

**MONTEREY PENINSULA REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

DATE: August 8, 2018
TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Kelly McCullough, Finance Manager
REVIEWED BY: Rafael Payan, General Manager
SUBJECT: Consider Approval of Contract with Rachel Anderson for Photo Reports at Carmel River and Amphibian Monitoring as Bioindicators at Rancho Canada Unit, and Ongoing Amphibian Surveys at Palo Corona and Garland Ranch

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Staff respectfully recommends the Board approve the Rachel Anderson proposal to prepare Photo Reports at Carmel River and Amphibian Monitoring as Bioindicators at Rancho Canada Unit, and Ongoing Amphibian Surveys at Palo Corona and Garland Ranch (**ATTACHMENT 1**) and approve the Professional Services Agreement (**ATTACHMENT 2**).

FISCAL IMPACT:

\$50,402.45 over a 5-year period.

1. FY 18-19 - \$ 9,842.05
2. FY 19-20 - \$10,140.10
3. FY 20-21 - \$10,140.10
4. FY 21-22 - \$10,140.10
5. FY 22-23 - \$10,140.10

FUNDING SOURCE:

6549 – Professional Services

FUNDING BALANCE:

\$200,000

DISCUSSION:

Palo Corona Regional Park was established in 2004. Subsequently, staff proceeded to methodically identify its natural features and draft long-term stewardship reports in preparation for developing a long-term General Development Plan.

Early in this process three federally listed endangered species were identified; California red-legged frog, California tiger salamander, and Smith's blue butterfly. Working collaboratively with US Fish and Wildlife Service former staff Planning and Conservation Manager Tim Jensen, presented the board with a 30-year Safe Harbor Agreement that outlines the long-term management obligations and responsibilities of the District. That agreement was approved by the board and executed in December 2011. Staff is continuing to implement the terms of this agreement that allows the District to operate the park for public use and stewardship.

One of the identified management/stewardship actions agreed to by the district is on-going endangered species monitoring and habitat enhancement. The district has contracted with UC Davis PhD candidate students since 2006 when baseline data was first collected and ever since for monitoring. PhD candidate Rachel Anderson has been the District's monitor since FY13-14. Ms. Anderson has been providing amphibian monitoring services and completing SHA reports until her contract expired on June 30, 2018.

The District needs a qualified consultant/scientist to continue this required monitoring and reporting. In addition, the grants received for the acquisition of the Rancho Canada Unit of Palo Corona Regional Park require monitoring and reporting as well. Ms. Anderson is uniquely qualified for this work due to her familiarity with the properties, the SHA and its reporting requirements, and the training she received from the former Planning and Conservation Manager. Therefore, staff requested Ms. Anderson prepare a proposal to continue her SHA work and add to the scope for the monitoring needed for recently received grants. Because scientific studies require long term monitoring to establish trends, Ms. Anderson proposed a 5-year monitoring plan detailed in the attached proposal (**ATTACHMENT 1**).

Staff respectfully recommends that the Board approve the attached Professional Services Agreement for FY18-19 (**ATTACHMENT 2**) in substantially the form attached and authorize the General Manager to renew the Professional Services Agreement for each successive year for up to a 5-year total.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. [Rachel Anderson Proposal](#)
2. [Professional Services Agreement Rachel Anderson](#)