Weatherford Municipal Utility Board

AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date:	August 28, 2025	**Staff Contact:**	Rick Shaffer, Director of Water Utilities
Item Number:	2025-412-AR	**Phone:**	817-598-4473

SUBJECT: Discuss and consider authorizing City Manager to execute a contract with Carollo Engineers, in the amount of $520,000 for professional engineering and laboratory testing services for the Wastewater Treatment Plant PFAS Planning Evaluation project.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is developing new guidance related to the reduction of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances ("PFAS") in wastewater treatment facilities, and from certain industrial customers. This is in addition to new guidance that the EPA has already issued regarding water treatment facilities. EPA's goal is to reduce the amount of PFAS in the nation's water supplies and drinking water systems.

History:

In June 2023, the Water Utility submitted a Project Information Form ("PIF") to the Texas Water Development Board ("TWDB") related to the Clean Water State Revolving Fund - Emerging Contaminants ("CWSRF-EC")Program. The project identified in the PIF included 24 months of PFAS monitoring and testing of treated effluent from the City's water reclamation facility, biosolids, and pretreatment program participants. It also includes technical engineering analysis for treatment of effluent and biosolids to meet regulatory requirements. This will allow for alternatives and engineering planning for future treatment of PFAS at the water reclamation facility and fo coordination with pretreatment customers on their plans for PFAS reduction/removal.

In December 2023, the TWDB invited the City to submit an application for funding of up to $546,000 with 100% principal forgiveness. The Municipal Utility Board ("Utility Board") adopted Resolution R2024-04 in January 2024, authorizing the City Manager to execute all necessary applications, contracts, and agreements to implement and carry out the purposes of the grant.

In March 2025, the TWDB approved the City's application for funding assistance, and requires the City to close on the loan prior to September 30, 2025. Although the TWDB refers to the funding as a "loan", it is 100% principal/loan forgiveness and will be fully reimbursed by the TWDB.

In June 2025, the Board adopted Resolution R2025-07, authorizing the City Manager to execute the Escrow Agreement with US Bank, and the Principal Forgiveness Agreement with the TWDB. The Escrow Agreement has been executed, and the TWDB is assembling Resolution R2025-07 and the Escrow Agreement into a final Principal Forgiveness Agreement.

Engineering Consultant Selection:
A Request for Qualifications (RFQ) was issued on June 7, 2025 for qualified engineering firms or teams to provide professional engineering services for the Wastewater Treatment Plant PFAS Planning Evaluation. Six consultants submitted a response to the RFQ. A four-person selection committee comprised of the Director of Water Utilities, the Operations Manager for Water Utilities, the plant manager at the Water Reclamation Facility (wastewater treatment plant), and the Environmental Compliance & Regulatory Affairs Manager each reviewed the responses fo several aspects, including project personnel, prior project experience, understanding of the project, and general approach. Carollo Engineers was selected as the most qualified responsive firm for the project.

The scope of this project includes collecting and testing up to 24 months of samples from the City's water reclamation facility (untreated and treated), biosolids, and the wastewater collection system for PFAS compounds. It also includes technical engineering analysis for treatment of effluent and biosolids to meet potential future regulatory requirements. This will allow for alternatives and engineering planning for future treatment of PFAS at the water reclamation facility and for coordination with pretreatment customers on their plans for PFAS reduction/removal. The results and recommendations from this PFAS Planning Evaluation will also be incorporated into a future Water Reclamation Facility Master Plan.

Next Steps:
The next steps are to:

- Board approval of engineering consultant contract
- TWDB to incorporate Resolution R2025-07 and the Escrow Agreement into the final Principal Forgiveness Agreement
    - City Manager to then execute the Principal Forgiveness Agreement
- Close on the loan - tentatively scheduled for September 18, 2025
- Conduct study and PFAS testing - final report tentatively scheduled for October 2028 (inclusive of multiple TWDB review steps)

FINANCIAL IMPACT

This engineering design contract will be funded through a TWDB CWSRF-EC loan with 100% principal forgiveness, and is contingent upon the City of Weatherford successfully closing on said loan with the TWDB.

SUGGESTED ACTION

Staff recommends that the Municipal Utility Board authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with Carollo Engineers, in the amount of $520,000 for professional engineering and laboratory testing services for the Wastewater Treatment Plant PFAS Planning Evaluation project.

ATTACHMENTS

- Draft Contract