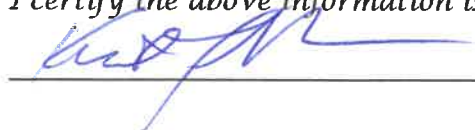


Agenda Summary Report (ASR)

Franklin County Board of Commissioners

DATE SUBMITTED: July 19, 2019	PREPARED BY: Keith Johnson
Meeting Date Requested: July 23, 2019	PRESENTED BY: Keith Johnson, County Admin
ITEM: (Select One) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent Agenda <input type="checkbox"/> Brought Before the Board Time needed:	
SUBJECT: Columbia Basin Development League hiring consulting services for Stakeholder Survey	
FISCAL IMPACT: \$3,750 (25% of total of \$15,000 shared equally by Franklin, Grant, Adams and Lincoln Counties)	
BACKGROUND: The Columbia Basin Development League is seeking a consultant to assist in the development and execution of a stakeholder survey to gather data related to the completion of the Columbia Basin Project and assist in presenting information to important stakeholders. (See attached RFP from CBDL). The CBDL is specifically charged with the advocacy, communication and outreach toward completion of the Project. This resolution would allow Franklin County to contribute 25% of the expected cost of the consultant with the remaining 75% coming from Grant, Adams and Lincoln counties.	
RECOMMENDATION: Recommend that the Board of County Commissioners approve the attached Resolution authorizing funding of \$3,750 from the Contingency budget.	
COORDINATION: Keith Johnson, County Administrator	
ATTACHMENTS: Agenda Summary Report, Resolution, Request for Proposals from CBDL	
HANDLING / ROUTING: Originals to Franklin County Administrator Copies: County Auditor, Accounting and Budget	

I certify the above information is accurate and complete.


 _____ Name, Title

FRANKLIN COUNTY RESOLUTION _____

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

***APPROVAL OF PARTICIPATING IN COLUMBIA BASIN DEVELOPMENT LEAGUE
STAKEHOLDER SURVEY CONSULTATION FOR COMPLETION OF THE PROJECT***

WHEREAS, the Board of Franklin County Commissioners constitutes the legislative authority of Franklin County and deems this to be in the best interest of the County; and,

WHEREAS, the Columbia Basin Project (Project) has brought immeasurable economic benefits to Franklin County; and,

WHEREAS, the Columbia Basin Project has not been completed from its original design; and,

WHEREAS, completion of the Project would be a significant improvement to the future economic sustainability of production agriculture and related industries in Franklin County; and,

WHEREAS, the Columbia Basin Development League has been charged with the mission of advocacy, communications and outreach for completion of the Project,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Franklin County Commissioners do hereby authorize and approve the transfer and expenditure of \$3,750 from the Non Departmental Contingency line (101700-5001) in the Current Expense Budget, to the Non-Departmental Miscellaneous Budget (101700-4900) to assist in funding the retaining of a consultant to provide services in preparation of a Stakeholder Survey being executed by the Columbia Basin Development League as per the attached Request for Proposal.

APPROVED this 23rd day of July, 2019.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Chair

Chair Pro Tem

Member

ATTEST:

Clerk to the Board

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

PROJECT TITLE:	Survey Design and Analysis
PROPOSAL DUE DATE:	July 5, 2019
ESTIMATED PROJECT TIMELINE:	July through September 2019
BUDGET:	Not to exceed \$15,000, unless justification provided

The Columbia Basin Development League seeks proposals from interested and qualified firms to provide services to design, execute, and analyze a stakeholder survey.

BACKGROUND

The Columbia Basin Development League (League) works toward a fully developed Columbia Basin Project that supports a robust regional and state economy and quality of life through efficient, well-maintained, affordable infrastructure and sustainable environmental stewardship.

Located in eastern Washington, the Columbia Basin Project (Project) is the largest federal Reclamation project in the United States; it was authorized in 1933 to convert wasteland into land suitable for habitation and cultivation. The most recognizable feature of the Project is Grand Coulee Dam, and Project benefits include irrigation, power, flood control, municipal and industrial water uses, recreation, and wildlife habitat.

The reservoirs and wetland features of the Project create multiple tourism opportunities related to boating, fishing, hunting, and bird watching. The cumulative economic activity generated within the Project's boundaries is over \$5.8 billion, and over three million people annually recreate within the Project.

Approximately 680,000 acres of the Project's total 1,029,000 acres are irrigated, and the agriculture made possible by the complex and comprehensive system of irrigation canals and pipelines, reservoirs, and pumping facilities provides for the region's economic vitality. Agriculture is second only to manufacturing among Washington State's leading industries, and much of Washington's agriculture production occurs within the Project. As a result, thriving cities and towns have become established along with the requisite processing facilities.

Full development of the Project was intended to be phased over several decades and has been made possible by a unique public-private partnership between the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Washington State Department of Ecology, three Columbia Basin Project irrigation districts, and Project landowners.

As the only non-governmental entity representing stakeholder interests in the Project, the League is in a unique position to promote and advocate. Two main goals exist:

- 1) **ADVOCACY:** Create an environment conducive to implementing legislative, congressional, and agency actions
- 2) **COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH:** Achieve broad consensus on the value of the Columbia Basin Project and the plan for its continued, phased development

Target audiences are broad:

- Geographic
 - Communities served by the Columbia Basin Project
 - Communities that house support facilities like processing plants
 - Communities where influential policy makers reside
- Columbia Basin Development League members
- Columbia Basin Project landowners
- Those whose livelihoods and businesses are integrated with the future of the Columbia Basin Project
- State influencers
 - Economic development organizations
 - Irrigation Districts
 - Utilities
 - Agencies
- State, County, and Municipal Elected Officials
- Ports
- Federal Agencies
- National Elected Officials

Strategic Assumptions

The assumptions listed below depict realities of the environment in which the League operates.

- 1) The League currently is comprised primarily of agricultural interests with different approaches and priorities related to addressing the crisis of the Odessa Aquifer and the continued development of the Project. *The opportunity exists to clarify what the differences are and why and identify common ground upon which we all can agree. By doing so, the League can establish its credibility as the leading organization working to bring water to eastern Washington.*
- 2) The public does not understand the variety of elements that need to come together to develop short- and long-term solutions. *The opportunity exists to identify the existing level of awareness and how best to communicate in a manner that resonates despite the lack of knowledge, interest in details or impact on their livelihood.*
- 3) The League is committed to working in a responsible and responsive manner with elected officials and others to develop the Project in a manner that will respond to the needs and concerns of a wide range of stakeholders. *The opportunity exists to expand support beyond the agricultural community to include businesses, community groups, and those concerned about the environmental impact of the Project.*
- 4) Recent concerns about availability of domestic water have focused the attention of a much broader group of Washingtonians on the need to resolve the declining aquifer issue. *The opportunity exists for the League to use this increased interest to get its message to members of the public and policy makers and to influence actions to implement solutions.*

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND EXPECTATIONS

The League seeks expert services in the design, execution, and analysis of a stakeholder survey, the outcomes of which will inform future League goals, objectives, and the prioritization of each. The League acknowledges the many and varied stakeholder perspectives and interests that exist in the Project. Accordingly, the League intends to capture the level of awareness and understanding that exists about Project issues as well as the varied perspectives about them. This would allow the League to identify gaps in advocacy and education and most effectively work to close those gaps. Essentially, this project will capture Project voices, identify where there are differences, promote harmonization where possible, and identify a path forward that will continue progress for all—but do no harm to individual pursuits.

A Task Force was formed to oversee this effort. Informed by the work of this RFP's winning bidder, the Task Force will be able to:

- Identify Project stakeholders
- Foster a cohesive network
- Consider operating, authorizing, and enabling environments
- Clarify stakeholder priorities
- Identify short, mid, and long-term goals toward League mission fulfillment
- Inform League advocacy efforts
- Agree on unified effort and consistent messaging

TASK FORCE DELIVERABLE: Based on input from stakeholders, present a proposal for short, mid, and long-term goals for the League to adopt toward mission fulfillment; upon review and committee input, proposal will be presented to the full League Board for adoption.

PROPOSAL SUBMITTAL

Proposals are due via email by close of business Friday, July 5 to:

Michelle Voie, *Executive Services Coordinator*, michelle@cbd.org

Proposals must:

1. Be submitted by email in PDF format
2. Include a summary of firm's background and experience
3. Include name, phone number, email, and address of at least three client references
4. Provide detailed proposal including estimated timeline and expense breakdown

Contract will be awarded based on competitive nature proposals from reputable firms that meet project objectives within budget.

Direct questions, by email only, to Vicky Scharlau, Executive Director, vicky@cbd.org.