

**CWCB MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Ben Wade, Water Conservation Coordinator, CWCB

**From:** Billie L. Owens, Customer Relations Manager, Parker Water and Sanitation District

**CC:** Steve Hellman, CFO  
Randy Hellinger, Field Services Supervisor  
Chris D. White, AMI Coordinator

**Date:** December 8, 2016

**Title:** PWSD 2016 Water Efficiency Grant Update – Meter Replacement Program Status Report

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**Executive Summary**

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide a project status update for CWCB staff:

- Meter Replacement,
- Advanced Metering Infrastructure Installation

**Discussion**

Via contract, PWSD has partnered with Sensus as the metering and AMI solution product provider, committing to purchase meters, endpoints, and communication hardware through their local distributor, Dana Kepner, at agreed upon contract pricing. This contract involves authorizing a long-term (20-year) lease of a portion of Sensus' proprietary radio band for metering endpoint communication, as well as provision of meter data management hosting services for the period of five years. PWSD has contracted with American Conservation Billing to provide meter data management and data analytics, as well as a customer portal. PWSD has also partnered with Utility Metering Solutions (UMS) for project management and metering infrastructure installation services for project phases 1 and 2.

This multi-year project is phased as follows:

- Phase 1 (2016 – 2017):
  1. Installation of fixed base communication infrastructure (3 of 4 towers);
  2. Meter retrofit of all non-single family residential accounts; and retrofit of one single-family residential subdivision (approximately 1,300 meters.)
- Phase 2: (2017) Retrofit of manually read single-family residential walking routes (approximately 6,000 meters.)

- Phase 3: (2018 – 2022) Retrofit of remaining radio read walking routes and AMR metering infrastructure (approximately 6,000 meters.)

NOTE: Project timing is contingent on funding availability.

PWSD received approval from the CWCB for a Water Conservation Implementation grant in the amount of \$50,000 to go towards this project.

## **Project Status**

### **PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION:**

#### **Phase 1:**

1. Original project timeline called out meter replacement installations beginning late summer/early fall. Due to contract negotiations with the four different entities - UMS, Sensus, UMS, Dana Kepner and AmCoBi - taking longer than anticipated, project kick-off occurred in October.
2. Metering material orders for the 1<sup>st</sup> phase were initiated in October. In October of 2016 PWSD received a payment from the CWCB in the amount of \$45,000 that went towards purchase of metering infrastructure and installation services.
3. Installation of 3 of 4 fixed base communication towers and data concentrators was accomplished in October. Sensus certified the towers in November. The remaining tower will be installed as development requires.
4. Comprehensive communication plan and outreach materials were developed and finalized in October and November.
5. Software integration for meter to tower communications, meter data management, reading and analytics is over 90% complete, targeting full operation in December. The development of the customer portal is over 95% complete, slated to be available to customers in January. Initial alerting report evaluation is occurring. Policies and standard operating procedures associated with proactive customer outreach is under development.
6. Integration of the field service order management software, aka mass meter change-out file was completed in November and installation of meters was initiated. Meter retrofit for the 1<sup>st</sup> phase is as of the date of this memorandum 43% complete (563 of 1,308 meters.) It is anticipated that retrofit of all non-single family residential meters will be completed within the second quarter of 2017.

Phase 2: Phase 2 will be launched in January 2017, anticipating installation of approximately 6,000 meters to be completed by the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of the year. This will represent a completion of meter replacement and full AMI functionality for all existing manually read walking meter reading routes in the District.

Phase 3: No work is anticipated to begin on this phase until 2018. This represents completion of retrofit of the remaining radio (AMR) meter reading routes in the District (@7,000 meters.)

It is important to note that for all new development as of November 1, 2016, the District installed Sensus AMI metering technology.

Final payment and grant close out for remaining grant funding is anticipated to occur following initiation of Phase 3.

#### PROJECT BUDGETING UPDATE

While the Meter Replacement Program is an approved multi-year capital project, ongoing funding is contingent on annual funding allocation, which is reviewed and budgeted on an annual basis. As part of the 2017 District budget approval process, funding for the AMI program was revised as demonstrated in the table below. The shifting of funding from the 2019-2023 timeframe to 2017 will allow for expedited elimination of manually read walking routes.

<b>Annual Funding Summary</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019 – 20203</b>
2016 Approved Program Budget	\$1.8 M	\$1.0 M	\$1.0 M	\$2.4 M
2017 Approved Program Budget	\$1.8 M	\$2.5 M	\$1.0 M	\$0.9 M

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions regarding this report.

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