



BOARD MEETING AGENDA SUBMITTAL

TO: GCSB Board of Directors

FROM: Peter Kampa, General Manager

DATE: October 13, 2020

SUBJECT: Agenda Item 6D: Adoption of a Resolution Authorizing an Application for Grant Funding through the Department of the Interior Bureau of Reclamation's Watersmart Water and Energy Efficiency Grant Program for Fiscal Year 2021 for the Automatic Meter Reading Installation Project

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Staff recommends the following action:

I Move to Approve Resolution 46-2020 Authorizing an Application for Grant Funding through the Department of the Interior Bureau of Reclamation's Watersmart Water and Energy Efficiency Grant Program for Fiscal Year 2021 for the Automatic Meter Reading Installation Project.

BACKGROUND:

The Department of the Interior offers grant funding through its Bureau of Reclamation's (USBR) WaterSMART (Sustain and Manage America's Resources for Tomorrow) Water and Energy Efficiency Grant Program, which supports water management organizations developing projects that result in quantifiable and sustained water savings, increase the production of hydropower and support broader water reliability benefits. The Federal Fiscal Year 2021 includes an estimate \$7.8 million for agencies via 50/50 cost-share funding at two levels; up to \$500,000 per agreement for projects that can be completed in two years and up to \$2 million per agreement for projects that can be completed in three years.

DISCUSSION:

The District water system currently utilizes manual water meters to monitor and measure the amount of water used within each active connection. District's operators must visit each individual meter and manually record each water meter reading each month to obtain water usage information. The District's existing meter reading system is outdated, inaccurate, and inefficient due to its excessive labor time to read meters, cost of vehicle maintenance, and Greenhouse Gas emissions from the vehicle miles traveled. Therefore, staff is proposing to replace its existing water metering system with Automatic Metering Reading (AMR) system, that will transfer meter readings through the implementation of a fixed network.

The AMR fixed network device transmit a signal containing the meter number and meter reading that can be picked up by a receiver. The meter reading is transmitted by a series of collectors and receives that have been strategically placed to transmit data to a centralized receiver. For this AMR system, various possible manufacturers have been evaluated and it has been determined that the Itron 100W ERT Communication Module AMR device is the best option to offer a complete fixed network interface for the District. Due to the very limited cellular service within and around the area, the AMR fixed network has been selected due to its ability to provide the optimal delivery of water meter data via radio. The Itron 100W Communication Module stores 40 days' worth of hourly consumption data and presents the data in four different variation:

1. Any hourly reading for within the last 40 days
2. A set of 24 consecutive hourly readings
3. A set of 40 daily readings
4. A set of 40 days of hourly interval data

Staff is currently preparing a grant application for the AMR Installation Project, which proposes to replace approximately 3,384 existing manual water meters with new meters that are compatible with the Itron AMR 100W ERT, fixed network, communication modules. The new water meters will be installed in the same location as the existing meters and additional required infrastructure will be placed accordingly to ensure optimal transmission of water meter data. The total estimated cost of the project is approximately \$2,753,000.00. The grant application is requesting \$650,000 in funding through the USBR's WaterSMART Water and Energy Efficiency Grant Program.

Staff is also concurrently submitting a grant application to the U.S. Department of Agricultural (USDA) for proposed project. The maximum grant award available through the USDA would be 45 percent of the total project cost, which is approximately \$1,238,850.00. The remaining project costs would be covered through a loan with the USDA.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with the adoption of the attached Resolution. Staff will return to the Board with a request for approval to accept any award under these applications and programs and will indicated the fiscal impact of such awards and associated expenditures at that time.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution 46-2020

RESOLUTION 46-2020

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE GROVELAND COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT AUTHORIZING AN APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDING THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUREAU OF RECLAMATION'S WATERSMART WATER AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY GRANT PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021 FOR THE AUTOMATIC METER READING INSTALLATION PROJECT

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Reclamation provides funding opportunities for water and energy efficiency projects as part of the Bureau of Reclamation's WaterSMART Water and Energy Efficiency Program; and

WHEREAS, the Groveland Community Services District (District) desires to submit a grant application for the Automatic Meter Reading Installation Project (Project); and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Reclamation has been delegated the responsibility for the administration of this grant program and establishing necessary procedures; and

WHEREAS, said procedures established by the Bureau of Reclamation require the applicant to certify by resolution the identity of the official with legal authority to enter into an agreement; that the appropriate official or governing body has reviewed and supports the application submitted; the capability of the applicant to provide the amount of funding and/or in-kind contributions specified in the application funding plan; and that the applicant will work with the Bureau of Reclamation to meet established deadlines or entering into a cooperative agreement; and

WHEREAS, the applicant will enter into a cooperative agreement or grant agreement with the Bureau of Reclamation to complete the Project if awarded grant funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Groveland Community Services District hereby resolves as follows:

SECTION 1. The General Manager, or his designee, is hereby authorized to act as agent with legal authority to enter into the grant agreement, conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents including, but not limited to, applications, agreements, payment requests and any other grant required correspondence which may be necessary for the completion of the grant program.

SECTION 2. The General Manager, or his designee, is hereby authorized to certify that the District will have sufficient matching funds to operate and maintain the grant project requirements in the amount not to exceed \$650,000.00.

SECTION 3. The General Manager, or his designee, will work with the Bureau of Reclamation to meet established deadlines for entering into a cooperative agreement.

SECTION 4. Certifies that the Board of Directors of the Groveland Community Services District has reviewed and supports the proposed application.

WHEREFORE, this Resolution is PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Groveland Community Services District on October 13, 2020, by the following vote

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ATTEST:

I, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was regularly introduced, passed, and adopted at a Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Groveland Community Services District this 13th day of October 2020.

Jennifer L. Flores, Board Secretary of the GCSD

Janice Kwiatkowski, Board President of the GCSD

CERTIFICATE OF SECRETARY

I, Jennifer Flores, the duly appointed and acting Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Groveland Community Services District, do hereby declare that the foregoing Resolution was duly passed and adopted at a Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Groveland Community Services District, duly called and held on October 13, 2020.

DATED: _____