



**Board Operations and Engineering Committee  
November 26, 2019**

**SUBJECT:**

Approve and Authorize the Execution of Project Agreement 25 (One Water One Watershed Program) and Project Agreement 26 (Roundtables and Task Forces) with the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority; and Designate Alternate Representative to the Project Agreement 24 (Brine Line) Committee

**BACKGROUND:**

The Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA), a joint powers agency consisting of five member agencies including Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD), Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA), Orange County Water District (OCWD), San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District (SBVMWD), and Western Municipal Water District (WMWD), operates under a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA), which stipulates, in part, that SAWPA shall function through the identification and implementation of specific projects.

Consistent with the JPA, SAWPA and its member agencies have worked to develop project agreements that cover SAWPA's non-administrative activities, with the specific intent of addressing its three key business lines, including the operation of the Inland Empire Brine Line (Brine Line), development and implementation of the One Water One Watershed (OWOW) Program, and coordination and management of SAWPA established Roundtables and Task Forces.

This past summer, EMWD and all other member agencies of SAWPA, with the exception of OCWD, approved and executed Project Agreement 24 (PA24) to address SAWPA's functions and activities associated with the Brine Line. OCWD, being the only SAWPA member agency that does not utilize the Brine Line, opted to not be a party to PA24.

In accordance with the JPA, where a project agreement is established that does not include all member agencies, a Project Committee of those participating agencies shall be formed, and agency representatives to the Project Committee (primary and/or alternate) shall be either their general manager or a member of its governing board. For PA24, EMWD designated its general manager to be its Project Committee representative, however, no alternate representative for EMWD was designated. To address any potential scheduling conflicts and ensure that EMWD participates in the PA24 Project Committee to the fullest extent, EMWD now desires to designate as an alternate representative to the PA24 Committee its appointed representative to the SAWPA Commission, currently Director Sullivan.

To establish project agreements for the other two key business lines (OWOW Program and Roundtables/Task Forces), the SAWPA Commission, on October 15, 2019, approved Project Agreement 25 (PA25) and Project Agreement 26 (PA26), respectively.

PA25 addresses the OWOW program and provides a framework for the SAWPA Commission's oversight of all possible SAWPA roles associated with the program, including program administration, grant administration, project management, and potential project participant. All five SAWPA member agencies are anticipated to participate in the OWOW Program. Therefore, PA25 recognizes that the SAWPA Commission will oversee the program and, as such, no specific PA25 committee will be required. A PA25 budget will be developed, adopted and approved by the Commission along with the SAWPA budget.

PA26 addresses the Roundtables and Task Forces in which SAWPA participates. PA26 recognizes that each such activity is the subject of a distinct agreement among the various participants, including potential member and non-member agencies, and that each specific Roundtable and Task Force agreement will be brought before the SAWPA Commission for approval. As with PA25, the budget for PA26 will be developed, adopted and approved by the Commission along with the SAWPA budget.

Since all SAWPA member agencies are parties to PA25 and PA26, the establishment of project committees for each is not required and, therefore, the Commissioners of SAWPA will provide governance and oversight for the administration and implementation of these two agreements.

Business items related to each of these two project agreements are anticipated to be brought to the SAWPA Commission in the course of its normal meetings, to be identified as pertaining to one project or the other, without the need for separate PA25 and PA26 meetings.

The proposed PA25 and PA26 agreements have been reviewed by all SAWPA member agencies including EMWD and represent their collective consensus.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

None

**STRATEGIC PLANNING GOAL/OBJECTIVE:**

Partnerships: Position the District to respond to interagency consolidation opportunities or partnerships that are mutually beneficial, promote improved service to the community, and are implemented in a timely and orderly fashion.

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:**

This item is not a project as defined in the California Environmental Quality Act Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3, Section 15378.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. Approve and authorize execution, by the General Manager, or his designee, of the following two agreements with Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA) and its Member Agencies:
  - i. Project Agreement 25 (OWOW Program Agreement)
  - ii. Project Agreement 26 (Roundtables and Task Forces Agreement)
  
2. Designate EMWD's appointed representative to the SAWPA Commission as its alternate representative, currently Director Sullivan, to the Project Agreement 24 (Brine Line) Committee.

**SUBMITTED BY:**



Paul D. Jones II, P.E., General Manager

11/20/2019



Nick Kanetis, Deputy General Manager

10/17/2019

**Attachment(s):**

*Exhibit A - Project Agreement 25*

*Exhibit B - Project Agreement 26*

12/11/19 Board Meeting

Staff Contact: Nick Kanetis