

Submitted by Rick Neuser
MPA Rep at 6/25/2012
Committee meeting

OPTION 1 TERMS

These are the components that should be a part of any new fee: IT MUST

- a. Include a date certain sunset. (A sunset is defined as a date certain of when the fee would end)
- b. Guaranty that the funds will be clearly EARMARKED FOR SPECIFIC PROJECT(S) ONLY in this case, the established "ASR" and "GWR" projects. State clearly that these funds cannot be diverted to any other uses or projects such as administration, mitigation, or other.
- c. Contain and establish a Citizen's Advisory Panel (group) appointed to oversee the funding, and to ensure that the funding is properly allocated and spent as set forth in the assessment.
- d. Include stipulation that if the designated projects are cancelled, eliminated, terminated, or for some reason unable to continue, the collection of the fee ceases. Perhaps there are two "Sunset dates" – one for entire project and then one for failed project(s).
- e. Consider, once the projects are up and running to put the costs back onto the utility bill in lieu of continuing the fee so that those using the water ultimately pay for the water.
- f. Limit that no more than 8% of the funding may be applied to or used for Administration costs of the MPWMD
- g. This would be a 218 benefit Assessment affirmative vote of the property owners based on (for example) size of meters to determine weighted vote with an agreement about historical use associated with meter sizes, or some other mutually agreeable mechanism that is allowable.

The result of this will:

-Require that the MPWMD to meet its budgetary challenges in FY 2012/13 without these funds being used, except as specifically called for in the budget for the agreed projects. (This means the MPWMD will have to address the issue of staff and costs that they cannot currently meet in their budget with reduction in staff and expenses).

-May force the district to modify its signed MOU, such that it can obtain some bridge funding for the ASR and GWR projects until such time as this fee as proposed can be approved and implemented.