

AGENDA STAFF REPORT

MEETING NAME: Regular Board Meeting

MEETING DATE(S): January 12 & 17, 2022

FROM: Assistant General Manager, Brian Macy

FOR: ACTION DIRECTION INFORMATION



FEDERAL ADVOCACY SERVICES—CARPI & CLAY, GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the General Manager to execute an Agreement for Services with Carpi & Clay Government Relations, in the amount of \$4,000/month for the term beginning February 1, 2023 and ending January 31, 2024.

SUMMARY

The current agreement with Carpi and Clay for federal advocacy services expires on January 31, 2023. Our primary advocate, Laura Morgan Kessler, has represented the District for more than a decade. Laura was brought to MSWD by Thane Young, our original federal advocate.

ANALYSIS

The District's legislative outreach and advocacy program is continuously active at the federal level. The program includes participation in industry efforts sponsored by ACWA and legislative advocacy services provided through a Washington, D.C representative.

Laura Morgan-Kessler has served as the District's Washington Representative for the past four years. Prior to that she assisted Thane Young for approximately 11 years in serving MSWD. Through the combined efforts of Young/Morgan, District Board and staff, the District's Groundwater Quality Protection Program received significant federal funding as well as a planning authorization in the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2000, and construction authorization for \$35 million through the 2007 WRDA. Due to Laura's direct intervention with the USACE, we have also been provided \$1.2 million in funding from the USACE's 2018 Work Plan and an additional \$1.05 million in FY 2022.

MSWD will be perusing additional funding through the USACE 2023/24 workplan.

FISCAL IMPACT AND STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

Annual cost is \$48,000, plus travel and incidental expenses not to exceed \$4,000.

ATTACHMENTS

Agreement

Letter