

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

Date: July 10, 2014

SUBJECT: Grant Award from Western Lands & Communities 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: None

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 technical assistance grant from Western Lands & Communities (WLC) in the amount of \$15,000 plus 500 hours of WLC Staff time to conduct Scenario Planning on the Coalition's Watershed Management Plan. The Scenario Planning process creates resiliency within the Watershed Plan to make the plan adaptable to changing conditions over time. The Coalition's Watershed Management Plan is a process that was begun by adoption of the Watershed Initiative in 2012, supported by a grant award of \$85,808 from the US Bureau of Reclamation.

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.

PREVIOUS ACTIONS: On February 27, 2014, Council approved Town Staff's proposal to pursue this grant. On September 13, 2012 and August 22, 2013, Council approved and accepted grant agreements with the US Bureau of Reclamation.

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: Motion to approve this grant award from WLC in the amount of \$15,000 and 500 hours of WLC staff time AND authorize the Mayor (or, in his absence, the Vice Mayor) to sign any necessary documents. **VOTE.**

RECOMMENDATION: Town staff recommends approving this grant award.

FISCAL ANALYSIS: No matching funds are required. Any additional expenses, if incurred, will rely on the Coalition's budget.

REVIEWED BY:

Management Services Director _____

Town Clerk _____

Town Attorney _____

Town Manager _____

COUNCIL ACTION:

Approved Denied Tabled/Deferred Assigned to _____