



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: Flood Control/Water Agency
Department No.: 054
For Agenda Of: November 8, 2016
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Directors, Flood Control & Water Conservation District
Board of Directors, Water Agency

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

SUBJECT: **Joint Funding Agreement for the Cooperative Stream Gaging and Groundwater Monitoring Program, All Supervisorial Districts**

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Directors of the Santa Barbara County Flood Control & Water Conservation District:

- a) Approve and authorize the Chair to execute the Joint Funding Agreement with the United States Geological Survey to continue the county-wide cooperative Stream Gaging and Groundwater Monitoring Program from November 1, 2016 through October 31, 2017 in the amount of \$478,530 of which \$236,750 will be funded by the Flood Control District; and
- b) Find that the Cooperative Stream Gaging and Groundwater Monitoring Program is exempt under California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines Section 15306, basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resources evaluation activities; and approve the filing of a Notice of Exemption on that basis.

That the Board of Directors of the Santa Barbara County Water Agency:

- a) Approve and authorize the Chair to execute the Joint Funding Agreement with the United States Geological Survey to continue the county-wide cooperative Stream Gaging and Groundwater Monitoring Program from November 1, 2016 through October 31, 2017 in the amount of \$478,530 of which \$116,440 will be funded by the Water Agency; and

- b) Find that the Cooperative Stream Gaging and Groundwater Monitoring Program is exempt under California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines Section 15306, basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resources evaluation activities; and approve the filing of a Notice of Exemption on that basis.

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda in order to approve and authorize the annual county-wide Joint Funding Agreement with the United States Geological Survey (USGS) to provide for continuation of the cooperative water resources data collecting program in Santa Barbara County.

The program consists of stream gaging, surface and groundwater quality monitoring, and groundwater elevation monitoring. The cooperative stream gaging program provides for the collection of flow data in strategic locations of selected creeks and rivers. The data collected is used for a variety of purposes including facilities design, flood warning, water supply and climate studies.

Groundwater data collected in accordance with this program is used for monitoring basin changes and for detailed water supply and groundwater quality studies. Groundwater elevation data is used to fulfill State requirements for groundwater monitoring. Taken together, the data produced by this program is instrumental in guiding critical water management decisions.

The USGS provides an annual report to the County of the data collected with pertinent data made available in real time via the internet. The program is outlined in Exhibit A of the Joint Funding Agreement.

The agreement period is November 1, 2016 through October 31, 2017.

Background:

The Flood Control District and the Water Agency have had a cooperative water resources data collection program with the USGS for decades. The data collected, combined with rainfall data collected by the Flood Control District allows for understanding of complex local hydrological systems in our highly variable climate. The USGS has the personnel, equipment, technical expertise, and credibility to collect quality data. In addition, the USGS has rigorous quality assurance and a publicly accessible data distribution system. The program directly benefits a wide range of local agencies as well as the general public.

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 Project Cost</u>
Federal USGS	\$ 125,340.00		
Flood Control funds	\$ 236,750.00		
Water Agency funds	\$ 116,440.00		
Total	\$ 478,530.00		

Narrative:

This program was included in the 2016-17 adopted budget under the Water Resources Division of the Public Works Department as shown on page D-319 in the budget book. No General Fund monies will be utilized with these actions.

Key Contract Risks:

Key contract risk factors for this agreement are low.

Special Instructions:

Direct the Clerk of the Board to post both of the attached California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Notice of Exemptions (NOEs) and to send the following documents to the Flood Control office, Attn: Christina Lopez:

1. Two originals of Joint Funding Agreement for Water Resources Investigations,
2. Copy of the minute order, and
3. Copies of both of the stamped CEQA NOEs.

Attachments:

- Attachment A - Joint Funding Agreement for Water Resources Investigations (3 originals) including contract summary
- Attachment B - CEQA NOE for the Flood Control District
- Attachment C - CEQA NOE for the Water Agency

Authored by:

Shawn Johnson, Senior Hydrologist, Flood Control District, 568-3452