RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2014-247

MEETING: May 27, 2014

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Peter Rei, Public Works Director

RE: Approve a $125,000 Loan from the General Fund and Approve a Contract with Howk Systems / Budget Actn

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:

1. Approve a $125,000 Loan from the General Fund to the Yosemite West Utility Maintenance Fund.
2. Approve Budget Action Reducing General Fund Contingency and Transferring Funding to the Yosemite West Maintenance Fund ($125,000).
3. Accept a Bid from Howk Systems for the Installation of a New Strainer for the Subsurface Drip Irrigation System at the Yosemite West Wastewater Treatment Plant ($92,953) and for Repairs to the Subsurface Drip Irrigation System ($20,000).
4. Approve a Project Budget of $125,000 (includes $12,047 for staff time and change orders).
5. Authorize the Board of Supervisors Chair to Sign the Agreement with Howk Systems.

The Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) issued a Notice of Violation to the Yosemite West Wastewater Treatment Plant on August 30, 2012. Included in the Notice of Violation is a requirement that the County prepare "A Technical report describing a study of the leachfield and subsurface drip irrigation system to include proposed modifications to preclude future surfacing effluent and compliance with the Waste Discharge Requirements." Under a contract with the County, Provost and Pritchard have completed that report and a subsequent report entitled "Yosemite West Wastewater Treatment Plant Disposal Evaluation." This report was discussed by the Board as part of an agenda item on the May 20, 2013 agenda.

Included in the new report is a discussion of the Subsurface Drip Irrigation (SDI) system and the challenges that it has had in operating properly. In the past the screens that are part of the SDI system have become clogged within an hour of the system being operated. This clogging is caused by the effluent containing particles that are too large to pass through the screen. Very rapidly the screen clogs and the system must be shut down for maintenance. As a practical matter cleaning the screens that frequently is not possible with current staffing levels.

Provost and Pritchard have recommended that the County install a self-cleaning Strainer that will
do a much better job of capturing the larger particles and insuring that the SDI system can be operated for longer durations of time. This is essential as the SDI system was designed to run from early Spring to late Fall to give the leachfields a chance to rest for several months. Since the SDI system has not been operational this requires staff to operate the leachfields on a continuous basis and does not give the fields a chance to rest as originally designed. This lack of resting is one of the causes of the leachfields "surfacing" effluent which led to the RWQCB issuing the Notice of Violation in August 2012.

Staff solicited for bids to construct the new Strainer and received only one bid from Howk Systems in the amount of $92,953.

Provost and Pritchard are also recommending that the County repair portions of the Subsurface Drip Irrigation System to be certain that it is operating properly. Howk Systems has agreed to perform the needed repairs for a not-to-exceed amount of $20,000.

A contract is attached with Howk Systems for an amount not to exceed $112,953 for both the installation of the strainer and the completion of the needed repairs to the Subsurface Irrigation System.

Both the Yosemite West Maintenance Fund and the Yosemite West Utility Capital Fund do not have sufficient funding to pay for these costs. As a result staff is recommending a $125,000 loan from the General Fund to the Yosemite West Maintenance Fund to allow this contract to be approved and executed by the Board. The attached Budget Action allows the loan to be processed.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:
The current SDI system is not functional causing the leachfields to be used on a continuous basis. This continuous usage is resulting in effluent surfacing from the trenches and has resulted in the RWQCB issuing a Notice of Violation to the County. This Notice of Violation mandates that repairs to the SDI system be constructed and that the system be operating properly or the County will likely risk significant fines from the RWQCB for continued non-compliance with published Waste Discharge Requirements.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
At this time there are insufficient funds available in the Yosemite West operating Fund and in the Yosemite West Utility Fund for this project.

ATTACHMENTS:
Howk Systems Agreement (PDF)
YW WWTP Loan (XLS)

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REF ID# 3525
CAO RECOMMENDATION
Requested Action Recommended

[Signature]
Rick Benson, County Administrative Officer

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Lee Stetson, District I Supervisor
SECONDER: John Carrier, District V Supervisor
AYES: Stetson, Jones, Bibby, Cann, Carrier
## BUDGET ACTION FORM

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### TRANSFER BETWEEN FUNDS

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### ACTION REQUESTED:
( ) Budget appropriation by Board of Supervisors (4/5ths Vote Required): Amending the total amount available in the county budget, or in any one fund of the budget, or appropriating Reserve for Contingencies;

( ) Transfer by Board of Supervisors (3/5ths Vote Required): Moving existing appropriations from one budget to another, or between categories within a budget unit;

### JUSTIFICATION:
Loan from the General Fund for a new strainer and repairs to subsurface irrigation system on the Yosemite West WWTP. Funding also allows for staff time and possible change orders.

**DEPT HEAD SIGNATURE**

**APPROVED BY RES NO.**

**CLERK**

**DATE 5-27-14**

**DATE 5-28-14**

**GENERAL FUND/INTERFUND TRANSFERS/ YOSEMITE WEST MAINTENANCE**

**AUDITOR'S USE ONLY**

**BA #**

Budget Revision Form Revised 11/95