

CITY OF BLAINE
REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION
MEETING DATE: February 13, 2006

SUBJECT: City/Birch Bay Water and Sewer District (BBWSD) Hydrogeological Services Interlocal Agreement

SUBMITTING DEPT: Public Works

PREPARED BY: _____
(Digital Signature)

AGENDA LOCATION: Comments / Communications ☐, Consent ☐,
Public Meeting/Hearing ☐, Unfinished Business ☐, Council Action Item ☒,
Committee Reports ☐

ATTACHMENTS: 1. Interlocal Agreement
2. February 7, 2006 Associated Earth Sciences, Inc. Technical Memorandum

ANALYSIS / SUMMARY:

The City currently provides all potable water to Birch Bay Water and Sewer District at two permanent and one temporary/interim water distribution systems intertie locations from eight City-owned water production wells.

Washington State Administrative Code (WAC) Section 246-290 requires that qualified public water purveyors (e.g., the City and the District) submit Water System Plans (WSPs) to the State Department of Health for review and approval at least every six years. The City and BBWSD are both currently working on these required updates. All WSPs must address the purveyor's plan to accommodate future demands, both in terms of source(s) of supply and distribution.

Furthermore, the April 2002 30-year Wholesale Water Supply Agreement between the City and the District obligates the City to develop its inchoate (i.e., unperfected or unused) water rights and to obtain additional water rights/pumping capacity to accommodate predicted demands of both systems. That Agreement also obligates the District to cooperate with the City in its efforts to supply, maintain, and manage the water resources.

Four basic methods exist to accommodate predicted demands for water production. The first three involve the full actuation of the City's inchoate water rights (which, by definition, associate with a particular water production well):

- If physically possible, increase the physical pumping capacity of an existing water production well to match its corresponding water right. This method **does not** entail a corresponding water right revision.
- Establish a new water production well(s) with the pumping capacity to match the inchoate water right of a "donor" water production well(s). This method **does** entail a corresponding water right revision (i.e., the transfer of inchoate water right(s) to the new well(s)).

- Increase an existing water right-limited water production well's pumping capacity beyond that water right to the water production well's physical pumping capacity. This method **does** entail a corresponding water right revision(s) (i.e., the transfer of the inchoate water right(s) from the donor well(s) to the "upsized" well).

The fourth method involves the acquisition of additional/new water rights, which requires drilling a well, determining its production capacity, and applying to the Washington State Department of Ecology for a new municipal water right, which currently takes WSDOE several years to process.

Regardless of the water demand method above that the City chooses to employ, the services of a hydrogeologist are necessary.

To facilitate revisions to both the City's and District's WSPs, and in the spirit of cooperation as embodied in the Wholesale Water Supply Agreement, the District has authored the attached Interlocal Agreement that jointly secures, funds, and directs hydrogeological services and studies to and for the mutual benefit of both the City and the District.

RECOMMENDATION: ☒ Waive 2nd Reading. Staff recommends that City Council approve the attached Hydrogeological Services Interlocal Agreement.

FISCAL ANALYSIS: This interlocal agreement will be funded from the Water Capital Fund 329.

REVIEWED BY:

City Manager _____ Finance Director _____ City Clerk _____
(Digital Signature) (Digital Signature) (Digital Signature)

COUNCIL ACTION: Approved ☐, Denied ☐, Tabled / Deferred ☐,

Assigned to: _____

COUNCIL ACTION: _____



ATTACHMENT #1

Technical Memorandum

Date: February 7, 2006

To: Dan Eisses
Birch Bay Water & Sewer District

Project Name: Comprehensive Plan
Amendment

From: Charles S. Lindsay
Principal Hydrogeologist

Project No: EH05123B

Subject: Task Order No. 2 - Final

This memorandum outlines our revised proposed services for Task Order No.2 which will be completed under our General Services Contract with Birch Bay Water & Sewer District (District). The General Services Contract between Associated Earth Science Inc. (AESI) and the District was authorized by Roger Brown (District General Manager) on March 3, 2005.

We understand that the District is currently in the process of updating their water system comprehensive plan to account for recent changes in water use within the District's service area. We also understand that the City of Blaine (City) is in the process of updating their water system comprehensive plan and is interested in evaluating the potential for additional ground water rights as well as their water supply production capacity versus water rights for their existing production wells. AESI's scope of services for this project will include evaluating current and potential future ground water resources that may be available to the District and City, evaluating the production capacity versus water rights for the City's production wells, developing a preliminary conceptual groundwater model and preparing scope/budget for developing a future 3-dimensional numerical ground water flow model. A detailed breakdown of our proposed scope of services is provided below. The schedules provided for each task assumes that we will have authorization to proceed by February 14, 2006.

1. Review available geologic/hydrogeologic, water quality/quantity information for northwest Whatcom County and southwestern British Columbia. This data review will also include well pumping capacity information currently available for the City of Blaine's and District's production wells. The information review will include but not be limited to resources obtained from the following sources.
 - Whatcom County Department of Health (WCDH)
 - Whatcom County Planning & Development Services Department (County)
 - Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology)
 - US Geologic Survey (USGS)
 - City of Blaine (City)
 - Birch Bay Water & Sewer District
 - AESI in-house information
 - Environment Canada.

(Sub Task Budget \$3,500)

Completed by March 3, 2006

2. Research water rights data bases/information obtained from the City, District, Ecology and County regarding water right claims, applications, permits and certificates for the City's production wells and appropriate sub-basins located in the City's/District service areas. A work product for this task will be a technical memorandum summarizing these results for review by the City and District.

(Sub Task Budget \$2,000)

Completed by March 3, 2006

3. Review the City's records regarding their existing production wells pumping capacity. Compare the City's pumping capacity with their existing water rights. Develop conclusions, recommendations and schedule for expanding the City's production capacity to meet their existing water rights and projected water needs. We understand that the City/District will provide us with their projected water needs. A work product for this task will be a technical memorandum summarizing these results for review by the City and District.

(Sub Task Budget \$2,500)

Completed by March 3, 2006

4. Identify potential options for acquiring additional water rights for the future operation of the City's production wells, and/or new City/District production wells. These options will include at a minimum:

- Transferring water right certificate from District Production Well No. 1 (PW-1) to the City's existing production wells, the District's PW-2 well, and/or new City/District production wells.
- Purchasing and transferring water rights from other wells and/or surface sources located within the appropriate sub-basins to the City's existing production wells, the District's PW-2 well, and/or new City/District production wells.
- Acquiring new water right permits for the City's production wells, the current water right application pending on the District's PW-2 well, and/or new City/District production wells.
 - i. Review and evaluate county conservation board process
 - ii. Review and evaluate cost reimbursement program

A work product for this task will be a technical memorandum summarizing these results for review by the City and District.

(Sub Task Budget \$4,000)

Completed by March 17, 2006

5. Meet with representatives of the City/District to discuss the identified potential water rights options. All previously submitted work product technical memorandums will be discussed in detail.

(Sub Task Budget \$500)

Complete March 10 – 17, 2006

6. Meet with representatives of Ecology, District and City to discuss the applicability/probability of implementing the identified water right options.

(Sub Task Budget \$500)

Complete March 31 – April 7, 2006

7. Develop strategies, time lines and cost estimates for implementing the identified water rights options and provide general opinions regarding the potential for successfully implementing each option.

(Sub Task Budget \$1,500)

Completed by March 31

8. Prepare two short reports outlining the information developed during this evaluation that is pertinent for inclusion in the City's and District's Comprehensive Plans.

(Sub Task Budget \$2,500)

Completed by April 14, 2006

9. Develop a preliminary conceptual ground water flow model of the aquifer systems that underlie the City's and District's service areas. The preliminary conceptual model will be used to evaluate the following:

- Aerial extent of the aquifer systems.
- Ground water recharge.
- Surface water/ground water interaction.
- Aquifer safe yield.
- Potential new production well locations.
- Scope of work and cost estimate for developing a 3-dimensional numerical ground water flow model of the identified aquifer systems. The ground water flow model will be designed to aid in the evaluation of water rights, surface/ground water interaction, long-term safe yield of the aquifers, future production well locations and wellhead protection issues.

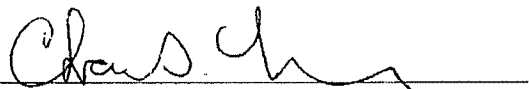
A work product for this task will be a technical memorandum summarizing the preliminary conceptual model and providing a detailed scope/cost estimate for developing the ground water flow model. The technical memorandum will also provide recommendations and cost estimates for collecting additional information that may be needed to construct the ground water flow model.

(Sub Task Budget \$4,000)

Completed by April 14, 2006

Our maximum authorized budget for Task Order No. 2 is \$21,000.

To authorize this task order please return one signed copy of this memorandum.



ASSOCIATED EARTH SCIENCES, INC.

Everett, Washington

Charles S. Lindsay, P. G., P.H.G.

Principal Hydrogeologist

Birch Bay Water & Sewer District

Authorized Representative

Date

INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT

This Interlocal Agreement (“Agreement”) is entered into this ____ day of _____, 2006, by and between the City of Blaine (“Blaine”) and the Birch Bay Water & Sewer District (“District”) in consideration of the mutual promises and covenants contained herein.

ARTICLE 1. RECITALS

1.1 Blaine and the District (“the Parties”) are public water systems providing water supply in their respective jurisdictions; and

1.2 On April 2, 2002, the Parties signed a water supply contract (“The Contract”) pursuant to which the Parties would benefit from the use and development of Blaine’s water right claims, applications, permits and certificates; and

1.3 The Parties believe that effective and efficient use and development of said claims, applications, permits and certificates requires the assistance of professional hydrogeologic consultants; and

1.4 Blaine and the District are currently updating their comprehensive water system plans, and those comprehensive plans require hydrogeologic studies of certain groundwater supply issues; and

1.5 The Parties are willing to jointly fund and direct such hydrogeologic studies; and

1.6 The District has already entered into a contract with a hydrogeologic consultant, Associated Earth Sciences, Inc. (“AES”) qualified to perform such studies; and

1.7 The Parties believe the most expeditious means of obtaining the necessary studies at reasonable cost would be to utilize the District’s existing contract with AES; and

1.8 RCW 39.34 permits governmental entities to enter into interlocal agreements to accomplish mutually beneficial purposes in the public’s interest; and

1.9 Blaine and the District find that entering into this Agreement is in the public’s interest; and

1.10 The foregoing recitals are a material part of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Interlocal Agreement is to provide a cooperative framework within which Blaine and the District can jointly secure, fund and direct hydrogeological services and studies in connection with updating their comprehensive plans.

ARTICLE 3. ADMINISTRATION

This Agreement shall be jointly administered by the Blaine Director of Public Works and by the District General Manager, or their respective designees.

ARTICLE 4. MANAGEMENT AND COMMITMENTS

4.1 The District will expand its existing contract with AES to include the scope of services set forth in Attachment 1 (“Hydrogeological Services”). Blaine and the District will jointly direct the performance of the Hydrogeological Services. The Parties shall work together effectively, efficiently and in good faith to coordinate direction and supervision of the performance of the Hydrogeological Services.

4.2 Funding up to a total maximum amount of \$21,000.00 for the Hydrogeological Services shall be shared equally by Blaine and the District. Each party shall pay fifty percent (50%) of the total amount of invoices received for the Hydrogeological Services, not to exceed a maximum amount of \$10,500.00 each, unless otherwise agreed by written amendment hereto.

4.3 On receipt of billings from AES, the District will promptly transmit a copy of same to Blaine for review. Upon receipt of approval for payment from Blaine, the District will pay the bill to AES in full and forward an invoice to Blaine for reimbursement of one-half (1/2) of the amount paid. Except as provided in Section 4.4, the District will not pay or advance Blaine’s share of any invoice for Hydrogeological Services without prior written approval from Blaine. Blaine will make a good faith effort to review AES billings promptly and indicate approval or disapproval in writing within one week of receipt of the billing. Blaine will clearly indicate the basis for disapproving any AES billings and the District will attempt to resolve any disputes that may arise as quickly as possible.

4.4 In the event that Blaine does not pay its share of an invoice within thirty (30) days from the date of receipt, the District may provide Blaine and AES a notice of intent to suspend and/or direct the suspension of all work authorized by this Agreement. If no payment or authorization of payment is forthcoming from Blaine within five (5) days of its receipt of a notice of intent to suspend work, the District may in its sole discretion suspend and/or direct the suspension of all work authorized by this Agreement. The District shall under no circumstances be required to pay Blaine’s share, but may do so in its sole discretion without prejudice to any future determination that Blaine is liable for reimbursement of such payment under this Agreement.

ARTICLE 5. DURATION

This Agreement shall be effective upon recording with the Whatcom County Auditor and shall remain in effect for one (1) year from the date of said recording, unless otherwise earlier terminated pursuant to Article 6. The Parties may extend the term of this Agreement for one additional year by mutual written agreement.

ARTICLE 6. TERMINATION

6.1 This Agreement may be terminated by either Party at any time by providing ten (10) days prior written notice thereof to the non-terminating party and to AES.

6.2 Upon termination, each Party shall be responsible for its share of the fees and costs incurred up to the date of termination in accordance with the terms herein.

ARTICLE 7. ADMINISTRATIVE; OTHER PROVISIONS

7.1 The Parties hereby expressly acknowledge the existence of their Agreement for Wholesale Water Supply dated April 2, 2002 (“Wholesale Water Supply Agreement”). Notwithstanding any other provision herein, this Agreement shall not alter, change, modify, supersede or have any affect whatsoever on the Wholesale Water Supply Agreement or on any right, obligation or provision in the Wholesale Water Supply Agreement. The Parties further agree that no act or omission of either Party in connection with this Agreement shall modify or relieve Blaine or the District of their respective obligations under the Wholesale Water Supply Agreement nor shall any such any act or omission modify or enlarge any rights of either Party under the Wholesale Water Supply Agreement.

7.2 Any dispute arising out of the terms and conditions of this Agreement shall first be subject to the following mediation process. If a dispute shall arise, a meeting shall be held promptly between the Parties to attempt in good faith to negotiate a resolution to the dispute. For purposes of this section 7.2 “promptly” shall mean within fourteen (14) calendar days of a Party requesting a meeting to resolve a dispute. If within ten (10) days after such meeting the Parties have not succeeded in resolving the dispute, then the dispute shall be mediated. Either Party may provide written notice to the other that the dispute shall be submitted to mediation and a mediator shall be selected. In the event that within seven (7) days of receipt of said written notice the Parties are unable to agree on a mediator, either party may request appointment of a mediator by the Whatcom County Superior Court. Both Parties shall cooperate to assure that mediation occurs in a timely manner and both parties shall supply all materials provided to the mediator to the other party at least two (2) days before mediation. Engaging in mediation shall not affect any claim, right, remedy, or defense of either party. Should mediation prove unsuccessful, all claims, rights, remedies and defenses of each party shall be preserved.

7.3 Blaine shall indemnify, defend and hold the District, its officers, agents and employees harmless from all suits, claims or liabilities of any nature, including attorney fees, costs and expenses, for or on account of injuries or damages sustained by any person or property resulting from the negligent acts or omissions of and to the extent harm is caused by Blaine, its agents or employees in connection with Blaine’s performance under this Agreement. If suit in respect to the above is filed and judgment is rendered or settlement made requiring payment of damages by the District, its officers, agents or employees, Blaine shall pay the same.

7.4 The District shall indemnify, defend and hold Blaine, its officers, agents and employees harmless from all suits, claims or liabilities of any nature, including attorney fees, costs and expenses, for or on account of injuries or damages sustained by any person or property resulting from the negligent acts or omissions of and to the extent harm is caused by the District, its agents or employees in connection with the District's performance under this Agreement. If suit in respect to the above is filed and judgment is rendered or settlement made requiring payment of damages by Blaine, its officers, agents or employees, the District shall pay the same.

7.5 All notices and other communications required or permitted to be given by this Agreement must be in writing and must be given and will be deemed received if and when either hand delivered, faxed or mailed to:

DISTRICT

General Manager
Birch Bay Water & Sewer District
7096 Point Whitehorn Road
Birch Bay, WA 98230

BLAINE

Director of Public Works
City of Blaine
1200 Yew Street
Blaine, WA 98230

or to such other address as the Parties hereto may from time-to-time designate in writing and deliver in a like manner. Facsimile transmission of any signed original document and retransmission of any signed facsimile transmission shall be the same as delivery of an original document.

7.6 Failure of either party at any time to require performance of any provision of this Agreement shall not limit such party's right to enforce such provision, nor shall any waiver of any breach of any provision of this Agreement constitute a waiver of any succeeding breach of such provision or a waiver of such provision itself.

7.7 If any term or provision of this Agreement or the application thereof to any person, entity or circumstance shall to any extent be invalid or unenforceable, the remainder of this Agreement and the application of such term or provision to persons, entities or circumstances other than those as to which it is held invalid or unenforceable shall not be affected thereby, and each term or provision of this Agreement shall be valid and enforceable to the fullest extent permitted by law.

7.8 The laws of the State of Washington shall govern any disputes arising under this Agreement.

7.9 Subject to section 7.2 herein, any disputes shall be adjudicated in the Superior Court for Whatcom County, Washington, unless otherwise agreed.

7.10 This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between Blaine and District as to the matters contained herein. This Agreement may be modified in writing only, upon mutual agreement of the parties.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 2006.

CITY OF BLAINE

Gary Tomsic, City Manager

APPROVED as to form:

Attested:

Attorney for City of Blaine

Finance Director

Departmental Approval:

Department of Public Works

BIRCH BAY WATER & SEWER DISTRICT

Don Montfort, Secretary

APPROVED as to form:

Attorney for Birch Bay Water & Sewer District

[illegible]

On this ____ day of _____, 2006, before me personally appeared Don Montfort, to me known to be the Secretary, of the Board of Commissioners of BIRCH BAY WATER & SEWER DISTRICT, and acknowledged that he signed the same as his free and voluntary act and deed, and stated upon oath that he is authorized to execute the foregoing instrument of the said BIRCH BAY WATER & SEWER DISTRICT for the uses and purposes mentioned in the instrument.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal the day and year first above written.

Print Name: _____
 NOTARY PUBLIC in and for the
 State of Washington.
 My commission expires: _____

[illegible]

On this ____ day of _____, 2006, before me personally appeared _____, to me known to be the Mayor, of the CITY OF BLAINE, and acknowledged that he signed the same as his free and voluntary act and deed, and stated upon oath that he is authorized to execute the foregoing instrument of the CITY OF BLAINE for the uses and purposes mentioned in the instrument.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal the day and year first written above.

Print Name: _____
 NOTARY PUBLIC in and for the
 State of Washington.
 My commission expires: _____