

Staff Report

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Chip Close, Director of Water Operations
Aurora Penaluna, Customer Service Administrator

DATE: January 22, 2025

SUBJECT: Beacon AMA Meter Service Units Purchase Order (Consent)

WATER OPERATIONS

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve a sole source purchase order to Badger Meter, Inc. for the purchase of 2025 cellular and mobile read service units and related licenses in the amount of \$150,000 and authorize the General Manager to execute the appropriate documents.

BACKGROUND:

The District uses advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) technology to collect consumption, diagnostic and status data from customer meters. This data is automatically transmitted at pre-determined intervals to a central database for billing, troubleshooting and analysis. This system requires the District purchase service units (cellular air time) to facilitate the transmission of data. In areas where cellular signal is not reliable, the District uses automatic meter reading (AMR). AMR meters collect the same data; however, the data is collected when a technician drives by with a data receiver. Each of the District's AMI/AMR customer meters uses one service unit per month. The District purchases bulk service units to ensure the lowest cost per unit, \$0.81 per service unit for AMI data and \$0.03 for AMR data.

The District currently has 12,364 AMI meters and 1,814 AMR meters and we continue to retrofit additional meters.

Section 3080.3.J.3 of the District's Procurement Policy allows sole source purchases when a necessary item is only available from one source.

BUDGETARY IMPACT:

The current annual cost of service units and licensing is included in the 2025 Water Operating Budget.

Attachments: None