



WASHOE COUNTY

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: April 23, 2019

DATE: Friday, April 19, 2019
TO: Board of County Commissioners
FROM: Cathy Hill, Comptroller
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THROUGH: Christine Vuletich, Assistant County Manager
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SUBJECT: Recommendation to retroactively approve budget amendments in the Utilities Fund (566) to correct Fiscal Year 2019 budget carryforward in the amount of [\$148,546.33] for a grant award accepted in Fiscal Year 2018 from the U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Reclamation for the Northern Nevada Indirect Potable Reuse Feasibility study for the period August 13, 2017 through December 31, 2018; and direct the Comptroller to make the necessary budget amendments. (All Commission Districts).

SUMMARY

The purpose of this agenda item is to approve the budget amendment for this grant in the amount of \$148,546.33 as the budget authority was not properly carried forward to Fiscal Year 2019.

Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Safe, secure and healthy communities.

PREVIOUS ACTION

On September 12, 2017, the Board of County Commissioners;

1. accepted a grant award from the U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Reclamation for the Northern Nevada Indirect Potable Reuse Feasibility Study [\$148,546.33 with a match of \$148,546.33] for the period beginning the date the Bureau signs the Assistance Agreement through December 31, 2018;
2. authorized Community Services Department Director to execute the Assistance Agreement; and
3. directed the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments. (All Commission Districts.)

On February 14, 2017, the Board of County Commissioners:

1. approved a resolution authorizing Washoe County staff to submit a grant application to the Bureau of Reclamation in response to Federal Funding Opportunity BOR-DO-17-F003 WaterSmart: Development of Feasibility Studies

AGENDA ITEM # _____

- under the Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse Program for Fiscal Year 2017, beginning approximately April 2017 through October 2018;
2. committed \$150,000 match funding for a possible federal award amount of \$150,000;
 3. recognized the grant supports a reclaimed water feasibility study potentially benefiting the entire county; and, if the grant is awarded; and
 4. directed the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget adjustments.

BACKGROUND

Washoe County is participating in a regional feasibility study (Study) to evaluate whether the State of Nevada's newly adopted "A+" reclaimed water category offers significant water resource management benefits including improving efficiency, providing flexibility during periods of water scarcity, and diversifying the regional water supply portfolio. Category A+ reclaimed water meets all Federal and State of Nevada drinking water standards, and is intended for indirect potable reuse. It is anticipated A+ quality will be achieved from a combination of advanced water treatment processes and soil-aquifer-treatment and storage.

The Study consists of multiple elements including a project rationale and justification analysis, regulatory formulation, public engagement, advanced water treatment technology pilot testing, geotechnical investigations, and field-scale indirect potable reuse demonstration projects.

The Study is being conducted by a regional team comprised of the Northern Nevada Water Planning Commission, City of Reno, City of Sparks, Truckee Meadows Water Authority, Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility, University of Nevada, Washoe County, and the Western Regional Planning Commission. Washoe County will be the lead agency interacting with the BOR, while other project elements are being led and financed by other regional agencies.

Bureau of Reclamation Title XVI funding has enabled a substantially more robust analysis relating to the project rationale and justification work which occurred in calendar years 2017 and 2018, specifically enhancing the Study in the following focus areas:

- Developing a water market value impact study.
- Evaluating methods acceptable to the Nevada State Water engineer to create and account for a "new" A+ water right.
- Evaluating if indirect potable reuse enables the region's water resource portfolio with greater resiliency with respect to climate change.
- Evaluating less energy intensive water treatment technologies suitable for potable reuse, compared to reverse osmosis.

Retroactive approval is being sought as the Comptroller's Department was completing fund reviews and discovered the carryforward was needed. Once noticed, item was scheduled for the next available meeting.

FISCAL IMPACT

Should the Board approve this budget amendment, the FY19 adopted budget in the Community Services Department Utilities Fund (566) will be increased by \$148,546.33 in both revenues and expenses in the following accounts:

Cost Object	G/L Account	Amount
IO 11427	431100 Federal Grant	\$148,546.33
IO 11427	710100 Prof. Services	\$148,546.33

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board retroactively approve budget amendments in the Utilities Fund (566) to correct Fiscal Year 2019 budget carryforward in the amount of [\$148,546.33] for a grant award accepted in Fiscal Year 2018 from the U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Reclamation for the Northern Nevada Indirect Potable Reuse Feasibility study for the period August 13, 2017 through December 31, 2018; and direct the Comptroller to make the necessary budget amendments.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff’s recommendation, a possible motion would be: “move to retroactively approve budget amendments in the Utilities Fund (566) to correct Fiscal Year 2019 budget carryforward in the amount of [\$148,546.33] for a grant award accepted in Fiscal Year 2018 from the U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Reclamation for the Northern Nevada Indirect Potable Reuse Feasibility study for the period August 13, 2017 through December 31, 2018; and direct the Comptroller to make the necessary budget amendments.”