Legislation Text

File #: 2022-0665, **Version:** 1

To: Board of Directors, Sonoma County Water Agency
Department or Agency Name(s): Sonoma County Water Agency
Staff Name and Phone Number: Ryan Pedrotti / 521-6209
Vote Requirement: Majority
Supervisorial District(s): Countywide

Title:
Implement Stormwater Education Program for Unincorporated Sonoma County and Ukiah

Recommended Action:

Authorize Sonoma County Water Agency's General Manager to execute an agreement with West Yost Associates, Inc., for Sonoma County Water Agency to implement a Stormwater Education Program through June 30, 2023, in the not-to-exceed amount of $20,000 (West Yost Associates, Inc., is paying Sonoma County Water Agency) in a form approved by County Counsel.

Executive Summary:
This item requests authorization for Sonoma County Water Agency's (Sonoma Water) General Manager to execute an agreement with West Yost Associates, Inc. (West Yost) for Sonoma Water to implement a Stormwater Education Program. This program will include classroom presentations and field trips focusing on stormwater education for students in unincorporated Sonoma and Ukiah.

Discussion:
Under federal and state water pollution prevention laws and programs, local jurisdictions that operate municipal storm water systems (including many Sonoma County jurisdictions and Sonoma Water) must obtain permit coverage for discharges of municipal storm water. These permits, known as Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permits, are issued by the State Water Board or applicable Regional Water Board. Education and outreach is a component of the MS4 permit.

The Russian River Watershed Association is a coalition of 10 cities, counties, and special districts in the Russian River Watershed that came together in 2003 to coordinate regional programs for clean water, habitat restoration, and watershed enhancement. Sonoma Water is a member of the Russian River Watershed Association and has collaborated with the Russian River Watershed Association on multiple regional education projects. City of Ukiah acts as the administering agency for the Russian River Watershed Association and contracts with West Yost to administer and implement the Russian River Watershed Association annual work plans. As part of this work, West Yost assisted the Russian River Watershed Association in meeting the primary objectives of its Proposition 1 grant to develop a regional Stormwater Resource Plan for the entire Russian River Watershed. The Stormwater Resource Plan identified projects that maintain and restore pre-development hydrology and improve water quality by limiting pollutants carried in stormwater runoff from entering local waterways and encourage the use of green infrastructure practices to manage stormwater runoff. The Stormwater Resource Plan is now complete, and Sonoma Water continues to implement

stormwater education programs as part of the Proposition 1 requirement.
Sonoma Water's Water Education Program provides classroom visits, field trips, and curriculum materials for teachers and their students. The program's goal is for students to become environmental stewards and informed citizens who can examine the world through an inquisitive, scientific lens.

The Water Education Program services Russian River Watershed Association member agencies who are also members of the Sonoma Marin Saving Water Partnership, including the cities of Santa Rosa, Healdsburg, Cloverdale, Rohnert Park, and Cotati; and the Town of Windsor. The Water Education Program includes:

1) Musical assembly program
2) Third and fourth grade classroom programs
3) Fifth grade classroom and field trip program
4) Third grade classroom lesson on climate change and storm drain pollution
5) Stormwater education programs

Under the proposed agreement, West Yost will pay Sonoma Water to implement a Stormwater Education Program. Services under the proposed agreement include classroom presentations, field trips, and musical assembly programs focusing on stormwater education for students in unincorporated Sonoma County and Ukiah. Stormwater education includes teaching students the connection between their streets and homes and local creeks and rivers, what types of pollution end up in waterways, and how pollution impacts water quality for aquatic life.

Under the proposed agreement, Sonoma Water will invoice West Yost for services at the same rates Sonoma Water allocates to its internal projects and programs up to a maximum of $20,000. Sonoma Water is recovering its actual costs of providing services to West Yost with no mark-up. This agreement covers services through June 30, 2023.

Strategic Plan: N/A

Sonoma Water Strategic Plan Alignment
Water Supply and Transmission System, Goal 1: Protect drinking water supply and promote water-use efficiency.

Sonoma Water's Stormwater Education Program includes teaching students the connection between their streets and homes and local creeks and rivers, what types of pollution end up in waterways, and how pollution impacts water quality for aquatic life.

Prior Board Actions:
08/17/2021: Approved agreement between Sonoma Water and West Yost Associates, Inc., for implementation of a Stormwater Education Program through June 30, 2022, in the amount of $20,000 (paid to Sonoma Water by West Yost).
06/09/2020: Approved agreement between Sonoma Water and West Yost Associates, Inc., for implementation of a Stormwater Education Program through June 30, 2021, in the amount of $30,000 (paid to Sonoma Water by West Yost).
11/19/2019: Approved agreement between Sonoma Water and West Yost Associates, Inc., for implementation

of a Stormwater Education Program through June 30, 2020, in the amount of $40,000 (paid to Sonoma Water by West Yost).

FISCAL SUMMARY

Expenditures	**FY 22-23 Adopted**	**FY23-24 Projected**	**FY 24-25 Projected**
Budgeted Expenses	$20,000		
Additional Appropriation Requested			
Total Expenditures	**$20,000**		
Funding Sources			
General Fund/WA GF			
State/Federal			
Fees/Other	$20,000		
Use of Fund Balance			
Contingencies			
Total Sources	**$20,000**		

Narrative Explanation of Fiscal Impacts:
Budgeted amount of $20,000 is available from FY 2022/2023 appropriations for the Russian River Projects Fund. Offsetting revenue in the amount of $20,000 will come from West Yost. No additional appropriation is required.

Staffing Impacts:			
Position Title (Payroll Classification)	**Monthly Salary Range (A-I Step)**	**Additions (Number)**	**Deletions (Number)**

Narrative Explanation of Staffing Impacts (If Required):
N/A

Attachments:
None

Related Items "On File" with the Clerk of the Board:
None