



WEST BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
17140 S. Avalon Blvd., Suite 210
Carson, CA 90746

AGENDA NO. 28

JANUARY 14, 2010 – Water Resources

Little (Chair), Gray

JANUARY 25, 2010 – Board Meeting

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Approved by: Rich Nagel

INFORMATION CALENDAR

RECYCLED WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM OPERATIONS

SUMMARY:

West Basin Municipal Water District (West Basin) contracts with California Water Service Company (CWSC) to operate and maintain the recycled water distribution system. The distribution system consists of approximately 100 miles of pipeline and appurtenant facilities and two re-disinfection stations. CWSC charges West Basin for time and materials to operate and maintain the system. There is one CWSC operator that dedicates about 90% of his time to the program. Other operators are assigned to the program as needed. In addition to normal operations and maintenance activities for the pipelines and appurtenant facilities, CWSC provides a 24-hour emergency number for distribution system emergencies, responds to requests for utility information with drawings and field marking, conducts annual visual inspections of all recycled water sites, conducts periodic cross-connection tests, performs a verification read of all meters, and assists with special studies including sampling and pressure and flow recordings.

CWSC is West Basin's largest customer for imported water, purchasing over 50% of the imported water sold in Fiscal Year 2008-09. Much of the recycled water distribution system overlaps their service area. They have been a large supporter of recycled water since the program was implemented.

CWSC provides an excellent level of field service. The field supervisor assigned to West Basin's recycled water distribution system has been operating the system since it was first put into service. Their technical and historical knowledge of West Basin's recycled water distribution system is invaluable. Because the distribution system has grown and therefore become more sophisticated, both staff and CWSC have been working towards a more formal reporting of activities, record keeping, and standardizing procedures to the extent possible. Furthermore, staff has been working with CWSC to enhance documentation of activities and to describe standard procedures for certain activities and believe significant improvements have been made in those areas.

The current contract with CWSC expires July 1, 2010. The Board has two options moving forward: (1) Re-negotiate/extend the agreement with CWSC; or (2) Issue a "Request for Proposals" for operating and maintaining the recycled water distribution system. Because of CWSC's extensive knowledge of our recycled distribution system and the significant administrative improvements, staff would like to pursue negotiating a new contract with CWSC with the following key points:

- Operating and maintaining the recycled water distribution system including certain re-disinfection stations for five years; and

- CWSC would be paid on a time and material basis, similar to the current agreement.

STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN IMPLEMENTATION:

Goal 3: Customer Service – West Basin is committed to providing value by understanding and meeting the needs of our customers and the communities we serve.

Goal 4: Sound Financial and Resources Management – West Basin is committed to efficient business operations, financial planning and asset management.

FISCAL IMPACTS:

Funds are included in the Fiscal Year 2009-10 Operations and Maintenance Program Budget.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE:

Not applicable.

COMMITTEE STATUS:

This item was reviewed by the Water Resources Committee on January 14, 2010 and agendized to the January 25, 2010 Board meeting as information for discussion.

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

This item is for information only.

LIST OF EXHIBITS:

None.