



STAFF REPORT
5/27/2020

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Cástulo R. Estrada

SUBJECT: Authorize the Purchase of Various Size Meters an Approximate Quantity of 1,150 Master Meters for an Amount not to Exceed \$400,000.00

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the Purchase of Various Size Meters from Core & Main a Quantity of Approximately 1,150 Master Meters for an Amount not to exceed \$400,000.00

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS:

The City of Coachella and its Coachella Water Authority (CWA) is responsible for the water service for its residents and customers within its service boundary. The water department serves a population of a little over 45,000 and a service area size of approximately 53 square miles. There are approximately 8,500 (meter) connections to the system.

The existing metering system for CWA is read through an Automated Meter Reading (AMR) and Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) system. Currently staff drives around with a receiver in their vehicle, which polls the meter register for customer usage data. The data is collected by the receiver. Once the staff is done for the day or week, the receiver data is uploaded to the financial system for billing purposes. It takes approximately one day for all of the meters to be read by two Water Operators with the current AMR and AMI system. However, there are meters and registers that have reached end of life and no longer transmit information to the receiver. Most of these meters need to be read by hand which requires a tremendous amount of time and manpower. It typically takes the current Water Staff approximately and entire week to complete the list of non-read by reading meters by hand.

Coachella Water Authority is preparing a Notice Inviting Bids for the replacement of these approximate 1,150 meters that are no longer transmitting data. The Department requires the purchase of the meters to complete the Water Meter Replacement Project. Staff plans to purchase the meters from Core & Main who in California is Master Meter's exclusive distributor. Attached to this report is the letter from Master Meter describing this exclusive agreement.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The 2019-2020 adopted budget has the required funds under the Water Operations General Supplies account 178-21-120-10-610-000 to cover the purchase.