

**Metropolitan Domestic Water Improvement District
Board of Directors Meeting**

June 10, 2019

**Approval of the Strategic Alliance for Volume Expenditures (SAVE)
Cooperative Purchasing Agreement and the District's
Participation and Use of SAVE Cooperative Contracts**

Synopsis

The Board is being requested to approve the Strategic Alliance for Volume Expenditures (SAVE) Cooperative Purchasing Agreement and approve the District's participation and use of the SAVE contracts.

Background

The District's has procurement policies to make the best efforts to obtain the best prices and quality for materials and services utilized by the District through the competitive bidding process. The procurement policies also provide for compliance with State statutes. The Board has also approved the District's use of the City of Tucson Cooperative Purchasing Program on various items. The utilization of the City program has allowed the District to get better pricing on goods and services than it would likely on its own due to the volume ability of the City. The SAVE program, administered by the City of Mesa, provides for additional cooperative purchasing contracts the District's rate payers can benefit from.

Issues

SAVE works similar to the City of Tucson program in that members insert Cooperative Purchasing language in their procurement documents allowing other local government agencies in the state to utilize the goods or services being solicited. SAVE is made up of all public agencies including municipalities, county government, political agencies, universities, fire districts, and school districts. The listing of members as of January 22, 2018 is attached as an appendix to the agreement. As public agencies, each is required to follow State statutes in their procurement process just as the District is required.

Not all of the contracts available as part of the SAVE program would be appropriate or beneficial to the District. Membership in SAVE is not intended to replace the District's procurement policies, but to enhance them. The use of the contracts would be based on the pricing, time, and services

available that are beneficial to the District. The large membership of public agencies in the SAVE program provides for more options to find the services that are most appropriate in meeting the needs of the District.

There is no cost to be a member of SAVE. It is suggested, but not required that members insert the cooperative purchasing language in their contracts, as appropriate, that would allow other members to utilize the contract pricing, requirements, terms, and conditions. Each member is responsible for doing their own due diligence to make sure the contract is appropriate for their use. Per the District's procurement policies, any contract or purchases requiring Board approval will be brought to the Board for approval regardless of where the contract or pricing originated.

Staff Recommendation

It is recommended by staff that the Board approve the Strategic Alliance for Volume Expenditures (SAVE) Cooperative Purchasing Agreement and approve the District's participation and use of the SAVE contracts in accordance with the District's procurement policies.

Suggested Motion

I move to approve the Strategic Alliance for Volume Expenditures (SAVE) Cooperative Purchasing Agreement and approve the District's participation and use of the SAVE contracts in accordance with the District's procurement policies.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven D. Shepard
Utility Superintendent

I concur with the above-noted recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Olsen, P.E.
General Manager