

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

**August 19, 2021**

**Board Present**

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

**Staff Present**

Jeff Pape, TVWD  
Greg Thomas, EVMWD  
Ganesh Krishnamurthy, EVMWD  
Tom Moody, City of Corona  
Margie Armstrong, EVMWD  
Parag Kalaria, EVMWD  
Terese Quintanar, EVMWD  
Christy Gonzalez, EVMWD  
Susie Evans, EVMWD  
Victor Harris, Stantec  
Kelly Shugart, Stantec  
Martin Koczanowicz, Olivarez Madruga Lemieux O'Neill, LLP

**1. 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 Chairman Rodriguez at 4:00 p.m.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT – None.**

**3. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRPERSON AND VICE-CHAIRPERSON (MO #34)**

**ACTION:** Director Williams made a motion, Vice- Chairperson Casillas seconded, to elect the same officers as last year: Director Rodriguez as Chairman, and Director Casillas as Vice- Chairperson, and Director Williams as Treasurer, and the motion carried unanimously.

**4. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**A. Minutes of the May 20, 2021 Regular Meeting**

**B. Financial Statement**

- C. **Ratification of Demands**
- D. **Back-up Information for Major Contracts**
- E. **Outside Contract Summary Report**

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

## 5. **BUSINESS CALENDAR**

### A. **Consider Approval of Amendment No. 2 for Professional Services Agreement with Geoscience Support Services, Inc. (MO #35)**

Mr. Harris explained the approved grant work plan calls for the construction of two new monitoring wells in the Bedford Coldwater basin. Geoscience was selected to provide CEQA permitting, develop technical specifications, and provide construction management services for the wells. The well locations were selected by the GSA based on general locations identified by Todd Groundwater (Todd), who developed the Groundwater Sustainability Plan. The wells were originally located on the two parcels owned by the GSA member agencies within the areas identified by Todd.

After Geoscience completed draft specifications and CEQA documentation for the two original monitoring well sites, it became clear that one of the sites was not large enough to locate drilling equipment, and a new site was needed. In addition, the wells need to be deeper than originally anticipated. After considerable effort, a replacement site was identified on Hunt Road within Riverside County right-of-way, and an encroachment permit was obtained from the county for the new monitoring well site.

Given the new monitoring well site, Geoscience's scope of work needs to be expanded to include:

1. CEQA permitting for a third new monitoring well site
2. Revisions of the plans and specifications to replace one site and modify anticipated drilling depths
3. Additional field time during construction management to accommodate deeper drilling which will extend the construction period

Staff requested a scope of work and the associated cost from Geoscience for the additional work needed. Furthermore, due to the additional time needed to identify the location of the third well, the work cannot be completed within the current PSA expiration date of August 31, 2021.

Vice-Chairperson Casillas asked for background on why it was not known sooner that the site was too small. Mr. Harris explained that once the site was selected, Geoscience

prepared a layout of where the equipment would be placed and asked the drilling contractors to evaluate the site and it was determined that the well would be situated such that it may impede future construction on the site. Vice-Chairperson Casillas asked if there is verbiage in our contract that would allow for us to split this cost with Geoscience. Mr. Harris responded that the additional costs for plans and specifications is understandable because they have to be re-done. There is some uncertainty about how long they may have to be in the field and where bedrock may be found, so there is potential that they may not need the additional cost built in for this and we may not end up spending all of the \$12,637. Mr. Harris explained further that this has been discussed with Geoscience and found that the additional costs presented are fair.

Chairman Rodriguez asked for clarification about the deadlines concerning the construction and the grant, and commented that the questions being asked are important, and urged for thoughtfulness in containing costs and allowing for sufficient time for the work. Mr. Harris explained that this work is tied to the grant and the work needs to be completed by December 31. Ms. Armstrong explained that this is a hard deadline. The grant coincides with the required submittal date, and we cannot extend the grant timing. Confirming for Chairman Rodriguez, Ms. Armstrong explained that the deadline is the date of project completion. The work has to be performed and completed by the end of December. The duration of the contract is such that we can complete the work by the end of December, complete with an as built report from Geoscience.

Staff has reviewed the proposed scope of service and costs and recommends approval of Amendment No. 2 to the PSA with Geoscience increasing the compensation amount by \$12,637 to a total of \$98,533, and a term extension through December 31, 2021.

**ACTION:** Director Williams made a motion, Vice-Chairperson Casillas seconded, and the motion carried unanimously to:

1. Approve Amendment No. 2 for Professional Services Agreement (PSA) with Geoscience Support Services, Inc. (Geoscience); and,
2. Authorize the Deputy Treasurer to execute the appropriate documents on behalf of Bedford Coldwater Groundwater Sustainability Authority.

**B. Consider Authorizing the Deputy Treasurer to Select a Well Drilling Contractor**

Mr. Harris explained that the grant work plan approved by Department of Water Resources (DWR) calls for the construction of two new monitoring wells in the Bedford Coldwater Basin. A request for bids for construction of the wells is currently being advertised on the PlanetBids e-procurement portal. Bids are due back to the GSA on August 30, 2021. A pre-bid meeting was held on August 3, 2021 and the deadline for bids was extended in order to allow time for contractors to plan for outreach efforts.

Time is of the essence for completion of the wells to coincide with the grant agreement and funding from the DWR. Planning of the wells has been significantly delayed due to challenges in obtaining appropriate drilling sites and drilling permits. In lieu of convening a special meeting of the Board to approve selection of a contractor after receipt of bids on August 30, the board can consider authorizing the Deputy Treasurer (in consultation with Administrator and Geoscience Support Services) to select the well drilling contractor with the lowest responsive bid and execute a contract with the contractor for the bid amount not to exceed \$385,000.

Geoscience has developed an engineer's estimate for the work based on similar work they have performed recently. The engineer's estimate for one well is \$167,585 and the other well is \$127,660, for a total of \$295,245. The difference in the estimated costs of the wells is due to varying anticipated well depths. The suggested not-to-exceed amount of \$385,000 is based on the engineers estimate of \$295,245 with a contingency of approximately 30 percent. CEQA work has been completed.

Chairman Rodriguez asked for confirmation that there will be no additional delays. He further explained his preference to call a special meeting to take the action. Vice Chairperson Casillas was in agreement.

Mr. Koczanowicz explained that as a matter of course, once the bids come in and are evaluated by staff, the lowest responsible bid is to be awarded. Mr. Harris opined that at least three contractors may submit bids. He continued that the Board does have the ability to delegate the decision for award.

Discussion followed regarding time demands involved for reviewing submittals between the submittal date of September 15, 2021 and a suggested special board meeting date of September 20, 2021. Mr. Harris made note that he would need to confirm that that Geoscience staff would be able to complete the bid comparison in a timely manner and that staff would also be invited to the special meeting. Chairman Rodriguez commented that his preference not to defer to staff was based on his understanding of the Board's role and responsibility. It will also provide an opportunity for the Board to understand more about the ranking and scoring is done.

## **6. Administrator's Update**

Mr. Harris provided an update the GSP and the monitoring wells. In terms of the GSP, we publicized it on our website on June 6<sup>th</sup> and let stakeholders know it was available and held a public meeting on July 15, 2021. The deadline for public review is September 6, 2021, and based on the lack of input or questions, we don't expect it will be a problem and will be ready to upload to the DWR in mid to late September. However, when it is submitted to DWR, the five year clock starts. He recommended scheduling for consideration of approval at a November meeting and one concern was the holidays and if we will have availability for a quorum.

Other elements include detail on page 77 of the packet. We believe that the GSP is largely done and we're thinking of implementation and the first update is required in April. Chairman Rodriguez commented that the Stakeholder's Meeting was very well done, and the PowerPoint presentation explained very well how the efforts come together. Some communities' members inquired about obtaining the presentation and, he opined, that is a good sign. He expressed his appreciation.

Mr. Harris continued with his report, referencing page 81 of the meeting packet. A status of grant invoicing shows we are into grant money in stakeholder development and the GSP Development and underbudget in grant administration work and may go over in the area of construction implementation, given the Engineer's estimate. Near the end of the grant period, when we have more certainty on the costs, we will seek to refine the budget funds. The Schedule was also provided.

Chairman Rodriguez noted that the schedule has a deadline of January 31 of 2022, but we are using the deadline of December 31 as the deadline for the monitoring wells. Mr. Harris confirmed that the deadline of January 31 is statewide GSP deadline, and the grant schedule is through another entity.

**7. Legal Counsel Report**

Martin Koczanowicz had no report.

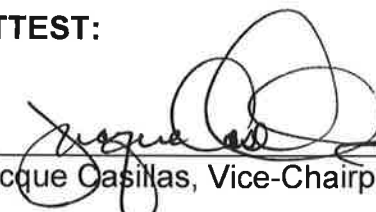
**8. Comments of Board**

Director Williams thanked staff for their efforts and for continuously moving forward.

**9. Adjourn**

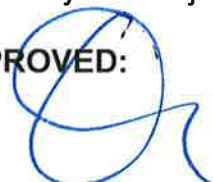
There being no further business, the August 19, 2021, Regular meeting of the Bedford-Coldwater Groundwater Sustainability Authority was adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

**ATTEST:**

  
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Jacquie Casillas, Vice-Chairperson

Date: 12-14-21

**APPROVED:**

  
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Paul Rodriguez, Chairman

Date: 11-22-21