

TO: Board Members

THROUGH: Kevin Patteson, Executive Administrator
Robert E. Mace, Ph.D., P.G., Deputy Executive Administrator, Water Science & Conservation
Les Trobman, General Counsel

FROM: Cynthia K. Ridgeway, P.G., Manager, Groundwater Availability Modeling Section

DATE: December 1, 2015

SUBJECT: Groundwater Availability Modeling Program Research and Modeling Contract 1548301856

ACTION REQUESTED

Authorize the Executive Administrator to (a) negotiate and execute inter-local cooperation contracts for participating groundwater conservation districts and river authorities no later than March 31, 2016; and (b) amend contract 1548301856 with INTERA, Incorporated to include an additional scope of work associated with the supplemental funding provided by participating parties and adjust the contract deadlines, as needed.

BACKGROUND

On April 29, 2015, the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) authorized the Executive Administrator to negotiate and execute a contract with INTERA, Incorporated for a groundwater availability modeling project to study the effect of faults on groundwater flow in the Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer in Central Texas and for updates to the existing model for the central portion of the Carrizo-Wilcox, Queen City, and Sparta aquifers (TWDB share \$320,000, with an estimated outside participation of at least \$200,000 in matching funds for a total of \$520,000). The contract with INTERA, Incorporated was executed in August 2015. In February and October 2015 we received letters of commitment for additional funding for the project from the following groundwater conservation districts: Post Oak Savannah Groundwater Conservation District, Brazos Valley Groundwater Conservation District, Mid-East Texas Groundwater Conservation District, and Lost Pines Groundwater Conservation District. In addition to the commitment of \$412,500 from the groundwater conservation districts (\$212,500 more than what we initially projected during the request for qualifications), we recently received notification that the Brazos River Authority and the Lower Colorado River Authority were interested in contributing \$20,000 each for a supplementary amount of \$40,000.

Our Mission

To provide leadership, information, education, and support for planning, financial assistance, and outreach for the conservation and responsible development of water for Texas

Board Members

Bech Bruun, Chairman | Kathleen Jackson, Member

Kevin Patteson, Executive Administrator

In summary, the following participants are requesting to contribute to TWDB contract 1548301856 with the following funding:

Participants:	Approved April 2015 Board meeting	Requested Modification	Total
Post Oak Savannah Groundwater Conservation District	\$200,000	\$30,000	\$230,000
Brazos Valley Groundwater Conservation District	\$100,000	\$30,000	\$130,000
Mid-East Texas Groundwater Conservation District	\$2,500		\$2,500
Lost Pines Groundwater Conservation District (in-kind services)	\$50,000		\$50,000
Brazos River Authority		\$20,000	\$20,000
Lower Colorado River Authority		\$20,000	\$20,000
Total	\$352,500	\$100,000	\$452,500

The additional scope of work related to the supplemental funding includes upgrades to the modeling code, refinements to the model's capacity to reflect the dynamics of groundwater-surface water interactions, and a task to re-investigate the application of recharge from precipitation to the groundwater flow system. The additional scope of work adheres to the existing Groundwater Availability Modeling Program guidelines for model development. The total contract, including TWDB share of \$320,000, would be \$772,500.

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the Executive Administrator to negotiate and execute inter-local cooperation contracts with participating groundwater conservation districts and river authorities on or before March 31, 2016, and amend contract 1548301856 with INTERA, Incorporated to include an additional scope of work associated with the supplemental funding by all or some of the following participants:

- Post Oak Savannah Groundwater Conservation District,
- Brazos Valley Groundwater Conservation District,
- Mid-East Texas Groundwater Conservation District,
- Lost Pines Groundwater Conservation District,
- Brazos River Authority, and
- Lower Colorado River Authority.

The Executive Administrator recommends approval of this item.

This recommendation has been reviewed by legal counsel and complies with applicable statutes and TWDB rules.