

WEST BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

JUNE 12, 2008 – Water Resources

Smith (Chair), Little

JUNE 23, 2008 – Board Meeting

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Approved by: Rich Nagel

ACTION CALENDAR

WATER QUALITY STUDY CONSULTANT AWARD

SUMMARY:

With the rapid growth of the West Basin recycled water system, some water quality concerns have developed within the distribution system. The Board has determined in its Strategic Business Plan that to “Provide high-quality water that meets the needs of our customers” is one of West Basin’s top priorities. West Basin staff distributed a “Request for Proposals” (RFP) for a consultant to analyze the water production process and entire distribution system to identify a comprehensive solution.

Water Quality Issues

The ambitious recycled water program developed by West Basin in response to the drought of the late 80’s-early 90’s now serves 30,000 acre-feet per year to over 200 sites. This program was developed with consideration for peak flow requirements, water pressure, fiscal responsibility, customer requests and potential for future growth, along with fluctuations in weather and customer demand.

As a result, several water quality issues have appeared that diminish West Basin’s ability to achieve the high standards for water quality and customer satisfaction that West Basin strives for. Among those issues identified to date are:

- Odor – Redondo Beach, Carson, Inglewood and Los Angeles;
- High nitrates causing over fertilization – Home Depot Center;
- Biogrowth – Toyota; and
- Pressure spikes – Carson and Torrance

An RFP was distributed to solicit responses from potential qualified consulting firms to address these issues and facilitate West Basin’s plans for growth of the recycled water program. Five firms responded to the RFP with three being short-listed. The three firms were interviewed in early May 2008 with a panel of West Basin staff and Kyle Waters, Assistant Director Sports Turf and Grounds at Home Depot Center.

The three firms were ranked extremely close with assessment scores and cost estimates as follows. A detailed evaluation summary is included in Exhibit A.

<u>Firm</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Cost Est</u>	<u>Schedule</u>	<u>Labor Hrs</u>	<u>Avg Rate</u>
Psomas	90	\$ 97,690	13 weeks	748	\$131
Malcolm Pirnie	86	\$ 85,798	16 weeks	588	\$146
Carollo	86	\$ 85,967	16 weeks	438	\$196

While any of the three would perform adequately for this project, the interview panel felt that Psomas best addressed the operational perspective rather than a research perspective for the project. Psomas has displayed an understanding of the current water quality issues experienced by recycled water customers and, with the partnership with Narasimhan Consulting Services, Inc. (NCS), the resources to focus on real world solutions rather than an academic study.

FISCAL IMPACTS:

Funds for this project are included in the Fiscal Year 2008-09 Operations Budget.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE:

Not applicable.

COMMITTEE STATUS:

This item was reviewed by the Water Resources Committee on June 12, 2008 and recommended for approval at the June 23, 2008 Board meeting.

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

That the Board authorizes the General Manager to execute an agreement with Psomas for the Recycled Water Quality Study for an amount not-to-exceed \$97,690 plus a 10% contingency for a total of \$107,459.

LIST OF EXHIBITS:

Exhibit "A" – Detailed Evaluation Summary