



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: February 12, 2019
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

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 for Services of Independent Contractor with GSI Water Solutions, Inc.,
Third and Fifth Supervisorial Districts.

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

- a) Approve and authorize the Chair to execute the Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor with GSI Water Solutions, Inc. (a local vendor) to provide consulting services for a hydrogeological study of the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Eastern Management Area for the period of February 12, 2019 through June 30, 2022 in an amount not to exceed \$968,136;
- b) Approve a 10% contingency with GSI Water Solutions, Inc. in the amount of \$96,813 for additional work that may be needed to complete the hydrogeological study; and
- c) Determine that the proposed actions are not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act, pursuant to Guidelines Section 15378(b)(5), organization or administrative activities that will not result in a direct or indirect physical change in the environment.

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda in order to approve the Agreement for Services of Independent Contract with GSI Water Solutions, Inc. (GSI) (Attachment A) for conducting a hydrogeological study of the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin (Basin) Eastern Management Area (EMA). The study will provide technical support for preparation of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) pursuant to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA).

GSI is one of six firms on the Public Works Department Prequalified Consultant List for Groundwater Services. The Board approved the Prequalified Consultant list in January 2018.

The Santa Barbara County Water Agency (Water Agency) sent a Request for Proposals to the six firms on the Prequalified Consultant list on August 31, 2018. Proposals were received from two consultant teams:

- GSI (lead/prime) with team member GEI
- Dudek (lead/prime) with team members Geosyntec and Stetson Engineers

Staff evaluated the proposals against a standardized set of criteria, and selected GSI on the basis of a superior approach and lower cost. Staff from other EMA GSA member agencies (Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District [SYRWCD], SYRWCD Improvement District No. 1 [ID No. 1], and the City of Solvang), also evaluated the proposals and concurred with the selection of GSI. The GSA Committee, the governing body of the EMA GSA composed of elected officials from each of the member agencies, also concurred with the selection.

This agreement does not contain a scope of work or cost estimates associated with the preparation or submittal of the draft or final GSP. This work will be contracted through the EMA GSA itself.

Background:

SGMA was signed into law by Governor Brown in 2014. SGMA provides a framework for the sustainable management of groundwater supplies by local agencies and provides tools, authority, and a timeline for local agencies during the 20-year implementation period. Public agencies in the Basin created three GSAs representing the three main areas of the Basin (Western, Central, and Eastern Management Areas; see Attachment B) based on jurisdictional and hydrogeological differences. In the Eastern Management Area (EMA), the GSA includes the SYRWCD, ID No. 1, the City of Solvang, and the Water Agency. The Water Agency Board voted to sign a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA, Attachment C) to join the EMA GSA on April 11, 2017. In the MOA, the Water Agency agreed to fund a hydrogeological study of the EMA. In 2014, the Water Agency completed a hydrogeological study in the Cuyama Groundwater Basin, and is currently working on a similar study in the San Antonio Creek Groundwater Basin, to be completed in 2020. The proposed in the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Eastern Management Area continues this series of groundwater basin investigations in Santa Barbara County.

Each GSA is responsible for developing a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the basin. The Department of Water Resources (DWR) regulations to guide local GSP development were approved by the California Water Commission on May 18, 2016 and went into effect June, 2016. GSPs in the Basin must be adopted by January 31, 2022. SGMA and DWR's regulations require a GSA to engage interested parties in the development and implementation of the GSP. In addition, a GSP may only be adopted at a public hearing 90 days after the GSA has provided notice to the County of its intent to adopt a GSP. The County may request consultation with the GSA after receiving the notice (§ 10728.4). Once a GSP is adopted, it must be submitted to DWR for approval, which starts a 60 day public comment period.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Current FY Cost:</u>	<u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u>	<u>Total 4-Year Project Cost</u>
Water Agency funds	\$ 250,000.00		\$ 1,064,949.00
Fees:			
Other:			
Total	\$ 250,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,064,949.00

Fiscal Analysis:

Narrative:

The costs associated with this agreement are included in the FY 2018-19 budget and in the proposed FY 2019-2020, 2020-2021, and 2021-2022 budgets in the Water Resources Division of the Public Works Department. The study is anticipated to conclude prior to the GSP being submitted to DWR in January 2022. However, most of the work will be completed by the end of FY2020-2021. No General Fund monies will be utilized for this study.

Special Instructions:

Direct the Clerk of the Board to send two (2) originals of the executed Agreement and a copy of the minute order of this action to the Water Agency office: Attn: Christina Lopez (x3436).

Attachments:

- Attachment A - Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor with GSI Water Solutions, Inc. for a Hydrogeological Study in the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Eastern Management Area (3 originals)
- Attachment B - Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Management Areas Map
- Attachment C - Memorandum of Agreement

Authored by:

Matt Young, Water Resources Program Manager, 568-3546