



**MEMORANDUM**  
**FEBRUARY 28, 2018**

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**TO:** BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**FROM:** DAVE “DK” KANZER, P.E. *DAK*

**SUBJECT:** SILT WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT – COLORADO WATER PLAN GRANT

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***ACTION:** Request for Board action to authorize the River District to accept and manage a \$100,000 Colorado Water Plan Grant from the CWCB on behalf of the Silt Water Conservancy District.*

*All contracting documents for the grant and cooperative agreement will be subject to review and approval by the General Manager and General Counsel and will be subject to a 3% River District management fee.*

***STRATEGIC INITIATIVE(S):** 7.A. - - The River District will actively pursue funding sources and provide financial assistance to be used for the refurbishment and modernization of the aging water supply infrastructure within the District in order to help preserve and improve existing supplies and operations.*

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**Background**

As part of the Colorado Water Plan and to help meet the identified “Tier 1” priorities of the Colorado River Basin Implementation Plan, River District staff assisted the Silt Water Conservancy District (SWCD) in submitting a Colorado Water Plan grant application last November for \$200,000 to implement agricultural water use efficiency improvement projects.

In January, the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) approved a partial grant award for \$100,000. This partial funding is to be used as a 50% funding contribution in conjunction with other cost share to help finance the modernization of the aging water supply infrastructure associated with the Grass Valley Reservoir aka Harvey Gap Reservoir.

In particular, the CWCB funding will be combined with SWCD funding to implement improvements to decrease water losses, improve safe access and water measurement accuracy related to water delivery practices via significant improvements within the reservoir outlet and associated structures as part of SWCD’s larger master plan. These Water Plan funds will be further leveraged by on-going federal US Bureau of Reclamation investments funded by Colorado River Storage Project Act power revenues (aka ‘CRSP MOA’ funds) within the SWCD.

Although, it was originally anticipated that the grant would be directly administered by SWCD, due to unforeseen issues in timing and reporting issues, SWCD has requested that the River District assume fiscal management responsibilities on their behalf.