

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BEDFORD COLDWATER
GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AUTHORITY**

November 16, 2023

Board Present

Jacque Casillas, City of Corona
Jack T. Ferguson, EVMWD
David Harich, TVWD

Staff Present

Jeff Pape, TVWD
Tom Moody, City of Corona
Christine Carson, Aleshire & Wynder, LLP
Parag Kalaria, EVMWD
Robert Hartwig, EVMWD
Corrine Nikolic, EVMWD
Christy Gonzalez, EVMWD
Terese Quintanar, EVMWD
Michael Cruikshank, Water Systems Consulting

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting of the Bedford-Coldwater Groundwater Sustainability Authority was called to order by Chairperson Casillas at 4:01 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT– There were none.

I. BUSINESS CALENDAR

**A. Elect Chairperson and Vice Chairperson
(MO #49)**

ACTION: Director Harich made a motion, Director Ferguson seconded, to elect Director Casillas as Chairperson, and Director Ferguson made a motion to elect Director ~~Harris~~ as Vice- Chairman, and the motion carried unanimously.

Harich &

**B. Appointment of ACWA JPIA Alternate Director
(MO #50)**

ACTION: Director Ferguson made a motion, Director Casillas seconded, to elect Director Harich as ACWA JPIA Alternate Director, and the motion carried unanimously.

the remaining term of the contract will be requested on an annual basis. He also asked for the clarification to be noted in the scope of work and attached as an exhibit to the Agreement.

ACTION: Director Harich made a motion, Director Ferguson seconded, and the motion carried unanimously to:

1. Approve Amendment No. 1 of Professional Services Agreement with Water Systems Consulting, Inc. (WSC). for Groundwater Sustainability Plan Administrator Services in the amount of \$149,400, in addition to the \$200,000 for a total amount not to exceed \$349,400 for Fiscal Year 2023-24; and
2. Authorize the Deputy Treasurer to execute the appropriate documents on behalf of Bedford Coldwater Groundwater Sustainability Authority

II. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. **Approval of Minutes of the Special Meeting of May 18, 2023**
- B. **Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 18, 2023**
- C. **Financial Statement**
- D. **Ratification of Demands**
- E. **Outside Contract Summary Report**

ACTION: Director Ferguson made a motion, Director Casillas seconded, and the motion carried unanimously to approve the Consent Calendar.

III. ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

Mr. Cruikshank provided highlights on information provided in the meeting packet in the form of the PowerPoint presentation. There was quite a lot of work involved in the GSP Proposition 1 GWGP Closeout and Summary Reports. The GSP implementation was broken up into three projects and management actions. The Temescal Wash Ground Water/Surface Water Interaction Monitoring Plan has been drafted. The private domestic well survey has been completed, and work is getting started on the 2023 Annual Report, which will be the third annual report.

The Project and Grant Close Out reports were prepared, and amendments to the grant covered additional tasks, including the 2022 Annual Report, the private domestic well survey and the website update. These have all been completed over the past four years. Tasks were shifted in the last amendment to get additional tasks funded with grant funds.

Regarding projects and Management Actions, there are three projects in the GSP, including the Investigation of Groundwater and Surface Water Interaction at Temescal Wash and the installation of monitoring wells, initiation of a survey of active private wells,

and the evaluation of the effects of aggregate pits on groundwater flow and quality. The projects and five Management Actions will be included in the 2023 annual report.

The purpose of the Groundwater/Surface Water Interaction at Temescal Wash study is to reduce uncertainty regarding the riparian habitat and ultimately to improve the GSP's management threshold and protect groundwater-dependent ecosystems. For the Phase 1 Initial Feasibility Study and Monitoring, the Authority contracted with Rincon to develop a proposed monitoring plan and that will be presented at the February 2024 meeting. Phase 2 is the installation of monitoring facilities and is ongoing. Mr. Moody and Mr. Pape both explained that the interaction of groundwater and surface water is a huge issue and there are impacts to groundwater, and there are instances where additional protocols are needed for water treatment and disinfection.

Mr. Cruikshank explained that, regarding work being done on the Groundwater/Surface Water Interaction at the Temescal Wash, surface water is hard to measure. The Department of Water Resources (DWR) released an information sheet providing a schedule for releasing guidance documents on the technical aspects of the groundwater/surface water interactions sustainable management criteria. Staff will evaluate these recommendations to make sure future tasks align with DWR protocols.

The purpose of the Domestic Private Well Survey was to reduce the uncertainty regarding the existence of active private domestic wells in the Basin. The Survey identified Weirick Road and Leroy Road areas as locations with active private wells. Staff is strategizing next steps on outreach to the well owners. Discussion ensued regarding difficulties they might encounter with the interactions and reluctance for area residents to provide information.

The purpose of the study of the effects of aggregate pits on groundwater flow and quality is to develop a better understanding of the relationship between aggregate pit mining operations and groundwater which will be incorporated into the 5-year GSP update.

To conclude his report, Mr. Cruikshank reported that the 2023 Annual Report documents water conditions including: groundwater elevations and storage, water supplies and use, an updated water balance, and groundwater sustainability progress for water year 2023.

IV. Legal Counsel Report

Ms. Carson had no report.

V. Comments of the Board

Chairperson Casillas confirmed the next meeting date of February 15, 2024, and wished everyone a happy holiday season.

C. Amendment to Contract with Water Systems Consulting (MO #51)

Parag Kalaria reported on this item and provided a brief overview of Water Systems Consulting scope of work for Fiscal Year 2022-2023, approved by the Board at the May 19, 2022 Board of Directors meeting. In February 2023, the Authority requested and obtained approval for a scope revision and project extension for the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Development Project. This amendment allowed the BCGSA to achieve several key milestones. Specifically, it enabled the completion of the second annual report, made significant progress on two GSP projects, and facilitated the update of the project's website, ensuring the full utilization of available grant funds. The 2023 Grant Amendment allowed the BCGSA to utilize about \$95,000 of grant funds that would have been lost providing a great benefit to the community. Mr. Kalaria provided a breakdown of the Grant Administrator costs, by task.

Director Harich requested clarification regarding the request for additional funds; how the additional costs are justified in the additional scope of work, and asked where these costs are reflected in the financial statements. Mr. Kalaria explained that the term of the original contract was for five years, although the funding for each year is approved on an annual basis, based on the planned scope of services and actions planned in any given year. Categories for work included in the scope are limited to certain tasks and staff's goal was to maximize the grant funding to fund as much of this work as possible.

Director Harich and Chairperson Casillas requested several edits to the staff report within the packet:

1. Within the Background section: "The Authority's member agency staff reviewed the proposals and recommended the selection of Water Systems Consulting, Inc. WSC and the PSA was approved at the May 19, 2022 Board Meeting for a total of \$200,000, **annually.**"
2. Within the Discussion section: "Staff recommends approval of Amendment No. 1 to the PSA with WSC in the amount of \$149,400, bringing the total authorized amount not to exceed \$349,400 for FY 2023-2024 ~~through FY 2026-27.~~

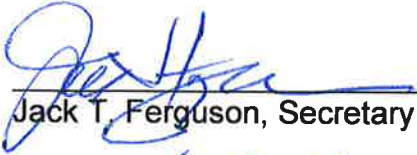
Referencing slide 4 of the presentation, Mr. Kalaria explained costs associated with the work associated with the Management Actions, monitoring of groundwater levels, groundwater quality coordination (including sampling), tracking groundwater along the Temescal Wash, updates to the website, and monitoring of subsidence, monitoring contracts, overseeing contractors, and Permit Application review.

Director  Harris asked that a clarification be made for the record, to reflect \$349,400 as the approved amount for fiscal year 2023-24, and additional funds for

VI. Adjourn

There being no further business, the November 16, 2023, Regular Meeting of the Bedford-Coldwater Groundwater Sustainability Authority was adjourned at 5:04 p.m.

ATTEST:



Jack T. Ferguson, Secretary

Date: 2/15/24

APPROVED:



Jacque Casillas, Chairperson

Date: 2/15/24