



Meeting: **Reservoir Committee & Authority Board**
Agenda Item 1.6

June 26, 2026

Subject: **Task Order Amendments for Nossaman, BBK, Young Wooldridge, and SSD**

Requested Action:

Reservoir Committee and Authority Board consider approval of four task order amendments, including an increase to contract authority as follows:

- Nossaman – in the amount of \$400,000, increasing the total 2026 not-to-exceed amount from \$405,000 to \$805,000.
- Best Best & Krieger (BBK) – in the amount of \$282,000, increasing the total 2026 not-to-exceed amount from \$148,000 to \$430,000.
- Young Wooldridge – in the amount of \$100,000, increasing the total 2026 not-to-exceed amount from \$150,000 to \$250,000.
- Somach Simmons & Dunn (SSD) – in the amount of \$150,000, increasing the total 2026 not-to-exceed amount from \$400,000 to \$550,000.

Detailed Description/Background:

The Board previously contracted for services from legal firms that provide expertise in support of various activities related to getting ready for investor commitment and construction. Anticipated support needs were identified at the time of the budget development. Due to significant unanticipated efforts arising over the past 6 months and requiring substantial legal advice and support (e.g. contractor procurement issues and extended agreement negotiations) the original budgets for certain legal firms will be exceeded and requires augmentation to complete the year. It is requested that the Board authorize increases to the contract authority and budget to address an additional level of effort as identified below:

- **Nossaman (+\$400,000)** – Continued support in finalizing the Benefit and Obligations Contract, coordination with the Phase 3/4/5 Bylaws, the Updated Joint Powers Agreement and Operations Plan, finalizing the Facility Use Agreements, and supporting the negotiation of the Excess Capacity Agreement with Reclamation.
- **BBK (+\$282,000)** – Continued support of the Conveyance CMAR procurement and assistance with the development of the Environmental Mitigation procurement to provide consistency with existing CMAR procurements.

- **Young Wooldridge (+\$100,000)** – Continued support as General Counsel providing the Authority with consistent and comprehensive legal guidance and protections.
- **SSD (+\$150,000)** – Continued support in securing a Water Right including negotiating of terms and conditions.

Prior Action:

October 2025: Adoption of 2026 work plan and project budget.

Fiscal Impact/Funding Source:

The requested action will result in no change to the overall 2026 budget that was adopted at the October 2025 Board meeting. Funding for the increase in effort to the tasks identified above will be provided primarily by the reallocation of funds previously identified for Interim and Permanent Finance Support (\$782,000) with the remaining funds (\$150,000) coming from the decommitment of funds previously assigned to MBK’s operations modeling contract. Some effort related to the Interim and Permanent Finance will continue in 2026; however, a larger effort is anticipated to be pushed out to 2027 due to delays in securing the water right and entering into investor commitment. Future budget discussions will capture this activity as a deferred expense and not a true cost savings.

Staff Contact:

Shayleen O’Connell

Primary Service Provider:

Brown and Caldwell

Attachments:

None.