

**MEMORANDUM
DEPARTMENT OF FACILITY SERVICES
COUNTY OF PLACER**

To: **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Date: **SEPTEMBER 14, 2010**

From: **JAMES DURFEE**

Subject: **PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH BENNETT
ENGINEERING; PLACER COUNTY NEVADA WASTEWATER
AUTHORITY**

ACTIONS REQUESTED: Consider a recommendation by the Placer Nevada Wastewater Authority (PNWA) Board of Directors to approve an Agreement with the firm of Bennett Engineering (Ben-En) of Roseville in an amount not to exceed \$168,600 effective September 1, 2010, for professional consulting services associated with administering the PNWA; approve a cost sharing approach with the PNWA Partners; and, authorize the Chairman to execute the Agreement upon review by County Counsel and Risk Management.

BACKGROUND: Ben-En, (previously MHM Engineering) has provided professional consulting services to the PNWA in association with the Regional Wastewater Project via county contracts for several years. Services provided under previous contracts have included engineering tasks and provision of Executive Director services to the PNWA. Through this arrangement, Mr. Bob Watkins served as the Executive Director for several years. With Mr. Watkins' retirement in 2008, the PNWA elected to have Orin Bennett, President of Bennett Engineering, take over the Executive Director duties.

The PNWA Board of Directors recently elected to substantially increase the duties of the Executive Director, and has recommended that your Board approve an Agreement that addresses this increase. County Counsel and Facility Services worked with Ben-En to develop the attached Agreement and scope to cover the requested duties. This Agreement differs from previous contracts with Ben-En in that it only provides for the Executive Director duties, there are no associated engineering duties included in this Agreement.

Historically, Ben-En's services have been paid for using EPA grant funds, with the County's Sewer Maintenance District 1 paying the forty-five percent local match. This was justified because the significant majority of the cost of the contracts was tied to engineering support for SMD 1's participation in the Regional Wastewater Project. Because the PNWA Board has now specifically requested a significant increase in the duties to be performed by the Executive Director, Facility Services can no longer recommend that SMD 1 cover the local match. As a result, the PNWA Board agreed to a cost sharing approach at their August 26, 2010 meeting to spread the local match over all the partners. Under this approach, the County's share of the \$160,500 contract would be \$40,400, or fifty-three percent of the forty-five local match. Should your Board approve this concept and the Agreement with Ben-En, staff will work with the PNWA Partners to complete a mutually agreeable cost sharing Agreement. Your Board's approval of the Agreement with Ben-En and the cost sharing approach will provide the basis for finalizing that negotiation.

ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE: Approval of this contract for general consulting services is not a project as defined in the California Environmental Quality Act.

FISCAL IMPACT: Ben-En proposes to provide the recommended services for a fee not to exceed \$ 168,600. Fifty-five percent of these costs are reimbursable through federal grants; the remaining forty-five percent must be provided locally. Pursuant to the cost sharing approach recommended by the PNWA Board, SMD 1 would be responsible for \$40,400, or fifty-three percent of the local match.

JD/JS

CC: COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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