

Memorandum

To: Salton Sea Authority Board of Directors
From: G. Patrick O'Dowd, Executive Director /GM
Date: April 18, 2024

Re: 2024/2025 Operating Budget – Approval Requested

Last month staff presented the Authority's Fiscal 2025 proposed budget for review, consideration and comment. No material comments were received on the budget as presented, and is being submitted herewith for your full consideration.

Below you will find highlights from the proposed budget:

Revenues:

Member Contributions remain unchanged, and revenues from other sources are budgeted in line with historical performance.

No revenue is budgeted for CNRA Outreach, Engagement, and Education contract, as it has not yet been extended.

Grant Revenues reflect reimbursement (largely passthrough) for work anticipated to be completed and billed in the current year.

Expenses:

Salaries are budgeted based on current levels and are consistent with Riverside County payroll policy with respect to increases. Job Classifications are included for the two Salton Sea Authority full time staff, showing responsibilities and salary ranges. The Job Classification for the Public Relations Director – included last year but not included in this year's budget – is included for informational purposes only.

Benefits are based off historical experience and budgeted salary levels.

Contract and Professional services are based off current contract rates. Additional provisions were made in "Other Contract Services" for adjustments that are anticipated to occur in the current fiscal year.

Travel and Mileage increased due to additional activity relating to the implementation of the feasibility study, the projects in the ground, and other business-related travel expenses.

Office Rent and Utilities totaling \$24,000 reflect new rental space (addressed in a separate agenda item) which has not historically been budgeted.

Except for administrative burden, Grant Expenses are generally a pass through, reflecting actual project costs billed and paid. Generally the Authority does not reimburse project expenses until funded by Grantor.

All other expenses are in line with historical norms.

Staff Recommendation: Approve budget as presented and authorize staff to issue invoices to member agency for 2024/2025 contributions as indicated in the budget.