

## **EXHIBIT 4-A**



### **AGREEMENT FOR LEGAL SERVICES 2022 - 2024**

THIS AGREEMENT is made and entered into with an effective date of January 1, 2022 by and between the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District (hereinafter referred to as “District”) and De Lay & Laredo, Attorneys at Law (hereinafter referred to as “General Counsel”). De Lay & Laredo is a legal partnership. For the purpose of further clarification, the term “General Manager” as used herein shall refer to the incumbent Executive Officer of the District.

WHEREAS, the District requires legal services including representation, advice, and consultation as to its powers and duties and as to the rights and obligations of those with whom it deals and/or regulates; and

WHEREAS, General Counsel has civil law experience, has regularly represented local public agencies, and will maintain a civil law office with personnel who are familiar with legal principles applicable to the District;

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties do hereby agree as follows:

1. General Counsel will provide to, or on behalf of District, retained general counsel services including day-to-day advice, written opinions, legal document review, appearances at all Board meetings, and appearance at committees or subcommittee meetings at the District upon request. David C. Laredo is designated as lead attorney; service may also be provided by other De Lay & Laredo counsel or staff. Service by non-firm counsel shall be subject to District approval. District agrees to pay General Counsel for general retained services on a monthly basis upon invoice from General Counsel, upon the basis set forth in paragraph 4.

2. In addition to retained services, General Counsel shall also provide special legal services, upon request and subject to direction from the District General Manager, such as appearance at non-District meetings or proceedings, oversight of special counsel, litigation advice or services, services subject to reimbursement by third parties, and bond, audit or financial services. Special legal services shall also apply to retained services provided in excess of twenty-five hours in one calendar month. District agrees to pay General Counsel for special legal services on upon invoice from General Counsel, upon the basis set forth in paragraph 4.

3. General Counsel’s retained engagement shall not include matters relating to conflicts of interest, Fair Political Practice Act issues, or Government Code Section 1090 issues. As to these matters, special advice shall be provided only as to specific matters for which General Counsel has been formally consulted. General Counsel’s engagement shall not impose a duty upon De Lay & Laredo or any attorney of that firm, to undertake an independent review or special investigation of District files, transactions, contractual arrangements, or other affairs for

the purpose of those issues, except in response to a specific question or consultation. This engagement also does not require separate inquiry or review of any statement of economic interest (or any inquiry as to the accuracy of such statement), nor does this engagement require an independent assessment as to conflict or self-dealing issues absent a specific written consultation or written question thereon.

4. Upon the effective date of this Agreement, General Counsel shall be retained for general counsel services for the monthly fee of \$6,500. General Counsel shall also charge and be paid for special legal services at the rate of two hundred seventy-five dollars (\$275) per hour, upon invoice. The retainer fee and special service rates shall each increase by 4% (adjusted to the nearest five-dollar increment) on the following dates: January 1, 2023 and January 1, 2024.

5. District agrees to reimburse General Counsel for all expenses and reasonable costs incurred by General Counsel relating to the District, including registration and expenses (in accord with District per diem rates and policies) for one conference sponsored by ACWA or other comparable organization each calendar year. District shall reimburse General Counsel all costs incurred on behalf of District including to specialty counsel, appraisers, filing fees, witness fees, transcripts, reporter fees, hearing officer costs, photocopying costs, long distance telephone costs, travel and lodging costs, legal process fees, discovery costs, and jury fees. Out-of-district travel shall be billed at 50% of service rate. Costs shall be billed at actual cost (no over-head additions). No cost charge shall be made for communications or deliveries to or from other firm counsel.

6. This legal services agreement shall end on December 31, 2024, provided however, that this Agreement may be terminated at any time during its term, without cause, by the affirmative vote of five (5) members of the Board. In the absence of a written renewal, this contract shall continue on a monthly basis on January 1, 2025, provided however, that District or General Counsel shall provide thirty (30) days advance notice of any amendment.

7. De Lay & Laredo shall maintain a policy of professional errors and omissions insurance with a minimum of \$1,000,000/\$1,000,000 limits during the term of this agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Monterey Peninsula Water Management District and General Counsel have executed this Agreement as of the day and year set forth below.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

MONTEREY PENINSULA WATER  
MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

\_\_\_\_\_  
David Stoldt, General Manager

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

De LAY & LAREDO

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David C. Laredo, SBN 66532