



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Action Item for the City Council Meeting of December 8, 2020

DATE: November 11, 2020
TO: Peter Zaroni, City Manager
FROM: Kevin Norton, Director of Water Utilities
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Interlocal Agreement with TAMU-CC for Environmental Monitoring

CAPTION:

Resolution authorizing a one-year Interlocal Agreement with Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi for environmental monitoring for salinity levels in the Nueces Bay system, rain gauges in Corpus Christi, and Oso Creek water levels, for a total amount not to exceed \$ 164,012, with two one-year extension options at 3% increase per year, with a total potential multi-year not to exceed amount of \$506,944.

SUMMARY:

Water Utilities Department seeks approval to enter into an Interlocal Agreement with Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi for the Conrad Blucher Institute for Surveying and Science to continue operating and maintaining thirteen real-time environmental monitoring stations in Nueces Bay, Nueces River, Oso Creek and within the City of Corpus Christi.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

The Conrad Blucher Institute for Surveying and Science (CBI) at Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi (TAMUCC) has been operating and maintaining environmental monitoring stations for the City of Corpus Christi since 1991.

Nueces Bay and Nueces River water quality monitoring stations report water temperature, specific conductance, salinity, dissolved oxygen, and pH. This data is vital in determining the quantity and frequency of fresh water pass-through events that are required by the amended Agreed Order between the City and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ).

Oso Creek water level monitoring stations report air gap clearance, stage, air temperature, relative humidity, barometric pressure, and liquid precipitation. This data assists the City in monitoring Oso Creek water levels in relation to adjacent infrastructure and facilities and is used for emergency management planning and responses during heavy weather events.

Corpus Christi meteorological monitoring stations report air temperature, wind speed, wind direction, liquid precipitation, barometric pressure, and relative humidity. These stations help the City determine the frequency of stormwater sample collections during rain events in order to satisfy the stormwater runoff (MS4) permit requirements. An alert system also sends email notifications when rainfall values reach certain thresholds, and this information is useful for emergency management planning and responses during heavy weather events.

ALTERNATIVES:

The data provided through this contract is used to determine the quantity and frequency of fresh water pass-through events that are required by the amended Agreed Order between the City and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. It is also used for emergency management planning and responses during heavy weather events.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This is a recurring expense for TAMUCC to operate and maintain environmental monitoring stations that provide data used by the City for water quality and emergency management purposes. The amount is budgeted in Water Fund (Water Quality and Environmental Studies).

Funding Detail:

Fund: 4010
Organization/Activity: Water Quality (31501) and Environmental Studies (30220)
Mission Element: 063 and 068
Project # (CIP Only):
Account: 530000

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of the Ordinance as presented

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Resolution
Scope of Work
Interlocal Agreement with Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, Conrad Blucher Institute for Surveying and Science.