MEMORANDUM

TO: CITY COUNCIL

FROM: TERESA MCCLISH, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF SELECTION OF CITY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES FOR REGIONAL WATER INITIATIVES

DATE: APRIL 23, 2019

SUMMARY OF ACTION:
Selection of a Council Member and alternate will allow City representation at meetings with neighboring agencies regarding regional water initiatives including Central Coast Blue.

IMPACT ON FINANCIAL AND PERSONNEL RESOURCES:
There is no financial or staffing impact from the recommended action.

RECOMMENDATION:
It is recommended the City Council appoint one Council Member and one alternate to serve as a representative for regional water initiatives, including Central Coast Blue.

BACKGROUND:
The City continues involvement in the Northern Cities Management Area (NCMA) for the adjudicated management of the Santa Maria Valley Ground Water basin. This effort revolves around the monitoring and preparation of the required annual report in conjunction with the other members of the NCMA: the cities of Pismo Beach, Grover Beach and the community of Oceano.

Additionally, in 2014, the Council supported the NCMA Technical Group’s Strategic Plan that provides a framework for identifying common water resource planning goals and objectives and to establish a 10-year work plan for implementation of those efforts, including pursuing recycled water options.

In June of 2017, the City Council approved and authorized the City Manager to sign the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for preliminary engineering work for the Regional Groundwater Sustainability Project (RGSP) Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The project is now called Central Coast Blue, and in collaboration with the cities of Pismo Beach and Grover Beach and the Community of Oceano, has moved forward in the planning stage with grant support.
In January 2016, the City Council appointed representatives for regional water initiatives. Since the Council has changed, new representatives are requested.

ANALYSIS OF ISSUES:
The NCMA related activities require City Staff from Public Works to meet on a regular basis with staff from other agencies to coordinate monitoring and reporting efforts. Occasionally, there may be a request to collaborate on efforts associated with the NCMA by elected officials from participating agencies. Primarily however, as the Central Coast Blue project has completed the majority of preliminary engineering activities, there is a continued need to collaborate on future project milestones including formalizing groundwater management strategies and a conceptual framework for cost and benefit sharing.

Given the continued need for agency collaboration for these regional water initiatives, it is recommended that the Council select a member representative to participate in meetings with Council/Board representatives from area agencies on regional water initiatives.

ALTERNATIVES:
The following alternatives are provided for the Council’s consideration:

1. Select one Council Member and one alternate to represent the City on regional water initiatives;
2. Do not select one Council Member and one alternate to represent the City on regional water initiatives; or
3. Provide direction to staff.

ADVANTAGES:
Selection of a Council Member and alternate will provide for representation by an elected City leader at various meetings regarding regional water initiatives.

DISADVANTAGES:
No disadvantages have been identified.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW:
No environmental review is required for this item.

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION AND COMMENTS:
The Agenda was posted at City Hall and on the City’s website in accordance with Government Code Section 54954.2.