HORNE Direct Pay Agreement

May 12, 2022



Overview

- CWWAPP Update
- LIHWAP Background
- HORNE Direct Payment Agreement

CWWAPP Update

- California Water and Wastewater Arrearage Payment Program (CWWAPP) credits were processed in mid-March
- LBWD customers received \$1,060,783.13 in credits
- CWWAPP Wastewater application has been submitted
- CWWAPP Water and Wastewater credits cover debt from March 4, 2020 – June 15, 2021

LIHWAP Background

- Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) established by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021
- Mirrors the Low-Income Household Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Provides temporary financial assistance for low-income water and wastewater customers
- No restriction on the dates of debt accumulation

LIHWAP Background, Cont.

- California Department of Community Services and Development (CSD) is administering LIHWAP
- CSD is partnering with Local Service Partners (LSPs) Long Beach Community Action Partnership (LBCAP)
- LBCAP will handle outreach and application intake
- LBWD will receive funds and process credits to customers

HORNE Direct Payment Agreement

- CSD contracted HORNE LLP to provide direct payment to water agencies for customer credits
- HORNE is requiring water agencies to sign the Direct Payment Agreement to register for LIHWAP and receive payments
- Staff Recommendation: Authorize the General Manager to execute and deliver all necessary documents associated with the Direct Payment Agreement with HORNE LLP to receive direct payments for customer financial assistance under LIHWAP



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