OCWUT Agenda Item. IV.E 4/13/2021



TO: Trustees, Oklahoma City Water Utilities Trust

FROM: Chris Browning, General Manager

Concurrence with the McGee Creek Authority in adopting a resolution directing the General Manager, or designee, to participate with the Oklahoma City Water Utilities Trust and its cost-of-service and rate design consultant, to update the McGee Creek Authority fees and charges; and upon receipt of the proposed updated fees and charges, present to the Trust for final adoption.

## **Background:**

State law provides for the establishment of fees for the recovery of costs associated with delivering water service to customers and other communities. Cost-of-service and rate design studies analyze a utility's cost and types of customers to establish equitable charges to those types of customers to commensurate with the cost of providing services. Per the Oklahoma City Water Utilities Trust (OCWUT) and McGee Creek Authority (MCA) joint resolution on October 12, 2001, the General Manager has been negotiating water agreements on behalf of the member participants to utilize available water supplies and deposit these revenues into MCA to offset a portion of the aliquot share responsibilities of the member participants. It is appropriate for the fees and charges from water sales to be regularly updated to ensure that they are fully recovering the cost of providing water service. The most recent cost-of-service study occurred in 2017, when OCWUT implemented Phase II of the cost-of-service study.

OCWUT conducted a request for proposal solicitation to retain a consultant to conduct a new cost-of-service study. OCWUT engaged Raftelis to perform water and wastewater cost-of-service, rate design and financial planning services. While completing the cost-of-service and rate design work for OCWUT, the consultant can readily address the needs of MCA and its member participants. It would be in the interest of the member participants to have MCA fees and charges updated based upon the new analysis. Upon receipt of the consultant's report, the proposed fees and charges would be presented to MCA for final approval.

**Recommendation:** Concur with the McGee Creek Authority in adopting resolution.