

SEWER AUTHORITY MID-COASTSIDE

Staff Report

Subject / Title

Authorize Manager to Procure Facilitator/Mediation Services

Staff Recommendation:

Authorize Manager to Procure Facilitator/Mediation Services

Fiscal Impact:

\$3,000 to develop next steps.

Discussion/Report:

At the January 16, 2009 SAM Board meeting, Director Muller suggested that staff review possible Board facilitation or mediation services. Staff corresponded with two possible sources:

1. Institute for Local Government (ILG): while this institute does not offer services directly, they do have brochures to assist public agencies in dispute. We have provided each of you with a guide entitled, "*A Local Official's Guide to Intergovernmental Conflict Resolution*".

We have obtained two additional brochures from the ILG, "*Navigating Special Legal Issues in Public Agency Disputes*" and "*Collaborative Approaches: A Handbook for Public Policy Decision-Making and Conflict Resolution*". These will be available for your review at the Board meeting. All three are available on-line as follows:

http://www.cacities.org/resource_files/27378.conflict_resolution_guide_web.pdf

http://www.cacities.org/resource_files/27582.ADR_legal_issues_final.pdf

<http://www.odrc.state.or.us/documents/CollaborativeApproachesHandbook-March2006.pdf>

2. Mathis Consulting Group: This group has been referred by our labor consultant, Mr. Austris Rungis, of IEDA. Mathis Consulting Group provides meeting and retreat facilitation services to local public agencies.

The Mathis Consulting Group proposes to meet with each director and key staff to develop a plan of next steps. See Mathis Consulting Group's proposal, attached.

Possible next steps could include:

- schedule a facilitated retreat for SAM Board to focus on our vision and mission, or
- schedule mediation meetings, perhaps one hour before the SAM Board Meetings.

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February 9, 2009

**TO: Jack Foley, III, Manager
Sewer Authority Mid-Coastside**

FROM: Dr. Bill Mathis

RE: Facilitation of Board Relationship and Decision-Making

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss working with your Agency. From our discussion, I would recommend an initial assessment meeting to include yourself, all 6 Board members and consultation with you. (75 minutes per Board member is good).

We should be able to discern next steps from these individual meetings and do mediation, team building, and problem-solving as a follow up with clear goals and expectations.

Fee Schedule: \$3,000/day plus expenses

Let's talk about dates - how does this look - March 12 (Thursday) or February 23 (Monday)?

Dr. Bill Mathis

Dr. Bill Mathis