

**ROUTT COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**AGENDA COMMUNICATION FORM**

<b>ITEM DATE:</b> 12/10/2019	<b>ITEM TIME:</b> 11:35am
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<b>FROM:</b>	Scott Cowman
<b>TODAY'S DATE:</b>	11/20/2019
<b>AGENDA TITLE:</b>	Joint Funding Agreement Between Routt County and the USGS to Support Surface Water Quality Monitoring in the Upper Yampa River Basin
<b>CHECK ONE THAT APPLIES TO YOUR ITEM:</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>ACTION ITEM</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>DIRECTION</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>INFORMATION</b>	
<b>I. DESCRIBE THE REQUEST OR ISSUE:</b>	
<p>Consideration for the Chair to approve and sign the Joint Funding Agreement between Routt County and the United States Geological Survey (USGS) for surface water quality monitoring in the upper Yampa River basin. Routt County has conducted routine monitoring since 2011 under the agreement with the USGS. The monitoring program has received confirmation for continued funding support from the City of Steamboat Springs, Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District, Mt. Werner Water, and the Morrison Creek Water and Sanitation District.</p>	
<b>II. RECOMMENDED ACTION:</b>	
<p>Approve and sign the attached joint funding agreement for 2020.</p>	

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### III. DESCRIBE FISCAL IMPACTS (VARIATION TO BUDGET):

**PROPOSED REVENUE:**

**PROPOSED EXPENDITURE:** *Total 2020 program cost is \$55,340. Requesting \$40,370 in cash from Routt County and funding partners. \$11,535 from the Routt County 2020 Budget*

**FUNDING SOURCE:**

**2019 Summary:** *\$54,164 (\$39,195) in cash from Routt County and Stakeholders - \$9,980 from the Routt County 2019 Budget*

**2020 Summary:**

Entity	2019 Bill	% Increase	2020 Calculated	% of Total	2020 Budget
USGS	14,969	0%	14,968	27%	14,968
Routt County	11,199	3%	11,535	21%	11,535
City of Steamboat	11,199	3%	11,535	21%	11,535
Upper Yampa Water	11,199	3%	11,535	21%	11,535
Mount Werner Water	2,800	3%	2,884	5%	2,884
Morrison Creek	2,800	3%	2,884	5%	2,884
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$54,164</b>		<b>\$55,339</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$55,339</b>

### IV. IMPACTS OF A REGIONAL NATURE OR ON OTHER JURISDICTIONS (IDENTIFY ANY COMMUNICATIONS ON THIS ITEM):

Funding partners have been notified of the updated cost commitments and acceptance has been received from all (via email).

### V. BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Routt County Environmental Health and other local funding partners meet with the USGS at least annually to discuss the monitoring program. One of the roles of the USGS is to provide advice and suggestions as the program is continued over the long-term. During a meeting in 2018 the USGS suggested consideration and got approval from the BCC and funding partners for adding two additional parameters, turbidity and algae for the 2019 monitoring program. There are no such changes to the program for 2020 and this will be the second year for collection of turbidity and algae.

As in 2018, because of budget cuts the USGS has been unable to increase their contribution from 2019, so regular program cost increases for 2020 would be distributed amongst funding partners (refer to above table).

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**VI. LEGAL ISSUES:**

The Routt County Attorney's Office has reviewed the Joint Funding Agreement and has identified no legal issues.

**VII. CONFLICTS OR ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES:**

The monitoring program helps meet statutory requirements (Nos. 2 & 8) for delivery of core environmental health services. (CDPHE State BOH Core Public Health Services 6 CCR 1014-7):

*2. Take appropriate steps to support the protection of surface water and groundwater, including recreational waters and drinking water sources, and assure appropriate local regulatory oversight of onsite waste-water systems.*

*8. Where appropriate and practicable, enter into contracts or other acceptable agreements with the state's environmental programs in order to perform local assessments, inspections, investigations, and monitoring programs.*

The program also aligns with Routt County strategic outcomes related to a Healthy And Safe community and Sound Land Use, Environmental Stewardship And Infrastructure.

**VIII. SUMMARY AND OTHER OPTIONS:**

Signing the agreement leverages contributions from the USGS to continue monitoring in the Upper Yampa River Basin. Actual cost to Routt County is approximately 21% of total cost.