



COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

AGENDA ITEM NO.

C-15

For the meeting of: May 31, 2016

Date: May 23, 2016

To: Board of Supervisors

From: ^(P) Thomas K. Mattson, Public Works Director

Subject: Requests for Proposals to Provide Professional Services for the Eel River Valley Groundwater Basin Assessment Project

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the Board of Supervisors authorizes Public Works to issue the two attached Requests for Proposals, and directs Public Works to bring the Agreements for Professional Services with the selected contractors back to the Board for review and approval.

SOURCE OF FUNDING: California Department of Water Resources – Proposition 1 Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Program

DISCUSSION:

On December 8, 2015, the Board of Supervisors approved Resolution 15-122 authorizing Public Works to submit an application to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) to obtain a grant under the Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Program for the Eel River Valley Groundwater Basin Assessment Project (the "Project"). The Eel River Valley groundwater basin includes the communities of Ferndale, Fortuna, Loleta, Rio Dell, Scotia, Hydesville, and Carlotta. The Project involves technical studies in coordination with the Eel River Valley Groundwater Working Group to evaluate the sustainability of groundwater utilization within the basin. The results of the technical studies will support the determination

Prepared by Hank Seemann

CAO Approval Karen Clouen

REVIEW: Auditor _____ County Counsel Sm Human Resources _____ Other _____

TYPE OF ITEM:
 Consent
 Departmental
 Public Hearing
 Other _____

PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:

Board Order No. C-22

Meeting of: 12/8/15

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
Upon motion of Supervisor Fennell Seconded by Supervisor Bass
Ayes Sundberg, Fennell, Lovelace, Bass, Bohn
Nays _____
Abstain _____
Absent _____

and carried by those members present, the Board hereby approves the recommended action contained in this Board report.

Dated: May 31, 2016
By: Kathy Hayes
Kathy Hayes, Clerk of the Board

whether a Groundwater Sustainability Plan must be prepared for compliance with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, or whether there is sufficient evidence to support preparation of an Alternative Submittal. An Alternative Submittal demonstrates that the basin has operated within its sustainable yield over a period of at least 10 years and does not include the management components of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan. The Project is time-sensitive because the deadline for the Alternative Submittal is January 1, 2017.

In March 2016, DWR notified Public Works that funding in the amount of \$250,000 was offered for the Project, contingent upon executing a grant agreement. DWR is preparing the grant agreement and execution is expected in June 2016. Resolution 15-122 authorized Public Works to enter into an agreement with DWR to receive the grant, if awarded.

Services are required from two contractors to assist with the Project. The Requests for Proposals in Attachment 1 and 2 have been prepared in accordance with the County's Purchasing Policy to initiate the procurement process. First, a consulting firm with a licensed professional geologist will be retained to perform a variety of tasks including reviewing existing data; collecting new data; evaluating the size, structure, composition, and characteristics of the groundwater basin; assessing interactions between groundwater and surface water in the Eel River; and developing a preliminary water balance for the basin. Second, a licensed drilling company will be retained to drill exploratory soil borings, install new monitoring wells, and perform pump testing.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Funds for the Project have been incorporated into the proposed Fiscal Year 2016-17 budget in revenue line 1100251-525001 and expenditure line 1100251-3452. The total estimated cost for the Project is \$270,418. The cost-share amount of \$20,418 will be funded from the General Fund portion of the Water Management budget.

The requested action will advance two of the Board of Supervisors' core roles: providing for and maintaining infrastructure, and creating opportunities for improved safety and health.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

California Department of Water Resources, Humboldt County Division of Environmental Health, Planning and Building Department, Agricultural Commissioner, UC-Cooperative Extension, City of Fortuna, City of Rio Dell, Bear River Band of Rohnerville Rancheria, Hydesville Community Services District, Loleta Community Services District, Palmer Creek Community Services District, Riverside Community Services District, Scotia Community Services District.

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Board discretion

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1 Request for Proposals: Professional Geologist Consulting Services for Eel River Valley Groundwater Basin Assessment
- 2 Request for Proposals: Drilling Services for Eel River Valley Groundwater Basin Assessment