

Agenda Item: 6.

MEMORANDUM TO: Programs, Projects & Operations Subcommittee

SUBJECT: Regional Water System Study for Dakota & Thurston Counties

DATE: January 5, 2012

FROM: Dick Sklenar

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The Bureau of Reclamation is providing a grant to have a study conducted (by JEO Consulting Group Inc.) on the feasibility of establishing a regional water supply system for northeast Nebraska. Such a system would provide water quality and quantity needs for the area in the decades to come. The District has 2 rural water systems (Thurston and Dakota Rural Water) that would be included in the study.

JEO Consulting will be briefing the District on what the study will entail, and what information will be needed to determine a solution(s) to the affected area.



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January 4, 2012

Dick Skelnar
Papio-Missouri River NRD
8901 S. 154th Street
Omaha, NE 68138-3621

RE: Dakota and Thurston County Rural Water Study
JEO Project No. 268S2

Dear Dick:

I am writing to request to be placed on your January 10th subcommittee agenda to discuss a study JEO is conducting as a part of a Bureau grant to look at a regional rural water system for Thurston and Dakota counties in Nebraska. A key component of the grant is working with the key stakeholders in the area.

The key stakeholders in the project include the two NRD's, the two counties, all of the Villages and Cities located within the Counties and two tribal organizations. At this stage, it is strictly an appraisal study and does not include any grant money for feasibility or construction. The appraisal study requires us to establish the need in the area, arrive at a reasonable solution, and establish some baseline costs. After this study is completed it will open up the area to funding from the Bureau for potential cost share funding for feasibility studies to look at specific plans in more detail.

We are aware of your rural water systems in this area and are interested in gaining knowledge of them and incorporating them into the appraisal study. If you can please have us placed on the agenda, we would like to come and discuss the study in more detail, what it means to the NRD, and identify staff that we can continue to work with as we move forward. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact this office.

Thank you in advance for your consideration!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lucas C. Billesbach", written over a horizontal line.

Lucas C. Billesbach
Project Manager
(402) 934-3680
lbillesbach@jeo.com

MEMORANDUM

TO: Programs, Projects and Operations Subcommittee
FROM: Dick Sklenar, Project Manager
SUBJECT: Regional Water System Study for Dakota and Thurston Counties
DATE: January 10, 2012

The Bureau of Reclamation is providing a grant to have a study conducted (by JEO Consulting Group Inc.) on the feasibility of establishing a regional water supply system for northeast Nebraska. Such a system would provide water quality and quantity needs for the area in the decades to come. The District has two rural water systems (Thurston and Dakota Rural Water) that would be included in the study.

JEO Consulting will be briefing the District on what the study will entail, and what information will be needed to determine a solution(s) to the affected area.

The District has been requested to be a cooperative partner in this effort being sponsored locally by South Sioux City. Management recently approved the attached Partnership Agreement, which contains no financial or contractual commitment by the District other than to share information, in order to facilitate the study process. Board action to ratify that action is being requested.

Management recommends that the Subcommittee recommend to the Board that Management's prior approval and signing of the Partnership Agreement for a rural water supply appraisal investigation, as presented at the meeting, is hereby ratified.



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July 11, 2011

Dick Sklenar
Papio-Missouri River NRD
8901 So. 154th Street
Omaha, NE 68138

Dear Dick,

On behalf of the City of South Sioux City and JEO, we are very excited to announce that the U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, has notified the City of South Sioux City that they have been awarded a grant for the Rural Water System Appraisal Investigation! As you may remember, JEO representatives contacted your community a few months ago to offer the opportunity to be a part of the study, and you agreed to participate. This is an extremely exciting opportunity for Northeastern Nebraska! We anticipate in the next several months you will be contacted again to begin gathering information about your community's water system and begin the Study process.

If you have any questions or comments about this announcement, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tyler L. Hevlin".

Tyler L. Hevlin, P.E.
Environmental Department Manager

TLH/cam

c. Lance Hedquist, City Administrator, City of South Sioux City, 1615 1st Ave., South Sioux City, Nebraska 68776-2245

071211 SOUTH SIOUX CITY RURAL WATER LETTER.DOCX

Partnership Agreement Communities, Counties, Natural Resources Districts

This is a Partnership Agreement by and between the City of South Sioux City, Nebraska (hereinafter referred to as "Applicant") and the communities, counties, and Natural Resources Districts of Dakota and Thurston Counties of rural northeast Nebraska (hereinafter referred to as "Partners").

The following facts are hereby understood by Program partners:

1. That the United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation (hereinafter referred to as "Bureau") has a program entitled, "Reclamation Rural Water Supply Program" (hereinafter referred to as "Program"), Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number 15.506,
2. That the Bureau has issued a Funding Opportunity Announcement for the Program, number R11SF80307,
3. That the Applicant is an eligible applicant to apply for these Program funds,
4. That the Applicant seeks to use Program funds to conduct the South Sioux City, Nebraska Rural Water Supply Appraisal Investigation (hereinafter referred to as Appraisal Investigation); a comprehensive examination of water problems, needs and opportunities throughout Dakota and Thurston Counties located in rural, northeastern Nebraska,
5. That the Applicant previously submitted a Statement of Interest to the Bureau of Reclamation for Appraisal Investigation funds and that on March 2, 2011 the Bureau informed the Applicant that it was invited to submit a full proposal for an Appraisal Investigation,
6. That the Applicant has contacted the governing bodies of the Partners and requested their partnership in this study,
7. That the Partners' role and responsibility in the Appraisal Investigation will be to provide pertinent information about known water quality/quantity issues within their respective Reservation or service area, encourage public participation in the Appraisal Investigation, and provide effective guidance to the Applicant's consultant as it relates to environmental review,
8. That the Partners will have no financial obligation in conjunction with this Appraisal Investigation, be required to be a partner on subsequent Feasibility Studies, or be required to connect to the rural water system, if eventually constructed, and
9. That the Applicant will be responsible to prepare and sign all reporting requirements associated with the Program.