

TO: Lower San Joaquin River Committee
FROM: Long-term Lower San Joaquin River Committee Manager Selection Committee
DATE: October 26, 2012

SUBJECT: Long-term Lower San Joaquin River Committee Manager Selection Committee Process and Recommendations

Two Statements of Qualifications (SOQs), one from Chester Anderson, Watershed LLC and the other from Summers Consulting LLC, were received in response to a request for qualifications sent out by San Joaquin Valley Drainage Authority (SJVDA) in mid-June. The Selection Committee reviewed the SOQs and, on August 30th, followed up their review with an interview of Dennis Westcot, representing Summers Consulting. On September 12th, based on their SOQ review and meeting with Summers Consulting, the Selection Committee recommended awarding the contract to Summers Consulting. The Lower San Joaquin River (LSJR) Committee subsequently concurred with that recommendation.

However, on October 8th, Summers Consulting informed the San Joaquin Valley Drainage Authority that, because of recent developments, they would need to withdraw their submittal. Mr. Westcot has indicated he would be able to act as an advisor to the LSJR Committee to provide some continuity and guidance to the project. Based on that offer, the SJVDA has implemented a no cost extension to their contract with the San Joaquin River Group Authority for Mr. Westcot's services in an advisory capacity until the end of January 2013.

In response to this situation, the Selection Committee has been exploring various options for filling the position of a long-term committee manager. The following are the options considered:

1. Awarding the contract to Chester Anderson, LLC
In considering this option, the Selection Committee again reviewed Chester Anderson's original application and found that, although Mr. Anderson had significant experience and expertise in managing stakeholder watershed planning processes, he lacked the necessary qualifications in the critical areas of salinity, particular as relates to agriculture in the San Joaquin Valley, and in basin planning and regulatory matters. It is the Selection Committee's opinion that Mr. Anderson would not be able to provide the LSJR Committee the leadership and guidance needed for a project as large, as specialized, and as complex as this.
2. Utilizing the services of Richard Meyerhoff, the current Technical Project Manager for CV-SALTS
Mr. Meyerhoff is currently under contract with the SJVDA as the CV-SALTS Technical Project Manager. He was approached by the Selection Committee, but indicated he would not have the time to manage the LSJR committee in addition to fulfilling all of his other responsibilities.
3. A limited-term position provided by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR)
Under this scenario, USBR would provide the services of one of their employees, to be approved by the LSJR Committee, for a limited-term position. David Cory has been exploring this option and is trying to organize a meeting between USBR management and Eastside and Westside stakeholder interests to discuss the possibility further.
4. Seeking proposals through the normal RFQ process
If Option 3 is not workable, another RFQ could be sent out, targeting a larger group of potential candidates for the position than the nine firms or organizations that received the initial RFQ. There may be web sites or publicly available lists for posting or distributing the RFQ, and an effort should be made to identify and utilize those tools where possible.

Selection Committee Recommendation:

The Selection Committee recommends that David Cory continue to pursue Option 3 with USBR. If that effort is not successful, the Committee recommends pursuing Option 4.