# AGENDA Denver Board of Water Commissioners

Denver Water Administration Building 1600 West 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue Denver, CO Board Room, Third Floor

Wednesday, March 27, 2019 9:00 a.m.

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#### I. INTRODUCTORY BUSINESS

#### A. Call to Order and Determination of Quorum

#### **B. Public Comment and Communications**

At this point in the agenda, the Board may allow members of the public to address the Board on any item of interest within the jurisdiction of the board, and not on the agenda for action. Speakers wishing to address a specific Action Item will be invited to address the board when the item is being considered. Three minutes are allowed for each person unless the President determines otherwise.

- 1. Distributor Communications
- 2. Citizen Advisory Committee Communications
- C. Ceremonies, Awards and Introductions
- D. Legislative Update

#### II. ACTION ITEMS

#### A. Consent Items

Items listed below are considered routine and may be enacted by one motion and vote. If any Board member desires discussion beyond explanatory questions, or corrections to the Minutes, the President may order that item to be considered in a separate motion and vote.

- Intergovernmental Agreement with Colorado Water Conservation Board for Airborne Snow Observatory Flights in the Blue River Basin – Contract 503944
- 2. Intergovernmental Agreement with Southern Nevada Water Authority for Colorado River Climate and Hydrology Research Contract 503945
- 3. Board Resolution Opposing Proposed Ballot Initiative

Denver Water aspires to be the best water utility in the nation Integrity :: Vision :: Passion :: Excellence :: Respect



# **B.** Individual Approval Items

## III. POLICY MATTERS

A. OCR Update		Jeremy Ross	10 minutes
B. 2018 Financial Up	date	Angela Bricmont	15 minutes
C. System and Progr	ams Update	Angela Bricmont	10 minutes
D. Annual Strategy R Technology Trans		Virginia Roberts	10 minutes

## IV. EXECUTIVE UPDATE

- A. CEO Update
- **B. CFO Update** 
  - 1. Monthly Financial Update
- **C.** Operations Update

#### V. BRIEFING PAPERS & REPORTS

- A. Briefing Papers
  - 1. Legislative Update
- **B.** Reports

- VI. ADJOURNMENT
- VII. TRUSTEE MATTERS

#### VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board may adjourn the regular meeting and reconvene in executive session on topics authorized by D.R.M.C. Sec. 2-34

# A. Confidential Report D.R.M.C. Sec. 2-34

Meeting Date: March 27, 2019

Board Item: II-A-1

# Intergovernmental Agreement with Colorado Water Conservation Board for Airborne Snow Observatory Flights in the Blue River Basin Contract 503944

□ Action by Consent

□ Individual Action

#### Purpose and Background:

Agreement No. 503944 is an Inter-Governmental Agreement between Denver Water and the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) to fund Airborne Snow Observatory (ASO) flights in the spring of 2019 over the Blue River basin above Dillon Reservoir.

The ASO program uses aircraft equipped with lidar, a high-resolution range finder that sends out laser pulses to detect the depth and spatial coverage of the snowpack. An imaging spectrometer on board detects albedo, the amount of light reflected off the snow. Together these measurements provide a clear understanding of how much water is contained within the snowpack on a watershed scale.

Denver Water's water supply comes primarily from snowmelt runoff. Measuring snowpack and accurately forecasting seasonal runoff is increasingly critical in the face of periodic drought, flooding, and warming climate. New snowpack measurement methods have been developed by NASA that will allow Denver Water to better manage water supply, improve operations, foster stronger relationships with local, regional and state governments and increase public trust.

CWCB will contract with Quantum Spatial, Inc. to perform the observatory flights, and NASA to perform data analysis. Denver Water will reimburse CWCB for work data collection and analysis in the Blue River Basin above Dillon Reservoir.

**Budget and Schedule:** 

The total amount of this contract is \$177,769 and the term of the contract is April 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019. Funds for this service/contract will come from the 2019 budget for Raw Water Supply, which has sufficient funds to pay the \$177,769 estimated to be needed in 2019.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Board approve this Inter-Governmental Agreement with the Colorado Water Conservation Board for Airborne Snow Observatory flights and data analysis for the contract period April 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019 for a total contract amount not to exceed \$177,769.

Approvals:

Mike King

Chief External Affairs Officer

Respectfully submitted,

James S. Lochhead

CEO/Manager

Meeting Date: March 27, 2019 Board Item: II-A-2

# Intergovernmental Agreement with Southern Nevada Water Authority for Colorado River Climate and Hydrology Research Contract 503945

□ Action by Consent

□ Individual Action

#### Purpose and Background:

A Colorado River Climate and Hydrology Work Group ("Work Group") including representation from more than a dozen state and local water management agencies and the Bureau of Reclamation began working together to:

- Improve the accuracy of hydrological forecasts.
- Enhance the performance of predictive tools.
- Better understand the uncertainty related to future supply and demand conditions in the Colorado River Basin.

In 2017 and 2018, the Work Group developed and prioritized an extensive list of projects to advance science, forecasting, and modeling common to the participating water management stakeholders. Cooperating with the Work Group gives Denver Water the ability to leverage funding to further our understanding of the Colorado River hydrology and inform decisions related to our Colorado River supply.

Southern Nevada Water Authority volunteered to be the fiscal agent for projects completed by the Work Group. This IGA allows Denver Water to contribute funds towards desired Work Group projects. In 2019, the Work Group is contemplating funding three projects and additional projects will be funded in future years.

#### **Budget and Schedule:**

The total amount of this contract is \$250,000. The term of the contract is March 27, 2019 through December 31, 2024. Funds for this contract will come from Water Resources Planning. The 2019 budget contains funds to cover the estimated \$63,333 for the first three projects. The total cost of these projects is \$690,000, of which Denver Water is contributing 9%. The remaining \$186,667 will be budgeted based on future workplans in years 2020 to 2024.

# **Recommendation:**

It is recommended that the Board approve Contract 503945 with Southern Nevada Water Authority to collaboratively advance scientific understanding in the Colorado River Basin for the contract period March 27, 2019 to December 31, 2024, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$250,000.

Approvals:

Respectfully submitted,

Mike King

Chief External Affairs Officer

James S. Lochhead CEO/Manager

Angela Bricmont Chief Finance Officer Mulled

Meeting Date: March 27, 2019 Board Item: II-A-3

# **Board Resolution Opposing Proposed Ballot Initiative**

□ Action by Consent

□ Individual Action

Purpose and Background:

Local initiated ordinance 300, known as "The Denver Right to Survive Initiative," will appear on the Denver ballot in May 2019. It seeks to overturn Denver's urban camping ban, an ordinance passed by Denver City Council in 2012.

The Denver Right to Survive Initiative affords any person(s) in the City and County of Denver the right to rest and shelter oneself from the elements in a non-obstructive manner in outdoor public spaces; to eat, share, accept or give free food in any public space where food is not prohibited; to occupy one's own legally parked motor vehicle, or occupy a legally parked motor vehicle belonging to another, with the owner's permission; and to have a right and expectation of privacy and safety of or in one's person and property.

"Public space" is defined as any outdoor property that is owned or leased, in whole or in part by the City and County of Denver and is accessible to the public, or any city property upon which there is an easement for public use.

"Non-obstructive manner" is broadly defined as a manner that does not render passageways impassable or hazardous.

Denver Water has many properties that are leased to the City and County of Denver, including but not limited to the High Line Canal and Capitol Hill storage tanks, that would be included in the definition of public space and subject to the requirements of the proposed ordinance.

The proposed ordinance would make it more difficult for city officials to remove individuals sheltering themselves within public infrastructure assets, such as bridges and stormwater drains, which are not safe for habitation. The proposed ordinance would also make it difficult to remove abandoned or discarded trash from the right-of-way because of the initiative's language regarding rights to privacy of belongings.

The measure could also potentially create new civil and criminal liability and legal causes of action against private individuals, homeowners, businesses, city employees and city government.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Board adopt the Resolution of the Denver Board of Water Commissioners in opposition to The Denver Right to Survive Initiative.

Approvals:

Mike King

Chief External Affairs Officer

Respectfully submitted,

James S. Lochhead CEO/Manager

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Meeting Date: March 27, 2019 Board Item: V-A-1

# **Briefing Paper for Legislative Update**

# Strategic Plan Alignment

Lenses: 

☐ Customer Centric ☐ Industry Leader ☐ Long-Term View

Government Relations plays a key role in issues important to Denver Water's success by advocating the interests of Denver Water in legislative and regulatory matters, specifically by proactively lobbying the Colorado General Assembly.

# Summary

We have the following updates on legislation below.

HB19-1200 Reclaimed Domestic Wastewater Point Of Compliance – This is the bill Denver Water is pushing to change the statutory definition of "point of compliance." At the time of this writing, it has passed the House and its first committee in the Senate and is on the consent calendar for the whole Senate.

**Position: SUPPORT** 

HB19-1006 Wildfire Mitigation Wildland-urban Interface Areas — This was a bill referred by the Wildfire Matters Review Committee during the 2018 interim. The intent of the bill was to add priorities and funding in an existing program to address wildfire risk reduction. There needed to be a strike-below amendment that asks for \$3M of additional funding for the program. This was a good amendment and we continue to support this bill. It is now moving through the House. Position: SUPPORT

SB19-188 FAMLI Family Medical Leave Insurance Program – This issue has now been introduced into the Senate and is moving quickly. This bill creates a paid family and medical leave insurance program in the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment. Colorado employees and employers will contribute in equal shares to a monthly premium based on wages. Premiums will fund a family and medical leave benefit for eligible individuals to care for themselves or family members. Recent amendments to this bill will provide a discount to local governments of one-eighth the premium for the employer contribution and there will be a cap on total employer plus employee premiums of 0.99% of wages.

**Recommendation: MONITOR** 

Attached is the full bill report, which includes a summary table followed by a detailed report on each bill we are tracking. Please refer to this attached report for information on all our bills.

Background

N/A

**Budget** 

N/A



**Alternatives** 

N/A

**Approach** 

N/A

Owner(s)

Chris Piper, Government Relations, External Affairs

**Attachments** 

Report on 2019 Legislation

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Piper

Manager of Government Relations

Mike King

Chief of External Affairs