



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

AGENDA NO. 22

OCTOBER 6, 2010 – Communications

Gray (Chair), Kwan

OCTOBER 25, 2010 – Board Meeting

Prepared by: E.J. Caldwell

Submitted by: Ron Wildermuth

Approved by: Rich Nagel

ACTION CALENDAR

SACRAMENTO LOBBYIST CONTRACTS

SUMMARY:

During the 2008-2010 California legislative sessions, West Basin Municipal Water District (West Basin) was represented in Sacramento by two lobbying firms, Lang, Hansen, O'Malley and Miller (LHOM) and The Dolphin Group. West Basin's contract with each respective firm will expire on December 31, 2010.

Working in concert with West Basin staff, LHOM and The Dolphin Group have provided excellent service and have contributed to West Basin's overall legislative success in Sacramento. West Basin's legislative and policy success includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Successful introduction of AB 1342 (spot bill regarding ocean-water desalination);
- Oppose and defeat SB 1412, regarding Water Replenishment Districts "AB 640";
- Oppose and defeat SB 42, regarding prohibition on open water intake technologies;
- Oppose and defeat AB 1664, regarding MWD representation;
- Opposed and defeated SB 565, regarding fees for wastewater ocean discharge;
- Advocated for and received maximum credit for recycled water, SB 7X7, water-use efficiency legislation;
- Advocated for and received \$1.25 billion for recycled water in the 2010 Water Bond;
- Securing support for Water Reliability 2020; and
- Scheduled and hosted West Basin during the 2009 and 2010 Legislator briefings.

In September, West Basin staff brought an information item to the Board to provide an update on the existing contracts between West Basin and LHOM and The Dolphin Group. At that time, the work performed by LHOM and The Dolphin Group was highlighted, along with the importance of having continuity in representation through the new, two-year session.

After hearing feedback from the Board, staff recommends, 1) to amend the existing agreement #W1570 with LHOM for an additional two-year term, for the current compensation of \$6,000 per month, plus reasonable expenses; and 2) to amend the existing agreement #W1825 with The Dolphin Group for an additional two-year term for the current compensation of \$6,000 per month, plus reasonable expenses.

STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN IMPLEMENTATION:

Goal #1: Water Reliability – West Basin is committed to innovative planning and investments to provide water supply reliability and drought protection.

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.

FISCAL IMPACTS:

The current annual contract amount for West Basin's contracts with both LHOM and The Dolphin Group, \$144,000, plus reasonable expenses, is included in the Fiscal Year 2010-11 Public Information and Conservation Budget.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE:

Not applicable.

COMMITTEE STATUS:

This item was reviewed by the Communications Committee on October 6, 2010 and recommended for approval at the October 25, 2010 Board meeting.

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

That the Board approves:

1. Amending existing agreement #W1570 with LHOM for an additional two-year term, for the current compensation of \$6,000 per month, plus reasonable expenses; and
2. Amending the existing agreement #W1825 with The Dolphin Group for an additional two-year term for the current compensation of \$6,000 per month, plus reasonable expenses.

LIST OF EXHIBITS:

None.