

**WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE  
TOWN HALL  
Meeting Minutes ~ October 16, 2006**

**Members in attendance:** Rick Mattila, Chair; Dave Irwin, Vice-Chair; Tom Burns; Malcolm Brown; Bob Hunter; John MacLeod; Joan Meschino; Ed Petrilak.

**Also in Attendance:** Jeff Musich, Wright-Pierce; Paul Weisman, Wright-Pierce.

**Meeting called to order by Chair at 7:05 p.m.**

Public Input: None.

Proposal: Business model, legal and financial analysis: Wright-Pierce.

P. Weisman presented an overview of five core business models with subsets of up to twenty scenarios, financial sensitivity analysis and legal implications that Wright-Pierce proposes the WRC evaluate.

M. Brown raised the question of rates analysis. P. Weisman will talk to rate expert, Chris Woodcock, and report back. J. Musich cautioned the WRC that rate design and analysis is very complex. The Wright-Pierce agreed with the WRC to reserve a small budget of approximately \$2,000 to \$3,000 to look at rates.

**MOTION** by D. Irwin, **SECOND** by E. Petrilak, to accept the scope of work as presented by Wright Pierce to evaluate the business model, financial and legal analysis, including specialized advice regard rates by Chris Woodcock, at a cost not to exceed the available maximum authorized funding. **APPROVED**, unanimously.

The WRC agreed that the work product should be a final report including all parts of the previous reports with an executive summary which would be modeled on the power point presentation. The Chair emphasized that the report must be well written.

Wright Pierce estimated three months for to complete the scope of work. It will take four months total to complete final report.

**MOTION** was made by E. Petrilak and **SECONDED** by C. Irwin, to extend the Wright-Pierce contract to April 15, 2007. **APPROVED**, unanimously.

P. Weisman will draft a contract amendment reflecting the extended timeline, the new scope of work and the additional budget. Wright-Pierce will return to the WRC meeting with preliminary data on the new scope of work within the next six weeks. WRC anticipates meeting with Wright-Pierce on the second Monday, December 11, 2006.

Report on Water Forum - Debate on MWRA Expansion:

J. Meschino attended forum by Environmental Business Council on MWRA proposed expansion. Fred Laskey of MRWA discussed the confluences that lead to the proposal: excess

capacity due to successful conservation measures, demand by stressed basin in the region and need for new revenue sources. Amy Vickers opposes proposal questioning the concept of capacity emphasizing the theme that successful conservation should not be an excuse for increased use. A Pioneer Institute paper on water rate structure is due out in January. A follow up meeting is also being planned for January.

September Meeting Minutes:

**MOTION** was made by M. Brown and **SECONDED** by J. Meschino, to approve minutes for September 25, 2006, as amended. **APPROVED**, 7-0-1 (E. Petrilak abstained).

Old Business: Manwell's research study, proposed meeting.

J. MacLeod reported that Prof. Manwell filed for an extension on his report. J. MacLeod invited Prof. Manwell to attend a WRC meeting in the near future to discuss his study and report. November 13<sup>th</sup> was suggested. J. MacLeod will work out a date with the Chair.

New Business: None.

Next Meeting: November 13, 2006.

**MOTION** was made by D. Irwin and **SECONDED** by M. Brown, to adjourn meeting. **APPROVED**, unanimously.

**Meeting adjourned.**

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_