

Staff Report: AGENDA ITEM 3: Selection of consultant team to provide services for the development of the Colusa Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan

Phase I

- Written Proposals

The written proposals were scored based on the criteria presented in the Request for Proposals. Initial scoring was conducted by an ad hoc committee composed of two members and one alternate from the CGA TAC and two members from the GGA TAC. Based on the review of the written proposals, the ad hoc committee selected three respondents to invite to an interview.

Phase II

- Interviews
- Clarification Questions/Responses
- References

Interviews were conducted at a Joint CGA/GGA TAC meeting in open session. The Joint TAC deliberated selection of a consultant in closed session. No reportable action came out of closed session.

Program Managers for the CGA and GGA sent clarification questions to each of the three consulting teams to address remaining questions from the Joint CGA/GGA TAC. References listed in the proposals were also called and asked a standard list of questions.

The Joint TAC continued deliberations at a TAC meeting on October 16. After review of the responses to the clarification questions and summary of reference responses, the Joint TAC reported out of closed session that the **TAC recommends the CGA & GGA Boards select the Davids Engineering, Inc. team to provide services for the development of the Colusa Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan.**

The Joint TAC had access to all four proposals. A summary of the Phase I and Phase II review and distilled comments are included in the attachment.

	Davids Engineering, Inc./ West Yost Associates	GEI Consultants, Inc.	Larry Walker Associates	Rubicon Engineering Corporation
Phase I- Written Proposal				
Project Cost	\$834,891	\$833,668	\$559,631	\$551,300
Optional Task 4 Cost	\$75,833	N/A	\$28,428	N/A
Written Proposals Condensed Score based on RFP Criteria				
Capabilities, Experience, and References (35 points) Low 0-19; Med 20-29; High 30-35	High	Medium-High	Medium-High	Medium
Work Plan (Scope of Services) (25 points) Low 0-10; Med 11-20; High 21-25	High	Medium-High	Medium	Low
Cost (15 points) Low 0-4; Med 5-10; High 11-15	Medium-High	Medium-High	Medium-High	Medium-High
Schedule (25 points) Low 0-9; Med 10-19; High 20-25	High	High	Medium	Medium-Low
Total Score (100 points possible) Low 0-65; Med 66-84; High 85-100	High	High	Medium	Low
Phase II				
Interview/Presentation	Good	Excellent	Weak	N/A
Clarification Questions	Complete	Complete	Complete	N/A
References (verbal)	Excellent	Good; a bit difficult to assess directly since many of the team members listed on reference projects are not the same as listed in this proposal	Good	N/A

TAC Comments

Davids Engineering, Inc./ West Yost Associates	GEI Consultants, Inc.	Larry Walker Associates	Rubicon Engineering Corporation
Demonstrated excellent all-around capabilities; Excellent staffing & working relationships	Well qualified, some concerns with some personnel choices, capable staff	Well qualified	Experienced, high quality staff
Detailed & comprehensive work plan; logical approach	Detailed work plan; logical approach; well defined deliverables	Generalized work plan/less detailed/fewer options	Work plan lacking detail and weak
Well developed, thorough schedule (summary & detailed schedule)	Detailed schedule	Generalized schedule/less detailed	Schedule lacking detail and weak
Included optional task 4	Did not include optional task cost	Included optional task	Lacking optional task for comparison
High cost	High cost		
Inclusive budget (includes all IHM components)	Cost was not all inclusive (due to assumptions provided in the RFP)	Good price	Favorable price
		Proposal was heavy on modeling efforts	Stong modeling experience
		Significant demonstrated GSP development experience	Little GSP development experience listed
Demonstrates extensive knowledge and understanding of local conditions, issues, and outreach needs	Knowledgeable, although lacking in some local knowledge and understanding of local conditions compared to some	Potentially lack of understanding the local dynamics	Lacking local knowledge
		Outreach portion was weak; Reviewers were not confident that the outreach task description and budget were sufficient for the desired level of outreach	
Good outreach efforts included	Good outreach efforts; included web-based communication portal		Lacking public involvement
Seamless transition from current to future projects in the Colusa Subbasin	Good proposal, professional apprearance and materials		Proposal presentation lacking professional quality
Guarantee of Plan acceptance language was the most appealing	Response given for question relating to guarantee of Plan acceptance by DWR left some concerns	"Lean approach" was notable, but left some concerns regarding the quality and completeness of the final product	Reviewers did not have confidence based on the proposal of the proposer's ability to complete a sufficient GSP at quoted cost

Staff Report: AGENDA ITEM 4: SGM Round 3 (Proposition 68) Grant Proposal

BACKGROUND

The final Guidelines and PSP for SGM Planning round 3 (Proposition 68) grant funding were released on September 9, 2019. The Colusa Subbasin is eligible for up to \$1 million in funding, with a minimum grant amount of \$200,000. \$46.25 million in Proposition 68 funds, plus \$1.5 million in Proposition 1 funds, is available statewide for planning grants. (\$88 million will be available for implementation grants tentatively in 2021). Planning funding can go to support GSP development. Awards will be given on a basin-wide basis and priority will go to GSAs that did not receive funding from the initial Proposition 1 GSP grant opportunity. There is a cost share requirement for this round of funding, which could be reduced by any DAC or SDAC areas in the planning area.

Due to the very tight deadlines associated with this grant opportunity and the coordination needed between the CGA and GGA boards, the decision-making and grant application process has been a bit complicated. CGA and GGA staff have been coordinating and maintaining momentum to ensure the GSAs do not miss the opportunity to apply for this funding if desired. Staff have made an effort to efficiently use scheduled GSA board meetings to conduct all business necessary to develop and submit an application, as mutually agreed upon by both boards.

At their September 24 board meeting, the CGA Board informally agreed to pursue SGM Round 3 / Proposition 68 Planning Grant funding, in coordination with the Glenn Groundwater Authority. They also appointed an Ad Hoc committee to review the grant opportunity.

At their October 14 board meeting, the GGA Board formally approved entering into a contract with Davids Engineering, Inc. to develop a grant proposal for the Colusa Subbasin. The GGA Board did this in good faith, anticipating that the CGA Board would approve splitting the consultant costs at their next Board meeting. **Agenda item 4.b** addresses this.

The GGA Board also approved a Resolution authorizing the GGA to serve as the grant applicant on behalf of the GSAs in the Colusa Subbasin. It was later learned that, if the Colusa Subbasin is awarded SGM Round 3 funding, DWR will add all tasks and budget to the current SGM Round 2 (Proposition 1) grant agreement, rather than executing a new agreement. Because the CGA is the applicant/administrator for the current grant, they will need to be the applicant for the Round 3 proposal as well. **Agenda item 4.c** addresses this.

Prioritizing Tasks:

On October 16, the Joint CGA/GGA TAC met. The meeting agenda included a discussion about the SGM Round 3 / Proposition 68 grant proposal. The group prioritized the tasks that they thought were

important to include in the application and this information has been relayed to the Consultant team that is developing the application. The priorities identified are as follows:

1. The top priority is to cover the estimated \$0.5 million to complete the GSP. The current Prop. 1 grant includes all tasks to complete a GSP, estimated at \$1.5 million. Prop. 1 grant funds will cover \$1 million of that work.
2. Refined Hydrogeological study of the basin with a focus on the western portion of the Colusa Subbasin. CGA and GGA Staff have been coordinating with the current HCM/Water Budget Consultant team to look into costs and activities associated with a SkyTEM AEM survey along the west side of the basin.
3. Other items to consider as funding allows:
 - a. Design a pilot program for voluntary well metering and groundwater use reporting
 - b. Develop a suite of GSA funding mechanism options
 - c. Groundwater recharge project evaluations
 - d. Deeper dive into evaluating Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems (GDEs)
 - e. Deeper dive into evaluating groundwater surface water interaction / stream depletions

The Colusa Subbasin is eligible for up to \$1 million in funding from this grant program. If the Colusa Subbasin application is for the full \$1 million, DWR has the option to award partial funding for only certain tasks.

Schedule:

- **Grant Solicitation Closes: November 1, 2019**
- Public Review of Draft Funding List: January 2020
- Final Awards: March 2020

**COLUSA GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY
RESOLUTION NO. 2019-06**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COLUSA GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY
TO SERVE AS THE GRANT APPLICANT FOR THE SUSTAINABLE
GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT (SGM) GRANT PROGRAM, ROUND 3 FUNDING
FOR GSP DEVELOPMENT ON BEHALF OF THE GSAS IN THE COLUSA SUBBASIN**

WHEREAS, the California Department of Water Resources has released a 2019 Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant Program Planning Grant, Round 3 solicitation, pursuant to the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 (Proposition 1) (Wat. Code, § 79700 et seq.) and/or the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 (Proposition 68) (Pub. Resources Code, § 80000 et seq.); and

WHEREAS, projects eligible for funding from said solicitation package include development of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Colusa Groundwater Authority and Glenn Groundwater Authority have each authorized preparation of an application for Round 3 SGM funding; and

WHEREAS, under the terms of the solicitation package only one application will be accepted per groundwater basin or subbasin; and

WHEREAS, the Colusa Groundwater Authority (CGA) is the grant applicant and administrator for the current SGM Round 2 Planning Grant, pursuant to the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 (Proposition 1) (Wat. Code, § 79700 et seq.); and

WHEREAS, if SGM Round 3 funding is awarded, the Round 2 Grant Agreement with the CGA will be amended to include the tasks and budget requested from Round 3 funding, which requires the CGA to be the applicant for Round 3 funding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Colusa Groundwater Authority that:

- 1.) The Colusa Groundwater Authority Program Manager is hereby authorized to submit a grant application in the name of the Colusa Groundwater Authority and on behalf of the GSAs in the Colusa Subbasin, pursuant to the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 (Proposition 1) (Wat. Code, § 79700 et seq.) and/or the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 (Proposition 68) (Pub. Resources Code, § 80000 et seq.);
- 2.) The Colusa Groundwater Authority Program Manager is hereby authorized to enter into and execute the grant agreement with the California Department of Water Resources and sign any applicable documents to implement the grant if awarded.
- 3.) The Colusa Groundwater Authority Program Manager will coordinate these grant-related activities with Glenn Groundwater Authority Staff.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 30th day of October, 2019 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

CERTIFICATE OF RESOLUTION

We, the undersigned, hereby certify as follows:

1. That we are the Vice Chair and Secretary of the COLUSA GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY; and

2. That the foregoing resolution, consisting of 2 pages, including this page, is a true and correct copy of a resolution of the Board of Directors of the Colusa Groundwater Authority, passed at the meeting of the Board of Directors held on October 30, 2019, at the Sites Project Office, 122 Old Highway 99, Maxwell, CA 95955.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have signed this certificate this _____ day of October, 2019, at Colusa, California.

Hilary Reinhard
Vice Chair of the Board of Directors

Mary M. Fahey
Secretary