

Item No.: 4G-supp
Date of Meeting: April 2, 2019



**THE NORTHWEST
SEAPORT ALLIANCE**
Gateway to Solutions

NWSA Legal Services Transition & Establishment of Review Committee

Presenter: Kurt Beckett
Title: Deputy CEO

Action Requested

- 1. Request NWSA Managing Members establish a review committee for NWSA legal services comprised of up to four commissioners and CEO John Wolfe, co-chaired by Commissioners Courtney Gregoire and John McCarthy, to determine how NWSA general legal services shall be structured and retained going forward and;**
- 2. Direct the NWSA CEO or his delegate to engage the services of an outside firm that specializes in providing public sector professional counsel and support for the review committee, with a not to exceed amount of \$75,000.00**



Background

- **The Managing Members (MMs) intend to establish a review committee for NWSA legal services and how these services shall be provided going forward.**
- **Given the critical role that legal counsel plays for both commissioners and staff, all three organizations place the general counsel role as a dual-report to commission and the executive leader.**
- **The NWSA CEO or his delegate will engage the services of an outside firm that specializes in providing public sector professional counsel and options as to how these general legal services shall be structured and retained going forward.**



Background

- **The firm will review, advise and assist the NWSA in assessing, recommending and evaluating options for legal services with an intent of either 1) creating and recruiting for a NWSA General Counsel position or 2) contract with a Legal Firm to provide these services.**
- **General Counsel function will support the MMs, CEO and the Executive Leadership Team in carrying out the NWSA's mission and to properly achieve the Managing Members' objectives.**
- **Function also oversees all legal activity at the NWSA, including ethics and public records compliance policies, and supports all aspects of the NWSA's external business and internal management.**



Background

- **Upon authorization, the Managing Members hereby confirm the purpose and intent of the legal services review committee, and that it shall bring forward the review and recommendation for the full Managing Members' approval.**
- **This recommendation shall be provided no later than review of the 2020 NWSA budget.**



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