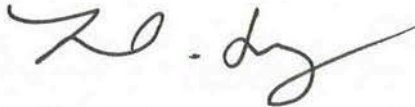




STAFF SUMMARY

TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Frederick A. Laskey, Executive Director 
DATE: June 7, 2017
SUBJECT: Water Supply Citizens Advisory Committee Contract

COMMITTEE: Water Policy & Oversight

INFORMATION
 VOTE

Stephen Estes-Smargiassi, Director, Planning 
Preparer/Title

Sean Navin, Director 
Intergovernmental Affairs

RECOMMENDATION:

To authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to execute a contract, substantially in the form attached hereto, with the Water Supply Citizens Advisory Committee for a term of one year from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018, with a total contract cost of \$104,376.77.

DISCUSSION:

In addition to the critical oversight functions of the Advisory Board, many of MWRA's policy decisions are made with advice and support from two standing citizens' advisory committees, the Water Supply Citizens Advisory Committee (WSCAC) and the Wastewater Advisory Committee (WAC). A separate staff summary presented at this meeting recommends authorization for the Executive Director to execute a similar contract with WAC for FY18.

WSCAC originated in 1978 when its predecessor committee, the Northfield Citizens Advisory Committee, was formed at the direction of the Secretary of the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs. WSCAC has received direct funding from MWRA since MWRA's formation in 1984.

The proposed FY18 WSCAC budget is 1.96% greater than the FY17 budget. Hourly salaries increased 1.5% and health insurance increased 9%. All other areas of the budget were level funded. Health insurance is budgeted at 80 percent reimbursement for the Executive Director only, not to exceed \$9,551.62.

Current topics of interest to WSCAC include water system expansion issues, changing drinking water regulations, the Water System Master Plan, and watershed management and protection issues. The committee currently has 14 members, 11 of whom are considered active. WSCAC continues to work to identify additional members in categories which are not well represented on the committee.

WSCAC's office is located at Quabbin Reservoir in a Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) building, and most meetings are held at MWRA's Southborough facility. WSCAC's Executive Director is Lexi Dewey (selected by WSCAC's Executive Committee), and the current chairman is Whitney Beals, elected from among the members.

A separate staff summary is being presented at this meeting recommending authorization for the Executive Director to execute a similar contract with the Wastewater Advisory Committee for FY18.

BUDGET/FISCAL IMPACT:

Sufficient funds for the WSCAC contract are included in the proposed FY18 Current Expense Budget.

ATTACHMENT:

Copy of Agreement between Massachusetts Water Resources Authority and Water Supply Citizens Advisory Committee