

**TOWN OF PRESCOTT VALLEY
REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

Date: August 22, 2013

SUBJECT: Grant Agreement with US Bureau of Reclamation for the Upper Verde River Watershed Protection Coalition

SUBMITTING DEPARTMENT: Management

PREPARED BY: John Munderloh, Water Resources Manager,

AGENDA LOCATION: Comments/Communications , Consent , Work/Study ,
New Business , Public Hearing , Second Reading

ATTACHMENTS: USBR Assistance Agreement

SUMMARY BACKGROUND: Town of Prescott Valley (Town) is a founding member and fiscal agent of the Upper Verde River Watershed Protection Coalition (Coalition). Created in June, 2006, the Coalition's objective includes protecting the base flow of the Upper Verde River to the maximum extent possible and reaching Safe Yield in the Prescott Active Management Area.

The Town, on behalf of the Coalition, has recently received a notice of award for a second year of funding for a technical assistance grant from the US Bureau of Reclamation in the amount of \$36,915.00. The first year of the grant provided \$48,893 in direct project support. Matching amounts in the form of in-kind services are required in year two and will be provided from within the Coalition's budget.

The grant will help pay for activities related to the Coalition's Watershed Restoration Initiative that began in March, 2012. This initiative has a stated goal of restoring watershed functioning in order to increase natural aquifer recharge. Current watershed conditions only allow about two percent (2%) of the total precipitation to reach the aquifer. The project outlined in the grant will define baseline watershed conditions and expand on the existing task force to cooperatively develop a watershed restoration and implementation plan.

The grant agreement must be approved by Council and signed by the Mayor.

PREVIOUS ACTIONS: On September 22, 2012, Council approved the first year of grant funding through an agreement with the US Bureau of Reclamation in the amount of \$48,893.00.

On March 22, 2012, Council approved Town Staff's proposal to pursue this grant.

On June 8, 2006, the Town Council entered into an Intergovernmental Agreement with Yavapai County, the City of Prescott, the Town of Chino Valley and the Town of Dewey-Humboldt to create the Upper Verde River Watershed Protection Coalition.

On February 22, 2007, the Town Council approved membership contributions for the Coalition for \$55,000 per year.

OPTION ANALYSIS: The Council may vote to:

- 1.) approve this proposal, **OR**
- 2.) not approve this proposal, **AND/OR**
- 3.) direct staff to pursue other options.

ACTION OPTION: Authorizing the Mayor (or in his absence the Vice Mayor) to sign the US Bureau of Reclamation grant agreement for the Upper Verde River Watershed Protection Coalition. **VOTE.**

RECOMMENDATION: Town staff recommends approving this grant agreement with the US Bureau of Reclamation.

FISCAL ANALYSIS: Matching funds in the form of in-kind services totaling \$40,004.00 are required. This match will be provided through the Coalition's budget.

REVIEWED BY:

Management Services Director _____

Town Clerk _____

Town Attorney _____

Town Manager _____

COUNCIL ACTION:

Approved Denied Tabled/Deferred Assigned to _____