

**WEST BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT**

**SEPTEMBER 12, 2005 - Water Resources**  
Little, Baker  
**SEPTEMBER 26, 2005 - Board Meeting**  
Prepared by: Art Aguilar  
Submitted by: Art Aguilar  
Approved by: Art Aguilar

**ACTION CALENDAR**

**PUBLIC OUTREACH CONTRACT – COUNTY WATERWORKS NO. 29**

**SUMMARY:**

Dakota Communications was engaged by West Basin in fiscal year 2003-04 to provide public outreach services for the Los Angeles County Waterworks (CWW) No. 29 project in the amount of \$25,000. Work on that project has continued well past the contract time period and, in fact, has yet to be negotiated by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works and the Board of Supervisors. Since the entire outreach contract funds were not expended during that time period, the Board approved a time extension of the contract through the end of fiscal year 2005. Dakota Communications provided outreach services as required and expended the remainder of the contracted amount during 2005.

However, due to unexpected delays by the County, progress on the CWW No. 29 project has been slow and a decision has not been reached by the County Supervisors. Staff expects that, as the Project goes forward, additional outreach services will be needed, regardless of the final outcome of Project negotiations.

These services are specialized in nature, requiring the consultant to have a familiarity with the District, the communities affected by the CWW No. 29 decision and an understanding of and a relationship with the County Board of Supervisors. Dakota Communications was selected by the Board for the original contract because it uniquely meets these criteria. It is proposed that the District continue to utilize Dakota Communications for these services. It is important to note that the Project will likely enter into a key phase during the coming year and should the Project go forward additional services will be required. The total contract amount for public outreach services related to CWW No. 29 is estimated to be \$60,000 and, because of the uncertainty in the timing of the project, would be approved in two Phases.

The first Phase would require Dakota to work closely with the County Board of Supervisors until the Board makes a decision or six months have elapsed, for an estimated not-to-exceed amount of \$30,000. If the County Board makes a decision to move forward with the Project and/or the West Basin Board decides to continue pursuing the Project, the second Phase, which would likely include services in connection with a possible hearing before the Local Agency Formation Commission and conducting of community forums, would be for an estimated not-to-exceed amount of \$30,000. The second Phase recommendation would be brought back to the Board for approval.

**FISCAL IMPACTS:**

Funding for this item has been included in the local government relations fiscal year 2005-06 Budget.

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE:**

Not applicable.

COMMITTEE STATUS:

This item was reviewed by the Water Resources Committee on September 12, 2005 and was recommended for approval at the September 26, 2005 Board meeting.

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

That the Board approves a contract for Phase I of public outreach services related to the County Waterworks No. 29 Project with Dakota Communications for fiscal year 2005-06 in an amount not-to-exceed \$30,000, plus 10% for contingencies for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$33,000.

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