



## **COMMITTEE REPORT**

**Committee:** Basin Water Management Committee

**Meeting Date:** April 11, 2018

**Present:** D. Michalko (Chair), D. Arrighi, B. Bowcock, J. Byerrum (via conf call), J. Corona, D. Colby, P. Cranmer, D. DeJesus, C. Dillon, P. DiMaggio, C. Feilen, G. Galindo, E. Hills, E. Hitchman, B. Lewis, T. Love, J. Macias, K. Manning, L. Noriega, S. Patton, E. Reyes, J. Reynoso, C. Solis, A. Tesfaye, R. Tock, T. Tait, B. Teuber, A. Tohmeh, C. Venegas and P. Zampielo

**Staff Present:** T. Zampielo, K. Gardner, S. Johnson and K. Smead

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### **I. Meter Test Contract**

The Executive Officer, Mr. Tony Zampielo, reported that Watermaster has been under contract with McCall's Meters, Inc. (McCall's) for many years. Staff was informed recently that McCall's had been sold and that the contracted representatives for Watermaster will not be continuing under the new ownership.

Mr. Kevin Smead, Stetson Engineers, stated that he had been in contact with McCall's and that they had expressed an interest in maintaining and renewing the contract with Watermaster, however, they would not be able to designate the same representatives, and additionally, wanted the flexibility in a new contract to substitute testing methods on a site by site basis. This proposal would not be consistent with Watermaster's Rules and Regulations that specify, for continuity and uniformity, certain testing methods for all meters.

Mr. Zampielo stated that Watermaster is interested in pursuing an informal bidding process vs. an extension of the existing contract, if the Committee agrees. The Committee agreed and discussed perspective companies that staff could contact regarding interest in bidding.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** That Watermaster staff conduct an informal bid process to secure meter testing services, to be awarded by the Board at a future meeting.

## **II. Title 22 Lab Contract**

The Executive Officer reported that the renewal of the Title 22 Laboratory Contract with Weck Laboratories (Weck) is coming up in June. He stated that Weck provided an unsolicited proposal to renew the existing contract for an additional year, including a minimal increase.

Mr. Kevin Smead stated that he had spoken with a representative from Weck regarding a possible renewal of the existing contract and received information on current rates. He explained that Weck has not raised its rates in approximately 3 years. Additionally, he reported that he did some checking with other laboratories to compare sampling rates, and found that Weck's prices are in-line with the market. He noted that this year there are additional samples required to comply with UCMR4 and that every effort will be made to coordinate samples to eliminate duplication and additional costs.

After a brief discussion, the Committee recommended that the Board extend the existing contract for one-year.

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:** That Watermaster authorize the Executive Officer to enter into a one-year contract extension with Weck Laboratories.

## **III. History of "Alhambra Pumping Hole" and Need for Cooperative Water Exchange**

Mr. Zampiello stated that he had been asked several times over the past year to explain how the "In-Lieu Assessment" works relative to the "Alhambra Pumping Hole". He explained that back in the early 1970's, it was realized that due to geologic formations and the lack of spreading grounds in the south westerly portion of the Basin.

Seven Producers including the City of Alhambra, California American Water Company, San Gabriel County Water District, San Gabriel Country Club, Golden State Water Company, and Sunny Slope Water Company, were impacted. The Producers, San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District and Metropolitan Water District (MWD) worked collaboratively with Watermaster to develop the "Cooperative Water Exchange Agreement" (Agreement) to help manage the issue.

Through the Agreement, the City of Alhambra, the largest Producer in the area, agreed to take approximately 3,000 acre-feet of treated imported water through an MWD connection, in exchange for reducing its groundwater production. This allowed the remaining six Producers to continue pumping to meet their demands, and minimize the effects on water levels in the area. Additionally, from a funding

perspective, the funds necessary to cover the difference between imported water and the City of Alhambra's pumping costs, was spread Basin wide as an "In-Lieu Assessment".

#### **IV. Other**

Committee Chair, David Michalko asked the Consulting Engineer, Steve Johnson, to provide a brief overview of the Preliminary Operating Safe Yield discussion from the last Watermaster meeting. Mr. Johnson stated that the recommendation is for 150,000 acre-feet for fiscal year 2017-18, and 130,000 acre-feet for the subsequent four years, and discussed various components that influence the recommendation.

Mr. David DeJesus, provided an update on MWD's efforts toward the California WaterFix. He stated that the MWD Board voted in favor of the twin tunnel option for the project, noting that the financing structure is still to be determined.

Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District General Manager, Mr. Tom Love asked that the next Basin Water Management Committee include an update on MWD's Carson Recycled Water Project. Staff will coordinate.

**FOR INFORMATION ONLY -- NO ACTION REQUIRED**