



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

**AGENDA NO. 15**

**NOVEMBER 15, 2010 – Communications**

Gray (Chair), Kwan

**NOVEMBER 22, 2010 – Board Meeting**

Prepared by: Darryl Ramos-Young

Submitted by: Ron Wildermuth

Approved by: Rich Nagel

## ACTION CALENDAR

### TOUR GUIDE SERVICES CONTRACT AMENDMENT FOR POST PLANT OCEAN EDUCATION

#### SUMMARY:

Following our Edward C. Little Water Recycling Facility (ECLWRF) school tours, staff has been transporting the students via buses to the Roundhouse Aquarium for marine ecology and watershed education. In light of the completion of the new Water Education Center, staff will now split the post recycling marine tour program between SEA Lab, our Water Education Center, and the Roundhouse Aquarium to take advantage of our new facility. Staff will use the SEA Lab instructors to provide tours of the new Water Education Center and SEA Lab.

In 2009, a contract was awarded to SEA Lab, a program of the Los Angeles Conservation Corps, to provide tour guide services for the West Basin Municipal Water District (West Basin) Water Explorations School Tours Program at the Edward C. Little Water Recycling Facility. SEA Lab provided excellent instructors and improved the program presentations as demonstrated in the Education Programs Evaluation Report completed by the Evaluation and Training Institute this past August. The young SEA Lab instructors related better to the young students.

Now, West Basin staff recommends amending SEA Lab's contract to include an additional tour led by SEA Lab staff at the new Water Education Center after the tour of the ECLWRF. In the past, after the plant tours, the children were taken to the Roundhouse Aquarium in Manhattan Beach. At the Roundhouse Aquarium, students received a one-hour, large group presentation on marine ecology and watershed stewardship. Under an amended contract with SEA Lab, students would be transported each Wednesday and Thursday to the SEA Lab facility to receive a similar marine ecology program, but also integrating a visit to the new Water Education Center and learning of West Basin's efforts to protect the marine environment. On Fridays, students would continue to be transported to the Roundhouse Aquarium, thereby allowing West Basin to maintain important and strong partnerships with both community aquariums.

A total of 50 after-lunch tours would be conducted for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2010-11 school year. The SEA Lab after lunch program would cost \$119 per tour for a total amount not-to-exceed \$6,000 for the FY 2010-11 school year. The current contract with SEA Lab is \$23,000 and the addition of the tours will increase the contract amount not-to-exceed \$29,000. A breakdown of the additional funds needed is provided in Exhibit "A".

Funding for these amended tour guide services are provided for in the FY 2010-11 Public Information & Conservation Budget.

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.

FISCAL IMPACTS:

Funding for the amended tour guide services is included in the FY 2010-11 Public Information & Conservation Budget.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE:

Not applicable.

COMMITTEE STATUS:

This item was reviewed by the Communications Committee on November 15, 2010 and recommended for approval at the November 22, 2010 Board meeting.

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

That the Board authorizes the General Manager to amend Contract #W2195 to SEA Lab in the amount of \$6,000, for a total contact amount not-to-exceed \$29,000.

LIST OF EXHIBITS:

Exhibit "A" – Tour Guide Services Budget Proposal

w:\westbasinboard\wbmwd\nov2010\10nov001