

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL**

(1) DEPARTMENT Planning and Building	(2) MEETING DATE 3/18/2014	(3) CONTACT/PHONE James Caruso, Senior Planner/805-781-5702	
(4) SUBJECT Request to approve a contract with the Upper Salinas-Las Tablas Resource Conservation District for development and management of an agricultural water conservation program to implement County Ordinance 3246 (urgency ordinance covering new development and new irrigated crop production overlying the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin) and authorize a Budget Adjustment in the amount of \$158,609.39 from San Luis Obispo County Flood Control District reserves to FC 142-Planning and Building, Districts 1 and 5.			
(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION It is recommended that the Board: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Approve, and direct the Chairman to sign the attached contract between the County of San Luis Obispo and the Upper Salinas-Las Tablas Resource Conservation District Contract for the development and management of an agricultural water conservation program to implement County Ordinance 3246.</li> <li>2. Authorize a budget adjustment, by a 4/5 vote, in the amount of \$158,609.39 from San Luis Obispo County Flood Control District reserves to FC 142 – Planning and Building to fund the entire Resource Conservation District Contract in FY 2013-14.</li> </ol>			
(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S) San Luis Obispo County Flood Control District Reserves	(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT \$158,609.39	(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT \$158,609.39	(9) BUDGETED? No
(10) AGENDA PLACEMENT {X} Consent    { } Presentation    { } Hearing (Time Est. ____ )    { } Board Business (Time Est. ____)			
(11) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS { } Resolutions    {X} Contracts    { } Ordinances    { } N/A			
(12) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR) 0019001378		(13) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED? BAR ID Number: 1314102 {X} 4/5 Vote Required    { } N/A	
(14) LOCATION MAP N/A	(15) BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT? No	(16) AGENDA ITEM HISTORY { } N/A    Date: 1/14/14	
(17) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW Lisa M. Howe			
(18) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S) District 1 - District 5 -			

# County of San Luis Obispo



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Planning and Building / James Caruso, Senior Planner

DATE: 3/18/2014

SUBJECT: Request to approve a contract with the Upper Salinas-Las Tablas Resource Conservation District for development and management of an agricultural water conservation program to implement County Ordinance 3246 (urgency ordinance covering new development and new irrigated crop production overlying the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin) and authorize a Budget Adjustment in the amount of \$158,609.39 from San Luis Obispo County Flood Control District reserves to FC 142-Planning and Building, Districts 1 and 5.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Board:

1. Approve, and direct the Chairman to sign the attached contract between the County of San Luis Obispo and the Upper Salinas-Las Tablas Resource Conservation District Contract for the development and management of an agricultural water conservation program to implement County Ordinance 3246.
2. Authorize a budget adjustment, by a 4/5 vote, in the amount of \$158,609.39 from San Luis Obispo County Flood Control District reserves to FC 142 – Planning and Building to fund the entire Resource Conservation District Contract in FY 2013-14.

## **DISCUSSION**

The Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Urgency Ordinance (Ordinance No. 3256) established a moratorium on new or expanded irrigated crop production, conversion of dry farm or grazing land to new or expanded irrigated crop production and new development dependent upon a well in the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin unless such uses offset the total amount of projected water use. The new development “offset” program (New Development Water Conservation Program) was approved through adoption of a resolution by your Board on February 25, 2014. This contract with the Upper Salinas-Las Tablas Resource Conservation District (RCD) implements the agricultural portion of the offset clearance provision of the ordinance. On January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014, your Board discussed an irrigated agriculture offset program proposal from the RCD and directed staff to move forward with the contract.

Under this contract, the RCD’s team of specialists will conduct in-depth research and analysis on program feasibility and program design, and will conduct outreach activities. The RCD will develop the various components of a Draft Offset Program, including outreach and education and development of technical components including maps, GIS data, and tracking software. This contract also covers the described “future phases” listed in the attached proposal.

## **OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT**

The Department of Planning and Building will oversee the contract with the RCD. Other departments

including the Agricultural Commissioner, Public Works and County Counsel will provide input and guidance. In addition, updates on Program progress will be presented to advisory groups such as the Agriculture Liaison Advisory Board (ALAB) and the Water Resource Advisory Committee (WRAC).

County Counsel has approved the contract as to form and legal effect.

### **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

The total contract amount for the Resource Conservation District is \$150,000. The budget adjustment request will increase the Department's Professional services by \$158,609.39. The additional \$8,609.39 is to fund the RCD's pre contract expenses (i.e. development of the proposal).

Approval of this item will have no effect on the level of General Fund Support required by the Planning and Building Department.

### **RESULTS**

Approval of this contract will allow the Resource Conservation District to develop an irrigated agriculture offset program and will implement the second of two water conservation programs needed to implement the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Urgency Ordinance.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. RCD Contract for Ag Water Conservation Offset Program