



MEMORANDUM

EUGENE WATER & ELECTRIC BOARD



TO: Commissioners Barofsky, Schlossberg, Brown, Carlson, and Morris

FROM: Deborah Hart, Assistant General Manager/Chief Financial Officer; Quentin Furrow, Purchasing and Warehouse Supervisor

DATE: January 7, 2025

SUBJECT: Board Appointed Consultants

OBJECTIVE: Board Action - Ratification of Board Appointed Consultants

Issue

At the first meeting of the year, the Board is presented with the opportunity to appoint and ratify professional consultants retained outside the competitive selection process.

Background

Consultants are exempt from the competitive selection process when the Board appoints or retains the consultant. The Board Appointed Consultants independently advise and provide professional direction and assessments to the Board without regard to Management’s position or interpretation. Consultants are selected based on technical knowledge, areas of expertise, and historical knowledge and perspective of EWEB and its work.

BOARD CONSULTANTS REQUIRING RATIFICATION

Consultant	Service	Tenure	Last Contracted	2024 Spend (to date)	2023 Spend
Luvaas Cobb Eric DeFreest/ Primary	General Counsel	Since 2011 with Luvaas Cobb (1)	Contract 1 for Board (23-208), awarded October 2023 Contract 2 for Staff (22-157), awarded January 2023	\$8,160 Board Spend \$97,580 Staff Spend	\$996 Board Spend \$101,260 Staff Spend

Additional contracts have occasionally been used by the Board but may have been awarded after a competitive process with Board approval and do not require ratification or are otherwise exempt.

Discussion

In November, the Board was requested to review the above contract as well as other contracts of interest and to provide performance feedback. The feedback suggested continuing with these contracts is appropriate.

Requested Board Action

Management requests ratification of consultant Luvaas Cobb as Board Appointed Consultant for 2025.

¹ Eric DeFrest provided General Counsel to EWEB at Calkins & Calkins prior to 2011 when the contract was assigned to Luvaas Cobb. Calkins & Calkins was retained by EWEB from the 1940's-2011.