

PROJECT AGREEMENT 22 COMMITTEE

Interregional Landscape Water Demand Reduction Program
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
June 8. 2021

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Shivaji Deshmukh, General Manager, Inland Empire Utilities Agency Heather Dyer, General Manager, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District Joe Mouawad, General Manager, Eastern Municipal Water District [Chair] Michael Markus, General Manager, Orange County Water District [Vice Chair] Craig Miller, General Manager, Western Municipal Water District

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

None.

STAFF PRESENT

Jeffrey Mosher, Karen Williams, Mark Norton, Ian Achimore, Dean Unger, Sara Villa, Haley Mullay

OTHERS PRESENT

Bruce Whitaker, T. Milford Harrison, Andrew D. Turner, Lagerlof, LLP

1. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the PA 22 Committee was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chair Joe Mouawad on behalf of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, 11615 Sterling Avenue, Riverside, California. Pursuant to the provisions of Executive Order N-25-30, this meeting was conducted virtually.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments: there were no public comments received via email.

3. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: MAY 11, 2021

MOVED, approve the May 11, 2021 meeting minutes.

Result: Adopted by Roll Call Vote (Unanimously)

Motion/Second: Miller/Dyer

Ayes Deshmukh, Dyer, Markus, Miller, Mouawad

Nays: None Abstentions: None Absent: None

4. COMMITTEE DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. WATER EFFICIENCY BUDGET ASSISTANCE PROJECT UPDATE (PA22#2021.5)

Ian Achimore provided the PowerPoint presentation contained in the agenda packet on pages 11-22. Mr. Achimore reviewed background information about the Water Efficiency Budget Assistance Project, the second task under the Santa Ana River Conservation and Conjunctive Use Program (SARCCUP). In February 2021, the Project Agreement 22 Committee approved a contract with NV5 (formerly known as Quantum Spatial) to assist with creating

water use efficiency budgets for the respective retail agency's customers. Per the PA 22 Committee's feedback at the last meeting, staff is recommending executing an agreement to transfer to MWDOC approximately 1/5th (i.e. \$118,000) of the existing contract amount of approximately \$594,000 between SAWPA and NV5. This agreement would be with OCWD, who already has a sub-grantee agreement with SAWPA for implementing the Arundo Donax Removal and Conjunctive Use tasks of SARCCUP. The amendment to the sub-grantee agreement will:

- Reiterate the intent of the PA 22 Committee that this amendment between OCWD and SAWPA will allow OCWD to contract with MWDOC on implementation of the SARCCUP task,
- Require the implementation of efficiency budgets for at least 284 customers, and
- OCWD to contract with MWDOC for approximately \$118,000 in funding for this work.

Once OCWD executes an agreement with MWDOC, MWDOC would work with all Orange County agencies, including the two that would have been managed by SAWPA. As discussed with the PA 22 Committee at their May meeting, there are benefits to this approach in Orange County, including streamlining the overall process, reducing SAWPA's management costs, and would allow grant-funded benefits support MWDOC's retail water agencies in the Santa Ana River Watershed. SAWPA is recommending that the existing SAWPA-NV5 contract remain unmodified despite the \$118,000 budget transfer to OCWD for MWDOC because the existing SAWPA-NV5 task order is defined as a not-to-exceed value, still provides the flexibility of increased support at set threshold rates if upper watershed needs exceed early estimates and does not change the minimum guaranteed contract amount.

MOVED, approve execution of a Sub-Agreement Amendment with Orange County Water District (OCWD) in order to contract with the Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC) for approximately \$118,000 in funding to implement the SARCCUP Water Use Efficiency Budget Assistance Task in North Orange County.

Result: Adopted by Roll Call Vote (Unanimously)

Motion/Second: Markus/Dyer

Ayes: Deshmukh, Dyer, Markus, Mouawad, Miller

Nays: None Abstentions: None Absent: None

B. <u>ENHANCEMENTS TO WATERSHED-WIDE WATER BUDGET DECISION</u> <u>SUPPORT TOOL PROJECT UPDATE (PA22#2021.6)</u>

Ian Achimore provided the PowerPoint presentation contained in the agenda packet on pages 31-41. Mr. Achimore reviewed the main objectives of the project timeline and objectives. Recent updates to the Project include:

- Geophex, Ltd. (consultant for the upper watershed aerial imagery) are starting aerial capture through aircraft in late May 2021,
- SAWPA and Reclamation are meeting monthly and discussing the following items:
- Finalizing server storage for maintaining large terabytes of upper watershed and Orange County imagery,
- Starting to craft GIS model that will classify common outdoor landscape objects (such as trees, shrubs, and grass), and

 The Orange County imagery files will be provided by the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) by July 2021 and shared with SAWPA and the Reclamation for analysis.

Landscape analysis (Task 2) is expected to begin in July 2021, after imagery is shared by the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) with SAWPA and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. Work on the Decision Support Tool (Task 3) is expected to begin in late 2021, as SAWPA begins to develop a detailed scope for the decision support tool, which will likely be provided by a third-party consultant.

This item was for informational and discussion purposes; no action was taken on Agenda Item No. 4.B.

5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Committee Member Miller requested an agenda item to discuss moving to a quarterly meeting schedule. Jeff Mosher assured the Committee that staff will prepare a future agenda item addressing a revised schedule.

6. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business for review, the meeting ended at 8:57 a.m.

Approved at a Regular Meeting of the Project Agreement 22 Committee on Tuesday, September 1/4, 2021.

Joe Mouawad, Chair

Attest:

Sara Villa Clerk of the Board