

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

May 20, 2021

Board Present

Paul Rodriguez, TVWD
Jacque Casillas, City of Corona
Phil Williams, EVMWD

Staff Present

Margie Armstrong, EVMWD
Terese Quintanar, EVMWD
Greg Thomas, EVMWD
Jeff Pape, TVWD
Tom Moody, City of Corona
Parag Kalaria, EVMWD
Victor Harris, Stantec
Steve O'Neill, Olivarez Madruga Lemieux O'Neill, LLP
Katie Hockett, City of Corona
Kelly Shugart, Stantec Consulting
Susie Evans, EVMWD

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting of the Bedford-Coldwater Groundwater Sustainability Authority was held via teleconference allowed under the waivers of the Brown Act in response to the COVID19 epidemic. Participants joined by accessing information posted on the meeting Agenda, posted at least 72 hours prior to the meeting start time. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Rodriguez at 4:01 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

1. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Approval of Minutes of the February 18, 2021 Special Meeting**
- B. Financial Statement**
- C. Ratification of Demands**
- D. Back-up Information for Major Contracts**
- E. Outside Contract Summary Report**

ACTION: Vice-Chairperson Casillas made a motion, Director Williams seconded, and the motion carried unanimously to approve the Consent Calendar.

2. Amendment No. 1 for Professional Services Agreement with Geoscience Support Services, Inc. (MO #33)

Mr. Harris reported on this item and referenced the report in the packet. The purpose for the amendment is for the purchase and installation of transducers and dataloggers in selected wells. Transducers and dataloggers automatically measure the water level in a well and record it for later downloading. The data is important because the water levels in the groundwater basin are somewhat of a "gas gauge" of sustainability. These transducers and dataloggers were called for in the original grant application and are included in the approved work plan by the DWR. At the time, we did not know which wells would be appropriate to equip. Some wells already had transducers and some wells would be difficult to get a transducer installed. After review, four wells were identified to be appropriate for them. Two are new wells that will be constructed and two are existing wells not currently being used and are ideal for monitoring. Once the wells were identified to equip, staff requested a proposal from Geoscience to purchase and install these. Geoscience is ideal because they will be working on the new monitoring wells and they are skilled in this type of installation and equipment.

Geoscience provided a proposal and staff reviewed the submitted proposal and found the cost is fair and consists of \$20,000 in equipment costs and \$5,000 in labor. Staff recommends approval of the amendment, in the amount of \$25,483, and authorization for the Deputy Treasurer to execute the amendment with Geoscience.

Director Williams inquired where the equipment will be installed. Mr. Harris answered there will be two new monitoring wells and they will be in areas where we need the data. Also, the specific purpose is to measure water levels across the Glen Ivy Falls. They are midway in the basin. The two other wells are the Trilogy Well and the Corona Well 20. Ms. Armstrong will send a map of the locations to the Directors.

Chairperson Rodriguez asked when the work would start and be completed. Mr. Harris answered the timing depends on when the secured location for the second well is obtained. Permission may be received next week from Riverside County to drill in the location requested. Geoscience has done the draft specifications and will go out to bid, with the bid period approximately four to six weeks, and then start construction. The equipment purchased will be based on the measurements of the depth of water taken in the new wells, because specific cable lengths will be required. It is likely three to four months away from purchasing the equipment. Mr. Harris confirmed for Chairperson Rodriguez that the cost of the equipment should remain as bid based on the quote Geoscience received from their supplier. Geoscience was asked to be conservative with the cable length and the actual cost will be based on what Geoscience pays for them, plus an approved markup.

ACTION: Chairperson Rodriguez made a motion, Vice Chairperson Casillas seconded, and the motion carried unanimously to:

1. Approve Amendment No. 1 for Professional Services Agreement (PSA) with Geoscience Support Services, Inc. (Geoscience) in the amount of \$25,483; and,

2. Authorize the Deputy Treasurer to execute the appropriate documents on behalf of Bedford Coldwater Groundwater Sustainability Authority.

3. **Administrator's Update**

Mr. Harris referenced the report provided in the packet and verbally provided a summary of the high points. There has been work on two major fronts; construction of the monitoring well and finding an adequate location for monitoring wells and completion of the GSP. Significant progress has been made on both.

Construction of the wells involved an exhaustive search of an alternate well location that was hydro geologically acceptable, where an encroachment permit could be obtained, and is clear of utilities. A location meeting those criteria was found on Hunt Road and an encroachment permit from the County of Riverside is being sought for that location. County staff indicated they were optimistic about approval of the encroachment permit and could provide confirmation in a few days. Once the County of Riverside issues the permit, Geoscience will finalize the design and go out to bid.

Regarding GSP development, all the chapters of the GSP have been completed. Todd Groundwater and Stantec are compiling the chapters and doing the final checks for typos and consistency. There are two appendixes still in progress having to do with model documentation and the data management system. Completion of the final draft is anticipated by June 1, 2021. It will then be published on the website and staff will start an aggressive campaign to contact stakeholders to request their review and invite comments and questions. A stakeholder meeting is tentatively planned for July 15, 2021, midway through the 90-day public review period, to talk about management actions and thresholds. After the 90-day public review period, the final draft will be compiled and submitted to DWR.

Referencing Page 73 of the packet, Status of Grant Invoicing, Mr. Harris reported the threshold has been crossed for local contribution for GSP Development and Stakeholder Engagement, so the remaining funds will come out of the grant. It is likely the local contribution for Grant Administration will not be reached. The threshold is likely to be met for Construction once started. At DWR's suggestion, staff will look at allocation of funds further down the road, particularly in Construction, to make the balance more reasonable and equitable. Ms. Armstrong and staff have applied for an extension of the time contract and then the budget reallocation will get done as construction costs are final. The GSP project schedule was reviewed. The completed GSP should be on target for submittal to DWR by October, about four-months shy of the deadline.

Vice Chairperson Casillas asked if any comments were received from stakeholders from last year's meeting. Mr. Pape answered there have not been any questions from stakeholders. Some have asked to get pieces of information and they want to be included once the draft GSP is available. Most of those stakeholders are in the Temescal Valley Water District service area, such as Glen Ivy Spa and the mining operations. They all have Mr. Pape's contact information but have had no questions at this point. Ms. Armstrong added, as a chapter is finished and published on the website, email blasts are

being sent to all stakeholders to make them aware there is something new posted. Ms. Shugart indicated no emails were received in response to those e-blasts.

Answering inquiry from Chairperson Rodriguez, Mr. Harris reported the encroachment permit is issued by the Riverside County Department of Transportation and he is working with Doug Berg.

Chairperson Rodriguez stated he reviewed the documents of Chapter 2 and there are some minor edits he noted. He will send those to Mr. Harris to review. Chairperson Rodriguez indicated he was surprised about the content of Chapter 9, which talks about implementation, because he expected it to have more discussion about capital projects. He asked when capital projects would be identified that serve the basin and assure a lasting source. Most of the projects listed had to do with analysis, continued monitoring, developing plans, and a lot of consultant activity. He requested clarification of what the output of the GSP was going to be and whether capital projects are going to be identified post-GSP. Mr. Harris answered capital projects that would help us achieve sustainability have not been identified. We are essentially sustainable with a plan in place, and with the actions we will remain sustainable. That does not mean projects could not be identified in the future, but right now the focus is on meeting the requirements of the GSP. Chairperson Rodriguez expressed his concern to maximize the \$1M grant. Mr. Harris added the construction estimate is for the monitoring wells and equipment and he is confident we will reach the limit but will know more when we get the bids back.

Chairperson Rodriguez indicated he sensed the group is getting along and working well together with a common goal as we move forward. He wants to ensure the Board is prepared to support staff and would like to know if any issues arise so they can be resolved as early in the process as possible. He encouraged any team concerns are daylighted so they can be addressed.

4. Legal Counsel Report

Mr. O'Neil reported he worked on the amendment to the Geoscience agreement. It is a true amendment just to the scope of services; the rest of the contractual provisions remain to protect the agency. He shared an item of interest about another GSA they represent, which had interesting issues on how the GSP interacts with other existing law. It is a situation where in this basin is a river with potential steelhead runs. They had to do an analysis of how does the GSP and SGMA interact with the Endangered Species Act. There is constitutional doctrine about the reasonable use provisions in the constitution that water must be used reasonably, beneficially, and not wasted. They have a more challenging basin which raised some interesting legal issues, how this new law is interpreted, and how it interacts and harmonizes with other existing statutes. He offered to share his analysis. The creation of the GSP is statutorily exempt from CEQA but once we start implementing programs, we are not exempt from CEQA. CIP projects would be subject to CEQA.

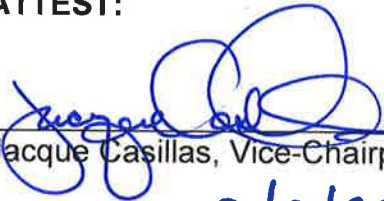
5. Comments of the Board

There were none.

6. Adjourn

There being no further business, the May 20, 2021 Regular meeting of the Bedford-Coldwater Groundwater Sustainability Authority was adjourned at 4:28 p.m.

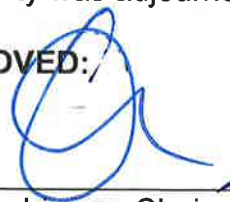
ATTEST:



Jacquie Casillas, Vice-Chairperson

Date: 09/8/2021

APPROVED:



Paul Rodriguez, Chairperson

Date: 11-22-21