes, date from:  
Vote Required: Majority

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**TO:** Board of Directors, Water Agency

**FROM:** Department Scott D. McGolpin, Public Works Director, 568-3010  
Director(s)  
Contact Info: Thomas D. Fayram, Deputy Public Works Director, 568-3436

**SUBJECT:** **Agreement with MNS Engineers Inc. to Provide Aerial Survey of Twitchell Reservoir, Fifth Supervisorial District**

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form:

**Other Concurrence:**

As to form: Yes

**Recommended Actions:**

- a) Approve and authorize the Chair to execute an Agreement with MNS Engineers Inc. (a local vendor) to perform an aerial survey and produce updated area capacity tables for Twitchell Reservoir in the amount of not to exceed \$122,715.00 for the period of December 11, 2012 through May 31, 2013;
- b) Approve a 10% contingency with MNS Engineers Inc. in the amount \$12,271.50 for any work needed to complete the project;
- c) Find that the Twitchell Reservoir Aerial Survey is exempt under California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines Section 15306 (Class 6) Basic data collection, research experimental management, and resource evaluation activities; and
- d) Approve the filing of a Notice of Exemption on that basis (POST).

**Summary Text:**

The attached agreement would provide for an aerial topography survey to be performed on Twitchell Reservoir to generate updated area-capacity tables. The area-capacity tables are important to be able to relate water surface elevation to the volume of water in the facility and accurately calculate inflow to and outflow from the reservoir. This information is used for water supply planning, reservoir operations, and flood control concerns.

**Background:**

Twitchell Reservoir, located seven miles northwest of the City of Santa Maria, captures storm runoff from the 1,135 square mile Cuyama River watershed which augments recharge to the Santa Maria groundwater basin as well as providing flood protection to the Santa Maria Valley. The last topographical survey was completed in 2007 and is out of date due to sediment deposited during recent winters following the Zaca and La Brea Fires, as well as natural sediment flux from the highly erosive Cuyama River Watershed. Updated area-capacity tables are needed to accurately relate water surface elevation to the volume of water in the facility and make precise calculations of inflow and outflow. Precise inflow and outflow numbers are needed not only for monitoring of storm events and design of projects in or near the Cuyama and Santa Maria River watercourses but also to determine the long-term yield of the reservoir. In addition, the survey will also aide with sediment management alternatives as it will enable calculations of sediment flux during the past six years.

As the Master Contract holder for the Twitchell Project, the Water Agency staff has been working with the Bureau of Reclamation, Corps of Engineers, and Santa Maria Valley Water Conservation District on several improvements to data collection and management at Twitchell Dam. The proposed survey would aide in overall progress of projects and is a key component of accurate data acquisition and dissemination at Twitchell Reservoir.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: Yes

**Fiscal Analysis:**

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Current FY Cost:</u>	<u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u>	<u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u>
General Fund			
State			
Water Agency Funds	\$ 134,986.50		
Fees			
Other:			
Total	\$ 134,986.50	\$ -	\$ -

**Narrative:**

This program was included in the 2012-2013 Adopted Budget under the Water Resources Division of the Public Works Department as identified on page D-144 in the budget book. No General Fund monies will be utilized with these actions.

**Special Instructions:**

Direct the Clerk of the Board to return to two originals of the Agreement with MNS Engineers Inc. along with a copy of the minute order of these actions to the Water Agency office; Attn: Christina Lopez.

**Attachments:**

CEQA Notice of Exemption

Agreement with MNS Engineers Inc. (three originals)

Contract Summary

**Authored by: Dennis Gibbs, Hydrologist, SR., 739-8781**