



**MEMORANDUM**  
9/29/2017

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**TO:** BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**CC:** ERIC KUHN, GENERAL MANAGER  
PETER FLEMING, GENERAL COUNSEL  
SAM POTTER, PRESIDENT, WEST DIVIDE WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT.

**FROM:** JOHN CURRIER, CHIEF ENGINEER 

**SUBJECT:** CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION – WEST DIVIDE PROJECT: “UNDERSTANDING LOCAL STREAMFLOW TO QUANTIFY WEST DIVIDE PROJECT COMPONENT YIELD”

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**Board Action Requested.** Staff requests Board authorization for the General Manager to enter into two contracts related to West Divide Project Water Availability Investigations:

1. A \$160,520 contract with Colorado River Engineering to conduct a 5 year water availability investigation for the West Divide Project.
2. A contract with the CWCB for the administration and management of \$80,260 of Water Plan grant funds.

**Project funding** for the \$160,520 five year project will come from three sources:

- \$80,260 from CWCB Water Plan Grant funds
- \$10,000 River District cost share funds from 2018 budgeted Water Division 5 Project Development funds.
  - Funding beyond 2018 to be determined annually.
- Up to \$70,260 from West Divide Water Conservancy District.

**Contract Background**

The West Divide Water Conservancy District is the successful recipient of an \$80,260 Water Plan Grant from the CWCB. This is 50% of the cost of the 5 year project. As West Divide has limited ability to accept grant funds under TABOR, we are proposing that the River District act as fiscal agent for the grant. Under this proposal, the River District would also contract directly with Colorado River Engineering (West Divide’s selected engineer) who will conduct the work. West Divide will either reimburse the River District for its costs or Colorado River Engineering will invoice West Divide directly.

**CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION – WEST DIVIDE PROJECT: “UNDERSTANDING LOCAL STREAMFLOW TO QUANTIFY WEST DIVIDE PROJECT COMPONENT YIELD”**

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The River District owns the West Divide Project water rights in trust for the West Divide WCD. As this investigation furthers development of River District owned water rights, we propose that the River District assume the administrative costs of managing the contracts with the CWCB and Colorado River Engineering.

Final approval of the CWCB grant funding is expected at the CWCB’s November Board meeting. We anticipate immediately entering into a contract with CWCB so work can commence in the spring of 2018.

**Scope of Work**

The detailed scope of work can be found in the Water Plan Grant application to the CWCB (available on the Director’s webpage). Following is the overview of the SOW, copied from grant application:

*“The work being proposing will primarily increase streamflow monitoring in the Divide Creek area where WDWCD holds conditional direct flow and storage water rights. The only stream measurement available in the area is the West Divide Creek Raven gage (WSDRAVCO). The West Divide Canal was contemplated to divert water from Garfield and Baldy Creeks into Kendig Reservoir. The Horsethief Canal was contemplated as a delivery structure from Kendig which could also divert additional water from East Mamm, Beaver, Cache and Battlement Creeks. A recent feasibility study of Kendig Reservoir found the yield to be highly variable from year to year with the only source of water being West Divide Creek. There are roughly 6,700 acres of irrigated lands growing mainly pasture grass below the contemplated Kendig Reservoir site. Because the originally contemplated Crystal River supplies have been abandoned, there is a need to quantify the additional yield that can be obtained from within the basin. In addition to yield analysis, alternative dam alignments have created the need to reinvestigate canal alignments to deliver water via gravity flow into the Kendig alternatives. Potential services areas will also be delineated.”*