

## **BIGHORN-DESERT VIEW WATER AGENCY**

Our Mission - "To provide a high quality supply of water and reliable service to all customers at a fair and reasonable rate."

# Planning/Legislative/Engineering & Grant Standing Committee Meeting Minutes

**Committee Members: President Burkhart & Director Close-Dees** 

BOARD MEETING OFFICE 1720 N. CHEROKEE TR. LANDERS, CALIFORNIA 92285 June 20, 2023 Time – 9:30 A.M.

PUBLIC AND BOARD WISHING TO PARTICIPATE REMOTELY
\*\*TELECONFERENCE LINE THRU ZOOM 669-900-6833\*\*

Join Zoom Meeting

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Passcode: 876336 Or Dial: 1-669-900-6833 Webinar ID: 823 2770 0623 Passcode: 876336

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Burkhart called the meeting to order at 9:31 am.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Led by David Chapman.

**ROLL CALL** 

**Directors Present:** 

Chair Burkhart

**Director Close-Dees** 

Staff Present:

Marina West

Public Present: 0 member(s) of the public indicated they were participating via teleconference. 0 members of the public were present in the meeting room. Director Chapman attended as an observer.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The Committee approved the Agenda as presented.

**Discussion and Action Items -**

1. Status Report Goat Mountain Replacement Well (Prop. 1/ Rnd. 1 Grant)

GM West reported that the Agency has issued the initial limited Notice to Proceed. In the meantime, the contractor has indicated a possible start date in early July. At this time, staff

has not identified any specific grant offering that could be used for this project and really does not have the resources to continue in that direction but instead must focus on bringing the project to completion. Staff was able to get the well abandonment element removed but those did not reduce the overall cost by much. Staff will use the direct procurement method to acquire the well pump and utilize in-house labor and various contractors to install the pump and energize the electrical to avoid additional engineering design work and large public works contracting procedures.

GM West answered questions of the Committee as well as a comprehensive review of the grant application, competition and award processes.

### 2. Status Report Water Meter Replacement Program (Drought Grant)

GM West reported that the grantor approved our change in scope requesting reimbursement for in-house labor and direct procurement of materials for the project. The procurement documents are "out for bid" and staff expects to award the procurement contracts at the July 11, 2023 Board of Directors' meeting. GM West noted that the project will include an inventory of customer side service line materials as part of the Lead Service Line Inventory requirement imposed by the state.

GM West answered questions of the Committee.

3. Status Report System Interconnection at Winters & Rainbow Road (Prop. 1/Rnd 2 Grant) GM West met with GM Peshel and AGM Culver of Hi-Desert Water District regarding the intertie agreement for water exchanges. HDWD would like to have the "cost of service" reviewed during their upcoming rate study before committing to a price to serve through the intertie. Staff also discussed the possibility of utilizing HDWD pipeline construction crews to install the pipeline and in-house resources to construct the pump station. HDWD responded positively to this proposal. To that end, 29 Palms Water District also viewed this as an opportunity for training their staff. Even if paying overtime rates, those costs would be similar to the full burden rate on regular time. Meaning, burden is not paid on overtime, since it is covered in the regular work hours.

GM West answered questions of the Committee.

# 4. Status Report Potable Water Systems Improvements Consolidation of Water Systems (\$11M PI/C Project Grant)

GM West reported that the Request for Proposals to acquire the remaining easements for the pipeline alignments has been circulated and several firms have expressed an interest in this project. Bids are due late June and staff is planning to award that contract at the July 11, 2023 Board of Directors' meeting. GM West recently inquired about the land transfer from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and was informed that a request for update had been sent. GM West has sent a follow-up email.

### 5. Consent Items

- a. PLEGS Committee Meeting Minutes, April 18, 2023.
- b. Grant Status Reports June 20, 2023

**Recommended Action:** 

Approve as presented (Item a-b):

Committee approved the Consent Item(s) as presented.

#### 6. Public Comment Period

None

### 7. Verbal Reports - Including Reports on Courses/Conferences/Meetings

- 1. Committee Members' Comments/Reports None.
- 2. General Manager's Report GM West reported on the status of activities within the Community Water Systems Alliance (CWSA). She noted that the legislation concerning the Joshua Tree is still active and a comment letter was prepared in collaboration with several local water districts. She also reported that the State Water Resources Control Board has released the revised recommendation for setting the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for Chromium 6 at 10 ppb. The CWSA members have funded a study on economic feasibility expected to counter the claims made by the state. While Cr6 does not appear to be an issue for BDVWA, other local water districts will be forced to remove it from their drinking water, the long-term cost of which will be borne by the consumer.

### 8. Adjournment

Chairman Burkhart adjourned the meeting at 10:58 am.

Approved by:

John Burkhart, Committee Chair

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