

SWEETWATER AUTHORITY

Legislative Affairs and Communications Committee

December 18, 2024



Consideration to Award a Contract for Legislative Advocacy Services to Ex-Officio Consultants, LLC. In an Amount Not-to-Exceed \$75,000

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that Governing Board award Ex-Officio Consultants, LLC. a legislative advocacy contract for an amount not-to-exceed \$75,000.

OVERVIEW

Former Senator Ben Hueso has been supporting the Authority's legislative advocacy efforts and provided legislative advice for the past few months working under Cruz Strategies. Ben Hueso has requested that the contract be awarded under his newly formed LLC, Ex-Officio Consultants.

The contract amount recommended is \$75,000 and would be paid monthly at a fixed amount \$6,250.

Ex-Officio Consultants tasks include, but are not limited to:

- Legislative advocacy
- Legislative advice
- Seek support for Authority sponsored legislation
- Support in increasing access to State and North American Development Bank funding
- Represent the Authority at legislative events
- Attend monthly coordination meeting with staff
- Present quarterly reports to the Board
- Provide a monthly report

Ex-Officio Consultants work will supplement the work performed by GF Advocacy, our State lobbyist.

FISCAL IMPACT

The amount is budgeted under the Administrative Consulting budget Fund 10-10-100-5650 (Administrative General Consulting).

NEXT STEPS

1. Direct staff to issue a contract to Ex-Officio Consultants, LLC in an amount not-to-exceed \$75,000.
2. Other direction as determined by the Governing Board

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Staff Contact:

Carlos Quintero, General Manager

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Attachment

Proposal from Ex-Officio Consultants, LLC

Strategic Plan

Strategic Plan Goal No. 3 Financial Viability (FV) – Ensure long-term financial viability of the agency through best practices, operational efficiency, and maximizing assets.

Objective FV3: Develop strategies at both the State and Federal levels to identify and pursue grant funds for high priority projects and programs, and advocate for legislative priorities

Past Board Action

October 9, 2024 The Governing Board approved contracts with GF Advocacy for State lobbying and with Thomas Walters and Associates for Federal lobbying efforts.