U.S Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation

WaterSMART: Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects
Grants for FY 2021

Funding Opportunity Announcement No. R21AS00300

COTTONWOOD WATER AND SANITATION DISTRICT’S AUTOMATED WATER METERING SYSTEM UPGRADES – PHASE 2

March 18, 2021

Applicant: Cottonwood Water and Sanitation District
c/o Mulhern MRE, Inc.
188 Inverness Drive West, #150
Englewood, CO 80112
303-649-9857
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General Manager: Luis Tovar
luis@mulhernmre.com
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Section 1.0: Technical Proposal and Evaluation Criteria

Section 1.1 Executive Summary

Date: March 18, 2021

Applicant: Cottonwood Water and Sanitation District, Town of Parker, Douglas County, Colorado

Project Manager: Luis Tovar
District Manager
720-274-8348
luis@mulhernmre.com

Applicant Category: Category A
Grant Funding Request: $75,000
Non-Federal Matching Funds: $102,894
Total Project Cost: $177,894
Project Duration: 1 year
Estimated Project Start Date: 02/2022
Estimated Project Completion Date: 02/2023
Located on Federal Facility: No
Unique Entity Identified: 059656515

Project Summary:
The Cottonwood Water and Sanitation District (“Cottonwood” or “The District”), located in the Northeast corner of Douglas County, Colorado, is seeking a WaterSMART: Small-Scale Water Efficiency Grant for 2021 for $75,000 to implement the District’s Automated Water Metering System Upgrades Project – Phase II. The District will upgrade its multi-family, commercial and remaining single-family customers’ metering system to an Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) system. Phase II will upgrade a) all meters equal to or larger than 1” in size in commercial buildings and multi-family development throughout the District and b) install ORION end-points to 377 smart-ready single family residential meters. The Automated Water Metering System Upgrades Project, Phase I, is currently underway and involves all single-family residential homes constructed prior to 2016. This project will provide real time water use statistics for billing and system monitoring purposes as well as eliminate the requirement for field meter reading services. The District expects to improve water usage visibility for its customers and District staff with the goal of encouraging water conservation and informing water supply management decision making.
Section 1.2  Project Location

The District was established in 1981 under Title 32 of the Colorado State Statutes as a quasi-municipal corporation and political subdivision of the State of Colorado. The purpose of the District is providing water and sanitary sewer services to the residents and businesses of the Cottonwood neighborhood in the Town of Parker and unincorporated Douglas County, CO. Located along the northern border of Douglas County on either side of Parker Road, the District is approximately 30 minutes southeast of Denver, CO. The District encompasses roughly 1,300 acres and is comprised of almost 2,000 single-family residences, 70 commercial customers including the Parker Adventist Hospital and Lifetime Fitness, and open space. Figure 1 shows the District boundaries and the location of the two phases of the Automated Water Metering System Upgrades projects.

FIGURE 1

Section 1.3  Project Description

The Cottonwood District currently hand reads all residential and commercial meters. The District has approximately 1,500 residential Sensus brand meters that were installed around the year 1998.
and 377 newer model Sensus meters installed from 2016 to present – all ¾” meters. The District has approximately 225 meters for commercial, irrigation and multi-family accounts ranging in age, from 14 to 22 years old, and size from ¾” up to 3” diameters. With this project, the District is seeking funding to upgrade and replace existing meters to a smart meter, AMI system. The work to be completed as part of this grant application, includes replacing 100% of aging water meters on multi-family and commercial accounts with new meters and upgrading these customers to an AMI system by installing cellular endpoints connected to each meter. The project will also include the installation of 377 cellular endpoints to residential ¾” Sensus meters installed from 2016 to present. Beyond the scope of this funding request, the District is also currently working to replace its older residential meters with AMI-compatible meters.

The materials and equipment required to complete the project include products provided by Badger Meter. The District has selected the Badger E-Series ultrasonic meters and ORION cellular endpoints to connect to the AMI system. The ORION cellular endpoints are compatible with the newer 377 – ¾” Sensus meters. The services required for the project include meter replacements and endpoint installations by a professional installation contractor, Keystone Utility Systems.

The AMI system upgrade allows each meter to send automated reads to the customers and the District via cellular network several times each day, providing real time water use statistics for billing and system monitoring purposes and eliminating the requirement for field meter reading services. This system would improve metering accuracy and provide customers with tailored information regarding individual water use, including immediate leak detection notification. By providing customers with frequent usage data via a web-based customer portal and smartphone application, the goal is to encourage water conservation by improving visibility. For example, customers will be able to view their overnight irrigation usage and may take steps to mitigate overwatering.

Section 1.4 Evaluation Criteria

**Evaluation Criterion A: Project Benefits (35 points)**

*Describe the expected benefits and outcomes of implementing the proposed project.*

**Water Savings**

The proposed project will result in increased water use efficiency and improved water supply reliability within the District. Water savings will result by: (a) improving accuracy of water metering, and (b) facilitating leak detection and making water meter data more transparent and easier to access for customers and District staff.

This project will provide a water resource management tool to the District and its customers. With the help of this project, we hope to be able to provide customers and District management staff the tools to achieve a reduction in outdoor watering by 15% and we believe that meaningful results could be expected within 5 years from implementation of this project. A 15% reduction of summer demands would translate to about 140 – 155 acre-feet of water conserved on a yearly basis. With the automated system the District will be able to:

- Provide the ability to research the District’s outdoor usage patterns and monitor irrigation conservation restrictions.
- Provide a water management tool for planning purposes not only for the District but also for the District’s customers.
- Provide active volume monitoring for both the District and its customers that can detect leaks.
- Increase efficiency of Meter Reading – Automated reads are uploaded to the customer and District portals several times per day.

**Water Supply Reliability**
The water conserved through avoided losses would remain in the distribution system and be available for meeting other District demands, thus helping to extend available water supply. By reducing overall system demands, the project also helps reduce its reliance on non-tributary groundwater.

Cottonwood is located in the upper reaches of Cherry Creek, a tributary of the South Platte River. The natural flow of the upper reaches of Cherry Creek is very limited. Consequently, the District relies on an additional source of supply, the non-tributary groundwater (“NTGW”) of the Denver Basin aquifers. The South Metro area water providers, who relied on NTGW heavily to meet their demands, came together in a joint effort to support and fund the 2004 South Metro Water Supply Study. This study evaluated the ability of the Denver Basin aquifers to meet the long-term demands of current and future South Metro area water users. The study found that the NTGW was being drawn down over time was not an economically viable or sustainable long-term source of supply. Study authors recommended that reliance on NTGW be reduced and replaced through a series of measures. These included 1) demand reduction or water conservation, 2) full reuse of both NTGW and renewable water sources, 3) full development of local renewable water sources, and 4) import of additional renewable water supply. Water savings from implementing this project would lessen the demand on the aquifer supply. Data collected from the system would help the District with the management of the supplies, both in the short and long term. Having a reliable water supply is key to economic growth.

**Geographic Scope**
Through the District investing in renewable sources of supply over the past few years, the reliance on the NTGW has changed greatly. At the end of 2018, the District had about 20% of its overall supply coming from renewable sources. At that time, it was primarily imported water from the WISE Project supplied from Aurora and Denver. By the end of 2019, that percentage doubled to 43% of renewable sources by incorporating the use of the District’s renewable supplies in Cherry Creek through water treatment by the Joint Water Purification Plant (“JWPP”). By the end of 2020, that number grew to 62%. By 2022, the District is projected to have a conjunctive use of its supplies where 75% will be from renewable supplies and the rest from its NTGW.

**Increased Collaboration & Information Sharing**
Over the past 20 years, the District has worked diligently to create and strengthen relationships with other area providers. As a member of the South Metro Water Supply Authority, a partnership of 13 metro area water providers, Cottonwood is able to collaborate, compare and share data for the benefit of other providers. Cottonwood recognizes that conservation efforts should go beyond its boundaries in order to be successful. Conservation Best Management Practices are continuously
shared among our neighboring water providers in order to implement BPMs that accomplish water savings in an equitable manner.

**Positive Impacts to Local Sectors & Economies**
The District has been working with commercial property owners in the last few years to help them optimize their outdoor water usage in order to a) stay within their allocation to reduce their monthly billings and b) reduce waste of the supplies. The District believes that the Automated Water Metering System Upgrades Project will help us close the gap with the excessive outdoor watering within the commercial users that has the potential to reduce outdoor watering demands between 15% and 20% once the proposed metering system has been in operation for a couple years. We believe that smart management of our water resources will continue to encourage a sustainable economic development now and in the future. Cottonwood is a small water provider when compared to its neighbors. However, through exceptional leadership over the past decades, Cottonwood has acquired and developed a comprehensive long-term water supply plan while remaining very competitive with its water rates.

**Customer Service Improvement**
We want to improve the level of service provided today and help our customers understand and take any additional steps necessary to reinforce their efforts towards water conservation. Implementing this new automated system with the available software would engage the customer in the conservation process. The ability to monitor their individual water use on a daily basis will encourage conservation, which will potentially reduce their water costs.

The District would also have the ability to use the data collected to work together with its customers whenever there are challenges with their indoor and/or outdoor water usage staying at or below their monthly allocation. We want to improve the response time for Customers who are unknowingly experiencing water losses in their system well before the next water meter/billing cycle occurs.

**Efficiency of Operations**
Each month, District operators walk the District to obtain meter readings. With the exception of a few drive-by commercial meters, all of the meters are read by hand (with a handheld electronic device). Most months, a handful of meter reading errors occur and the operators need to re-read 6 to 10 meters. It takes approximately one operator, one full day to read the commercial meters throughout the District. Time spent is not always in a single day in an effort to complete other daily tasks. This would free up valuable operator time.

**Evaluation Criterion B: Planning Efforts Supporting the Project (35 points)**
Describe how your project is supported by an existing planning effort.

Cottonwood continually seeks ways for the District to work towards the measures outlined in the South Metro regional study. Even prior to the completion of the study, Cottonwood worked to reduce reliance on NTGW by initiating a water conservation program in 2003. The primary factor in this program was and continues to be, tiered water rates that greatly penalize those who exceed a base need for water supply. Use of low flow water fixtures and efficient irrigation systems are
encouraged through an extensive rebate program. Since this conservation program was implemented in 2003, the District’s demand, has declined by as much as 28%.

In 2011, in partnership with Douglas County, Cottonwood completed a Water Conservation Plan as part of the Regional Water Conservation Plan submitted to the Colorado Water Conservation Board. The proposed project, Automated Water Metering System Upgrades, is consistent with the Plan, which identifies conservation methods to encourage and support efficient water use by its customers. Specifically, the Plan identifies the need to improve system water loss that result in customer metering inaccuracies, data handling errors and leakage on mains and service lines; all challenges that will be addressed through the proposed project.

More recently, the District completed a non-potable connection to the Crown Point Commercial Development that supplies its irrigation systems with non-potable supply. The source of this supply is from the District’s renewable supplies in Cherry Creek. The project consisted of developing a tributary ground water well and approximately 1,500 ft. of additional non-potable water main that was connected to an existing, separate irrigation main that was previously supplied with potable water until this project. The proposed Automated Water Metering System Upgrades Phase II project will allow the District to closely monitor the non-potable supply delivered to the Crown Point area for irrigation purposes. In addition, this project will provide the same monitoring best management practices for irrigation purposes for the parks and open space areas associated with the newer development on the west side of the District as these areas are metered separately. In comparing irrigation usage, the District saw a 25% increase from 2017 to 2018. Following completion of the effluent connection, the District was able to separate the total irrigation delivered to the Crown Point Development as compared to the overall irrigation supply showing that it comprised approximately 48% and 53% of the total supply for 2019 and 2020 respectively. The Crown Point area is an area of high interest to the District due to its large irrigation demands.

**Evaluation Criterion C: Project Implementation (10 points)**

*Implementation Plan*

Upon completion of the financial assistance agreement with the Bureau, the District will provide a notice to proceed to the contractors selected for the project. The District plan for implementation involves using 2 contractors for the project, Badger meter and Keystone Utilities. Badger Meter will be used for the purchase of meters, endpoints and subsequent parts. Keystone Utilities will be used for the installation of the meters and upgrade components. The installation contractor will contact the property owners to set up a time to access the meters.

The following is a brief summary of Keystone Utilities project approach.

- The project management team is comprised of a Project Manager and one or two field supervisors.
- The project will begin with breaking the District into customer zones to coordinate a plan for completion.
- Inventory will be acquired from the vendor and any literature or mailings will be submitted for review. Once project preparation is complete, implementation can begin.
- The data processing department will be responsible for assigning field technicians to the designated zones.
- Customer Service Reps will handle any contact with customers through use of outbound/inbound calls, letters, door hangers, email appointments, and online appointment setting. Keystone Utility Systems communications process will include a minimum of 3 mailers, 1 phone attempt, and 1 physical attempt before accounts will be returned to the utility as non-responsive.
- Technicians will utilize a full Covid-19 action plan with call screening and proper PPE for all customer interactions if that is still required at the time of deployment.

**TABLE 1**
Estimated Project Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Stage</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Milestones</th>
<th>Start Date</th>
<th>Completion Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Procure Materials &amp; Equipment</td>
<td>Duration six to eight weeks</td>
<td>Order and stock meters and endpoints for installation</td>
<td>February 1, 2022</td>
<td>March 14, 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Reporting</td>
<td>Duration one week</td>
<td>Complete and submit Financial Report; request partial funding</td>
<td>March 14, 2022</td>
<td>March 18, 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Customer Outreach</td>
<td>Duration two weeks</td>
<td>Notify customers of upcoming meter replacements; Schedule installation and water outages</td>
<td>March 14, 2022</td>
<td>April 4, 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial Meter Replacement &amp; Endpoint Installation</td>
<td>Duration three weeks</td>
<td>Remove/replace existing meters; install endpoints and connect new meters; achieve commercial AMI system milestone</td>
<td>April 4, 2022</td>
<td>April 25, 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interim Performance Report</td>
<td>Duration one week</td>
<td>Complete and submit Interim Performance Report</td>
<td>April 25, 2022</td>
<td>April 29, 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential Meter Endpoint Installation</td>
<td>Duration four weeks</td>
<td>Install endpoints and connect to existing meters; Achieve residential AMI system milestone</td>
<td>April 25, 2022</td>
<td>May 23, 2022</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Quality Control:  
**Duration one week**  
Verify meter communication and troubleshoot errors; integrate billing software; verify customer portal and app functionality  
**May 23, 2022**  
**May 30, 2022**

**Final Performance Report**  
**Duration two weeks**  
Complete Final Performance Report; request remaining funding  
**June 1, 2022**  
**June 14, 2022**

**Required Permits:**  
There are no permits or approvals required for this work.

**Project Engineering & Design Work:**  
No engineering or design work is necessary for project completion. Work for this project entails purchasing equipment, scheduling and completing installations with District customers.

**Policies & Administrative Actions:**  
There are no new policies or administrative actions needed to implement the project.

**Environmental & Cultural Resource Compliance:**  
The proposed project is expected to fall within a Categorical Exclusion to NEPA pursuant to the Categorical Exclusion Checklist published by the Council for Environmental Quality in June of 2020. The project will not impact the surrounding environment. The work will be completed within the District service area.

**Evaluation Criterion D: Nexus to Reclamation (10 points)**

*Is the proposed project connected to a Reclamation project or activity?*  
This project is not connected to a Reclamation project or activity.

*Does the applicant receive Reclamation project water?*  
Cottonwood Water and Sanitation does not receive any Reclamation project water.

*Is the project on Reclamation project lands or involving Reclamation facilities?*  
This project will be completed within the District service area and not on Reclamation project lands or facilities.

*Is the project in the same basin as a Reclamation project or activity?*
Yes. A portion of the Colorado Big Thompson Project is located in the South Platte Basin. While Cottonwood is located in the South Platte basin, Cottonwood is not located within the service area of the Big Thompson Project and does not receive project water.

*Will the proposed work contribute water to a basin where a Reclamation project is located?*
- This project will not contribute water to a basin where a Reclamation project is located.

*Will the project benefit any tribe?*
- This project will not provide benefit to any tribe.

### Section 2.0  Project Budget

#### 2.1  Funding Plan and Letters of Commitment

*How Non-Federal Funds Will Be Obtained*
The Cottonwood Water and Sanitation District will fund costs not supported by Federal funds through collection of customer service fees. No third party funding has been requested from any funding partners, Federal or private, hence no letters of commitment are provided.

*Project Costs Incurred Before the Project Start Date*
Prior to the project start date of February 2022, the District staff completed its due diligence in gathering information, developing a Request for Proposal and researching the options provided. These services will not be funded through this request.

#### 2.2  Budget Proposal

*Table 2* below details the funding sources for the proposed project. The total budget for the proposed project is $177,894. The District is requesting the maximum amount of funding from Reclamation, $75,000, about 42% of the overall budget. No other federal funding has been requested.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Sources</th>
<th>Funding Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Federal Funding</td>
<td>$75,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applicant Funding</td>
<td>$102,894</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third-party Funding</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Project Costs</strong></td>
<td><strong>$177,894</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The budget proposal is detailed in *Table 3* on the following page.
### TABLE 3 – Budget Proposal for Cottonwood Water & Sanitation District - Water Metering System Upgrades Project – Phase II

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BUDGET ITEM DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>COMPUTATION</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>TOTAL COST</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$/Unit</td>
<td>Quantity</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Salaries and Wages</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not applicable</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$ -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fringe Benefits</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not applicable</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$ -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Travel</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not applicable</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$ -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Equipment</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1&quot; Meter</td>
<td>$ 169</td>
<td>30 each</td>
<td>$ 5,070</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5&quot; Meter</td>
<td>$ 541</td>
<td>26 each</td>
<td>$ 14,066</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2&quot; Meter</td>
<td>$ 728</td>
<td>65 each</td>
<td>$ 47,320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3&quot; Meter</td>
<td>$ 1,917</td>
<td>4 each</td>
<td>$ 7,668</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endpoints</td>
<td>$ 115</td>
<td>601 each</td>
<td>$ 69,115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal Equipment</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$143,239</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Supplies and Materials</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not applicable</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$ -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Contractual/Construction</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keystone Utilities Systems</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5&quot; &amp; 2&quot; Meter Installation</td>
<td>$ 136</td>
<td>58 each</td>
<td>$ 7,888</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residential Endpoint Installation</td>
<td>$ 71</td>
<td>377 each</td>
<td>$ 26,767</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal Contractual</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$ 34,655</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other/Environmental or Regulatory Costs</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not applicable</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$ -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL DIRECT COSTS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$ 177,894</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Indirect Costs</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not applicable</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$ -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ESTIMATED PROJECT COSTS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$ 177,894</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 2.3 Budget Narrative

**Salaries, Wages, Fringe Benefits and Travel**

The District Operations Department will complete installations of indoor commercial meter sets. These costs and quantities are not included in this project. Cottonwood will not be seeking reimbursement for staff salaries, wages, fringe benefits or travel related to project management,
including compliance with reporting requirements and performance reporting, customer service, and operations assistance. The District, through a third-party contract will engage Keystone Utility Systems to complete the meter replacement and endpoint installation noted on Table 2.

Due to the varying nature of the meter sets, locations, sizes and customer availability, in order for the District to effectively review and compare competing proposals, the District structured the Request for Proposal so that any service fees for installation were provided on a unit cost basis rather than employee hourly basis.

**Equipment**
The District will purchase 125 meters and 601 endpoints from Badger Meter. The total purchase of the equipment is $143,239.00.

**Materials and Supplies**
Each meter purchase, as detailed above, will include the necessary components for installation, including the ORION endpoints and wiring to connect the smart meters to the cellular network. There will be no additional materials or supplies needed.

**Contractual**
The District completed the RFP process for Phase I & II of the project in December 2020 according to Title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Section 200.320 – Methods of Procurement to be Followed. The District advertised an Invitation to Bid, requesting sealed proposals. The projects were then broken down into two proposals for each phase, one for equipment and one for installation. Following the District’s due diligence of reviewing and comparing costs, services available and company profiles, the District selected Badger Meter for equipment and Keystone Utility Systems for installation. Badger Meter provided the most competitive AMI proposal in terms of functionality, software features, up-front cost, 20-year expected cost, and warranty coverage. Keystone Utility Systems was selected to provide installation services out of several competitive proposals based on overall project cost, availability, and the results of an extensive utility and vendor interview process.

The District will enter into contracts with Badger Meter and Keystone Utility Systems, for Phase II of the project, following successful completion of the financial assistance agreement with Reclamation. The District will order meter components from Badger Meter. Meter and endpoint installation services will be handled by a separate contract with Keystone Utility Systems.

**Third-party In-Kind Contributions**
There are no third-party in-kind contributions for the proposed project.

**Environmental and Regulatory Compliance Costs**
No budget is included for this category. This project is anticipated to fall within a Categorical Exclusion to NEPA. Costs associated with filing associated documentation are expected to be minimal and the District will not seek funding related to those efforts.
**Other Expenses**
Not applicable. The District will complete associated documentation and required reporting related to this project. These costs will be covered by the District and not a part of this funding request.

**Indirect Costs**
Not applicable. There are no indirect costs listed with this budget proposal.

**Section 3.0 Environmental and Cultural Resources Compliance**

• **Will the proposed project impact the surrounding environment (e.g., soil [dust], air, water [quality and quantity], animal habitat)?**

  No. The proposed project involves upgrading, replacing and installing new meter components for a new automated meter reading system. There will be no ground disturbances impacting the surrounding environment.

• **Are you aware of any species listed or proposed to be listed as a Federal threatened or endangered species, or designated critical habitat in the project area? If so, would they be affected by any activities associated with the proposed project?**

  No. There is no ground disturbance involved with this project and the project therefore poses no threat to endangered species or critical habitat area. This project will be completed within the District’s developed service area. The meters to be upgraded are located either inside of building’s mechanical rooms or an outdoor meter pit. As far as the new endpoints upgrade to the existing 377 – ¾” residential meters, the upgrade will take place within the homes’ basements and/or crawl spaces.

• **Are there wetlands or other surface waters inside the project boundaries that potentially fall under CWA jurisdiction as “Waters of the United States?” If so, please describe and estimate any impacts the proposed project may have.**

  No. The project will not impact any wetlands or surface waters that fall under CWA jurisdiction.

• **When was the water delivery system constructed?**

  The Cottonwood Water and Sanitation District was established in 1980. The initial distribution system was constructed in 1981 and subsequently expanded over the years as new filings were added to the Cottonwood subdivision. The water delivery system for the Crown Point area was constructed in 2000 and has been in place since that time. The water system for the newer residential development on the west side of the District was constructed in 2015.

• **Will the proposed project result in any modification of or effects to, individual features of an irrigation system (e.g., head gates, canals, or flumes)? If so, state when those features were constructed and describe the nature and timing of any extensive alterations or modifications to those features completed previously.**
No. This project will not result in any modifications of or effects to an irrigation system.

- Are any buildings, structures, or features in the irrigation district listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places? A cultural resources specialist at your local Reclamation office or the State Historic Preservation Office can assist in answering this question.

  No. There are no buildings, structures or features within the scope of the proposed project listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

- Are there any known archeological sites in the proposed project area?

  No. There are no known archeological sites in the proposed project area.

- Will the proposed project have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations?

  No. The proposed project will not have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations. In fact, this project could provide some financial benefits to customers through a reduction of water usage fees with the leak detection feature offered to customers.

- Will the proposed project limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites or result in other impacts on tribal lands?

  No. This project does not limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites or result in other impacts to tribal lands.

- Will the proposed project contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area?

  No. The proposed project does not involve any ground disturbances that could potentially contribute to noxious weeds or non-native invasive species introduction or growth.

Section 4.0 Required Permits or Approvals

The proposed project does not require any permits or approvals for completion. The District contractor will work with customers to schedule access to the meter location to perform the necessary upgrade or replacement.

Section 5.0 Official Resolution

The Cottonwood Water and Sanitation District Board of Directors approved the enclosed Resolution on February 16, 2021, attached as Appendix A. This Resolution authorizes the General Manager of the District to complete the WaterSMART Grant application and all necessary documents required to complete the process and enter into a funding agreement with Reclamation.
The District has the ability to fund its portion of project costs for Phase II through the collection of service fees.

Section 6.0 Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management

The District’s unique entity identifier is: 059656515 and is currently registered with the System for Award Management. The District will maintain its registration during the period of federal assistance.
Appendix A

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE COTTONWOOD WATER AND SANITATION DISTRICT IN SUPPORT OF GRANT APPLICATIONS FOR THE ADVANCED METERING INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT

WHEREAS, Cottonwood Water and Sanitation District ("District") is a special district and political subdivision of the State of Colorado, acting pursuant to certain powers set forth in the Colorado Special District Act, §§ 32-1-101, et seq., C.R.S.; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the District has identified a project that demonstrates the objectives of the WaterSMART Grants: Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects through its advanced metering infrastructure project; and

WHEREAS, the District has appropriated sufficient funds for the administration and cost sharing requirements of the WaterSMART Grant criteria.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF COTTONWOOD WATER AND SANITATION DISTRICT AS FOLLOWS;

1. The District authorizes the General Manager to complete a WaterSMART Grant Application through the Bureau of Reclamation and to complete any necessary documents and/or agreements to complete the process.
2. The District hereby supports the proposed application to the Bureau of Reclamation for a grant in the amount of $75,000.
3. The District has the ability to fund its portion of the project as outlined in the application through customer service fees collected.
4. The District, through its General Manager and consultants, will work with the Bureau of Reclamation to meet the established deadlines for entering into a cooperative agreement.

Whereupon, a motion was made and seconded, and, upon a majority vote, this Resolution was approved by the Board, ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 16th day of February, 2021.

COTTONWOOD WATER AND SANITATION DISTRICT

[Signature]
President

ATTEST:

[Signature]
Secretary