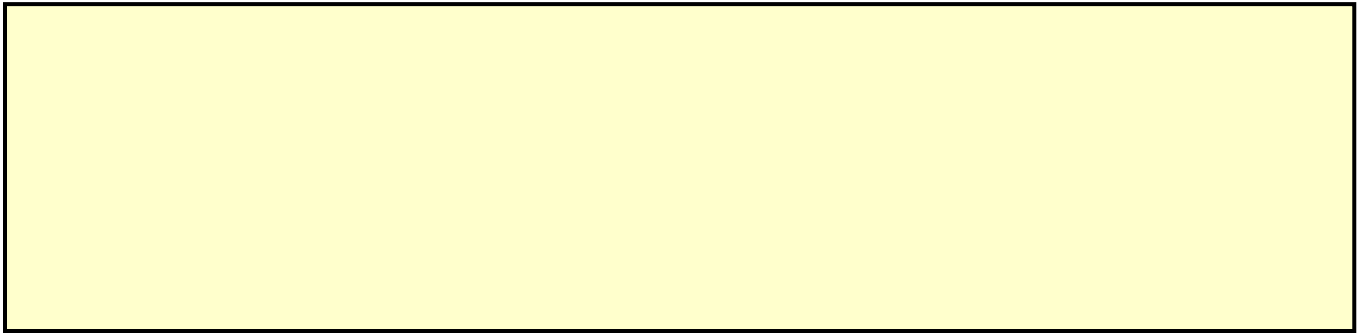


***Regional Conservation Authority***



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**Staff Contact:**

**Ron Rempel, General Manager  
(951) 955-2852**

**Background:**

Previously, the County of Riverside Transportation and Land Management Agency (TLMA) provided the Regional Conservation Authority (RCA) with accounting services. The RCA's accounting services were previously performed by Ellen Showalter Laney through a purchase order with TLMA. Effective July 1, 2005, the County created a separate budget for the RCA. Therefore, it is necessary for the contractual agreement to be directly with the RCA.

Ms. Laney has been performing the RCA's accounting services since the Agency's inception and staff recommends continuing her services through a Professional Services Agreement with the RCA. Staff has prepared a Draft Professional Services Agreement between the RCA and Ellen Showalter Laney for a period of one year at a rate of \$50.00 per hour, with the total compensation not exceed \$17,500.00.

**Staff Recommendation:**

Receive and file

**Attachments:**

Draft Professional Services Agreement

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN  
WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY  
AND ELLEN SHOWALTER LANEY AS ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER TO PROVIDE  
ACCOUNTING SERVICES**

**1. PARTIES AND DATE.**

This Agreement is made and entered into this \_\_\_\_\_th day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2005, by and between the **Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority**, a Joint Powers Authority organized under the laws of the State of California with its principal place of business at 4080 Lemon Street, 12th Floor, Riverside, California 92501 (“RCA”) and Ellen Showalter Laney with her principal place of business at 5050-2 Canyon Crest Drive, Riverside, California, 92507. (“Consultant”). RCA and Consultant are sometimes individually referred to as “Party” and collectively as “Parties.”

**2. RECITALS.**

**2.1 Consultant.**

Consultant desires to perform and assume responsibility for the provision of certain professional services required by RCA on the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement. Consultant represents that she has the expertise, special skills, knowledge and experience to perform the duties set out herein.

**2.2 Project.**

RCA desires to engage Consultant to render accounting services for Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority as set forth in this Agreement.

**3. TERMS.**

**3.1 Scope of Services and Term.**

3.1.1 General Scope of Services. In consultation with the General Manager of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority, Consultant shall assist in the development of the budget and provide accounting services as directed by the General Manager. (The “Services”) Work products associated with other objectives shall be as determined by the General Manager.

3.1.2 Term. The term of this Agreement shall be for a period not to exceed twelve (12) months from the executed date in section 1 of this Agreement above, unless earlier terminated as provided herein. Consultant shall complete the Services within the term of this Agreement, and shall meet any other established schedules and deadlines.

**3.2 Responsibilities of Consultant.**

3.2.1 Control and Payment of Subordinates; Independent Contractor. The Services shall be performed by Consultant or under its supervision. Consultant will determine the means, methods and details of performing the Services subject to the requirements of this Agreement. RCA retains Consultant on an independent contractor basis and not as an employee. Consultant retains the right to perform similar or different services for others during the term of this Agreement. Any additional personnel performing the Services under this Agreement on behalf of Consultant shall also not be employees of RCA and shall at all times be under Consultant’s exclusive direction and control. Consultant shall pay all wages, salaries, and other amounts due such personnel in connection with their performance of Services under this Agreement and as required by law. Consultant shall be responsible for all reports and obligations respecting such additional personnel, including, but not limited to: social security taxes, income tax withholding, unemployment insurance, disability insurance, and workers’ compensation insurance.

3.2.2 Schedule of Services. Consultant shall provide her Services to RCA on an as needed basis, within the term of this Agreement. Consultant represents that she has the professional and technical expertise/personnel required to perform the Services in conformance with such conditions.

3.2.3 Conformance to Applicable Requirements. All work prepared by Consultant shall be subject to the approval of RCA.

3.2.4 RCA's Representatives. RCA hereby designates **its Executive Director**, or his or her designee, to act as contract administrator for the performance of this Agreement. All invoices for Consultant shall be submitted to the Executive Director. The RCA **General Manager** shall be responsible for directing Consultant's activities pursuant to this Agreement. The RCA **Executive Director** and **General Manager** shall have the power to act on behalf of RCA for all purposes under this Contract. Consultant shall not accept direction or orders from any person other than RCA **Executive Director** or **General Manager** or their designees.

3.2.5 Coordination of Services. Consultant agrees to work closely with RCA staff in the performance of Services and shall be available to RCA's staff, consultants and other staff at all reasonable times.

3.2.6 Standard of Care; Performance of Employees. Consultant shall perform all Services under this Agreement in a skillful and competent manner, consistent with the standards generally recognized as being employed by professionals in the same discipline in the State of California. Consultant represents and maintains that it is skilled in the professional calling necessary to perform the Services. Consultant warrants that all employees and subcontractors shall have sufficient skill and experience to perform the Services assigned to them. Finally, Consultant represents that it, its employees and subcontractors have all licenses, permits, qualifications and approvals of whatever nature that are legally required to perform the Services, including a RCA Business License, and that such licenses and approvals shall be maintained throughout the term of this Agreement. As provided for in the indemnification provisions of this Agreement, Consultant shall perform, at its own cost and expense and without reimbursement from RCA, any services necessary to correct errors or omissions which are caused by the Consultant's failure to comply with the standard of care provided for herein. Any employee of the Consultant or its sub-consultants who is determined by RCA to be uncooperative, incompetent, a threat to the adequate or timely completion of the Project, a threat to the safety of persons or property, or any employee who fails or refuses to perform the Services in a manner acceptable to RCA, shall be promptly removed from the Project by the Consultant and shall not be re-employed to perform any of the Services or to work on the Project.

3.2.7 Laws and Regulations. Consultant shall keep itself fully informed of and in compliance with all local, state and federal laws, rules and regulations in any manner affecting the performance of the Project or the Services, including all Cal/OSHA requirements, and shall give all notices required by law. Consultant shall be liable for all violations of such laws and regulations in connection with Services. If the Consultant performs any work knowing it to be contrary to such laws, rules and regulations and without giving written notice to RCA, Consultant shall be solely responsible for all costs arising therefrom. Consultant shall defend, indemnify and hold RCA, its officials, directors, officers, employees and agents free and harmless, pursuant to the indemnification provisions of this Agreement, from any claim or liability arising out of any failure or alleged failure to comply with such laws, rules or regulations.

3.2.8 Insurance.

3.2.8.1 Time for Compliance. Consultant shall not commence the Services under this Agreement until it has provided evidence satisfactory to RCA that it has secured all insurance required under this section. In addition, Consultant shall not allow any subcontractor to commence work on any subcontract until it has provided evidence satisfactory to RCA that the subcontractor has secured all insurance required under this section.

3.2.8.2 Minimum Requirements. Consultant shall, at its expense, procure and maintain for the duration of the Agreement insurance against claims for injuries to persons or damages to property which may arise from or in connection with the performance of the Agreement by the Consultant, its agents, representatives, employees or subcontractors. Consultant shall also require all of its subcontractors to procure and maintain the same insurance for the duration of the Agreement. Such insurance shall meet at least the following minimum levels of coverage:

(A) Minimum Scope of Insurance. Coverage shall be at least as broad as the latest version of the following: (1) *Automobile Liability*: Insurance Services Office Business Auto Coverage form number CA 0001, code 1 (any auto); and (2) *Workers' Compensation and Employer's Liability*: Workers' Compensation insurance as required by the State of California and Employer's Liability Insurance.

(B) Minimum Limits of Insurance. (1) *Automobile Liability*: \$1,000,000 per accident for bodily injury and property damage; and (2) *Workers' Compensation and Employer's Liability*: Workers' Compensation limits as required by the Labor Code of the State of California. Employer's Liability limits of \$1,000,000 per accident for bodily injury or disease.

(A) Automobile Liability. The automobile liability policy shall be endorsed to state that: (1) RCA, its directors, officials, officers, employees, agents and volunteers shall be covered as additional insureds with respect to the ownership, operation, maintenance, use, loading or unloading of any auto owned, leased, hired or borrowed by the Consultant or for which the Consultant is responsible; and (2) the insurance coverage shall be primary insurance as respects RCA, its directors, officials, officers, employees, agents and volunteers, or if excess, shall stand in an unbroken chain of coverage excess of the Consultant's scheduled underlying coverage. Any insurance or self-insurance maintained by RCA, its directors, officials, officers, employees, agents and volunteers shall be excess of the Consultant's insurance and shall not be called upon to contribute with it in any way.

(B) Workers' Compensation and Employers Liability Coverage . The insurer shall agree to waive all rights of subrogation against RCA, its directors, officials, officers, employees, agents and volunteers for losses paid under the terms of the insurance policy which arise from work performed by the Consultant.

3.2.8.3 Acceptability of Insurers. Insurance is to be placed with insurers with a current A.M. Best's rating no less than A:VII, licensed to do business in California, and satisfactory to RCA.

3.2.8.4 Verification of Coverage. Consultant shall furnish RCA with original certificates of insurance and endorsements effecting coverage required by this Agreement on forms satisfactory to RCA. The certificates and endorsements for each insurance policy shall be signed by a person authorized by that insurer to bind coverage on its behalf, and shall be on forms provided by RCA if requested. All certificates and endorsements must be received and approved by RCA before work commences. RCA reserves the right to require complete, certified copies of all required insurance policies, at any time.

3.2.5 Safety. Consultant shall execute and maintain its work so as to avoid injury or damage to any person or property. In carrying out its Services, the Consultant shall at all times be in compliance with all applicable local, state and federal laws, rules and regulations, and shall exercise all necessary precautions for the safety of employees appropriate to the nature of the work and the conditions under which the work is to be performed. Safety precautions as applicable shall include, but shall not be limited to: (A) adequate life protection and life saving equipment and procedures; (B) instructions in accident prevention for all employees and subcontractors, such as safe walkways, scaffolds, fall protection ladders, bridges, gang planks, confined space procedures, trenching and shoring, equipment and other safety devices, equipment and wearing apparel as are necessary or lawfully required to prevent accidents or injuries; and (C) adequate facilities for the proper inspection and maintenance of all safety measures.

### **3.3 Fees and Payments.**

3.3.1 Compensation. Work is expected to be performed approximately 25 - 30 hours per month for an estimated total of hours over the life of this Agreement. The total compensation shall not exceed **Seventeen Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$17,500.00)**, at a rate of \$50.00 per hour. Reimbursable expenses shall include mileage at the current rate authorized by law pursuant to IRS guidelines, postage (including express mail services), messenger services, and long distance telephone charges. Extra Work may be authorized, as described below; and if authorized, said Extra Work will be compensated at the rates and manner set forth in this Agreement.

3.3.2 Payment of Compensation. If necessary, Consultant shall submit RCA a monthly itemized statement which indicates work completed and hours of Services rendered by Consultant. The statement

shall describe the amount of Services and supplies provided since the initial commencement date, or since the start of the subsequent billing periods, as appropriate, through the date of the statement. Said compensation shall be paid in accordance with an invoice submitted to RCA by Consultant within fifteen (15) days from the last day of each calendar month, and RCA shall, within 45 days of receiving such statement, review the statement and pay all approved charges thereon.

3.3.3 Reimbursement for Expenses. Consultant shall not be reimbursed for any expenses unless authorized in writing by RCA.

3.3.4 Extra Work. At any time during the term of this Agreement, RCA may request that Consultant perform Extra Work. As used herein, "Extra Work" means any work which is determined by RCA to be necessary for the proper completion of the Project, but which the Parties did not reasonably anticipate would be necessary at the execution of this Agreement. Consultant shall not perform, nor be compensated for, Extra Work without written authorization from RCA's Representative.

3.3.5 Prevailing Wages. Consultant is aware of the requirements of California Labor Code Sections 1720, et seq., and 1770, et seq., as well as California Code of Regulations, Title 8, Section 16000, et seq., ("Prevailing Wage Laws"), which require the payment of prevailing wage rates and the performance of other requirements on certain "public works" and "maintenance" projects. If the Services are being performed as part of an applicable "public works" or "maintenance" project, as defined by the Prevailing Wage Laws, and if the total compensation is \$1,000 or more, Consultant agrees to fully comply with such Prevailing Wage Laws. RCA shall provide Consultant with a copy of the prevailing rates of per diem wages in effect at the commencement of this Agreement. Consultant shall make copies of the prevailing rates of per diem wages for each craft, classification or type of worker needed to execute the Services available to interested parties upon request, and shall post copies at the Consultant's principal place of business and at the project site. Consultant shall defend, indemnify and hold RCA, its elected officials, officers, employees and agents free and harmless from any claims, liabilities, costs, penalties or interest arising out of any failure or alleged failure to comply with the Prevailing Wage Laws.

### **3.4 Accounting Records.**

3.4.1 Maintenance and Inspection. Consultant shall maintain complete and accurate records with respect to all costs and expenses incurred under this Agreement. All such records shall be clearly identifiable. Consultant shall allow a representative of RCA during normal business hours to examine, audit, and make transcripts or copies of such records and any other documents created pursuant to this Agreement. Consultant shall allow inspection of all work, data, documents, proceedings, and activities related to the Agreement for a period of three (3) years from the date of final payment under this Agreement.

### **3.5 General Provisions.**

3.5.1 Termination of Agreement.

3.5.1.1 Grounds for Termination. RCA may, by written notice to Consultant, terminate the whole or any part of this Agreement at any time and without cause by giving written notice to Consultant of such termination, and specifying the effective date thereof, at least seven (7) days before the effective date of such termination. Upon termination, Consultant shall be compensated only for those services which have been adequately rendered to RCA, and Consultant shall be entitled to no further compensation. Consultant may not terminate this Agreement except for cause.

3.5.1.2 Effect of Termination. If this Agreement is terminated as provided herein, RCA may require Consultant to provide all finished or unfinished Documents and Data and other information of any kind prepared by Consultant in connection with the performance of Services under this Agreement. Consultant shall be required to provide such documents and other information within fifteen (15) days of the request.

3.5.1.3 Additional Services. In the event this Agreement is terminated in whole or in part as provided herein, RCA may procure, upon such terms and in such manner as it may determine appropriate, services similar to those terminated.

3.5.2 Delivery of Notices. All notices permitted or required under this Agreement shall be given to the respective Parties at the following address, or at such other address as the respective parties may provide in writing for this purpose:

**Consultant:** **Ellen Showalter Laney**  
5050-2 Canyon Crest Drive  
Riverside, California, 92507

**RCA:** Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority  
Attention: General Manager  
4080 Lemon Street, 12th Floor  
Riverside, CA 92501

Such notice shall be deemed made when personally delivered or when mailed, seventy-two (72) hours after deposit in the U.S. Mail, first class postage prepaid and addressed to the Party at its applicable address. Actual notice shall be deemed adequate notice on the date actual notice occurred, regardless of the method of service.

3.5.3 Confidentiality. All ideas, memoranda, specifications, plans, procedures, drawings, descriptions, computer program data, input record data, written information, and other Documents and Data either created by or provided to Consultant in connection with the performance of this Agreement shall be held confidential by Consultant. Such materials shall not, without the prior written consent of RCA, be used by Consultant for any purposes other than the performance of the Services. Nor shall such materials be disclosed to any person or entity not connected with the performance of the Services or the Project. Nothing furnished to Consultant which is otherwise known to Consultant or is generally known, or has become known, to the related industry shall be deemed confidential. Consultant shall not use RCA's name or insignia, photographs of the Project, or any publicity pertaining to the Services or the Project in any magazine, trade paper, newspaper, television or radio production or other similar medium without the prior written consent of RCA.

3.5.4 Cooperation; Further Acts. The Parties shall fully cooperate with one another, and shall take any additional acts or sign any additional documents as may be necessary, appropriate or convenient to attain the purposes of this Agreement.

3.5.5 Attorney's Fees. If either Party commences an action against the other Party, either legal, administrative or otherwise, arising out of or in connection with this Agreement, the prevailing party in such litigation shall be entitled to have and recover from the losing party reasonable attorney's fees and all other costs of such action.

3.5.6 Indemnification. Consultant shall defend, indemnify and hold RCA, its officials, officers, employees, volunteers and agents free and harmless from any and all claims, demands, causes of action, costs, expenses, liability, loss, damage or injury, in law or equity, to property or persons, including wrongful death, in any manner arising out of or incident to any alleged negligent acts, omissions or willful misconduct of Consultant, its officials, officers, employees, agents, consultants and contractors arising out of or in connection with the performance of the Services, the Project or this Agreement, including without limitation the payment of all consequential damages and attorneys fees and other related costs and expenses. Consultant shall defend, at Consultant's own cost, expense and risk, any and all such aforesaid suits, actions or other legal proceedings of every kind that may be brought or instituted against RCA, its directors, officials, officers, employees, agents or volunteers. Consultant shall pay and

satisfy any judgment, award or decree that may be rendered against RCA or its directors, officials, officers, employees, agents or volunteers, in any such suit, action or other legal proceeding. Consultant shall reimburse RCA and its directors, officials, officers, employees, agents and/or volunteers, for any and all legal expenses and costs incurred by each of them in connection therewith or in enforcing the indemnity herein provided. Consultant's obligation to indemnify shall not be restricted to insurance proceeds, if any, received by RCA, its directors, officials, officers, employees, agents or volunteers.

3.5.7 Entire Agreement. This Agreement contains the entire Agreement of the Parties with respect to the subject matter hereof, and supersedes all prior negotiations, understandings or agreements. This Agreement may only be modified by a writing signed by both Parties.

3.5.8 Governing Law. This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of California. Venue shall be in Riverside County.

3.5.9 Time of Essence. Time is of the essence for each and every provision of this Agreement.

3.5.10 RCA's Right to Employ Other Consultants. RCA reserves right to employ other consultants in connection with this Project.

3.5.11 Assignment or Transfer. Consultant shall not assign, hypothecate, or transfer, either directly or by operation of law, this Agreement or any interest herein without the prior written consent of RCA. Any attempt to do so shall be null and void, and any assignees, hypothecates or transferees shall acquire no right or interest by reason of such attempted assignment, hypothecation or transfer.

3.5.12 Construction; References; Captions. Since the Parties or their agents have participated fully in the preparation of this Agreement, the language of this Agreement shall be construed simply, according to its fair meaning, and not strictly for or against any Party. Any term referencing time, days or period for performance shall be deemed calendar days and not work days. All references to Consultant include all personnel, employees, agents, and subcontractors of Consultant, except as otherwise specified in this Agreement. All references to RCA include its elected officials, officers, employees, agents, and volunteers except as otherwise specified in this Agreement. The captions of the various articles and paragraphs are for convenience and ease of reference only, and do not define, limit, augment, or describe the scope, content, or intent of this Agreement.

3.5.13 Amendment; Modification. No supplement, modification, or amendment of this Agreement shall be binding unless executed in writing and signed by both Parties.

3.5.14 Waiver. No waiver of any default shall constitute a waiver of any other default or breach, whether of the same or other covenant or condition. No waiver, benefit, privilege, or service voluntarily given or performed by a Party shall give the other Party any contractual rights by custom, estoppel, or otherwise.

3.5.15 No Third Party Beneficiaries. There are no intended third party beneficiaries of any right or obligation assumed by the Parties.

3.5.16 Invalidity; Severability. If any portion of this Agreement is declared invalid, illegal, or otherwise unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining provisions shall continue in full force and effect.

3.5.17 Prohibited Interests. Consultant maintains and warrants that it has not employed nor retained any company or person, other than a bona fide employee working solely for Consultant, to solicit or secure this Agreement. Further, Consultant warrants that it has not paid nor has it agreed to pay any company or person, other than a bona fide employee working solely for Consultant, any fee, commission, percentage, brokerage fee, gift or other consideration contingent upon or resulting from the award or making of this Agreement. For breach or violation of this warranty, RCA shall have the right to rescind this Agreement without liability. For the term of this Agreement, no member, officer or employee of RCA, during the term of his or her service with RCA, shall have any direct interest in this Agreement, or obtain any present or anticipated material benefit arising there from.

3.5.18 Equal Opportunity Employment. Consultant represents that it is an equal opportunity employer and it shall not discriminate against any subcontractor, employee or applicant for employment because

of race, religion, color, national origin, handicap, ancestry, sex or age. Such non-discrimination shall include, but not be limited to, all activities related to initial employment, upgrading, demotion, transfer, recruitment or recruitment advertising, layoff or termination.

3.5.19 Labor Certification. By its signature hereunder, Consultant certifies that it is aware of the provisions of Section 3700 of the California Labor Code which require every employer to be insured against liability for Workers' Compensation or to undertake self-insurance in accordance with the provisions of that Code, and agrees to comply with such provisions before commencing the performance of the Services.

3.5.20 Authority to Enter Agreement. Consultant has all requisite power and authority to conduct its business and to execute, deliver, and perform the Agreement. Each Party warrants that the individuals who have signed this Agreement have the legal power, right, and authority to make this Agreement and bind each respective Party.

3.5.21 Counterparts. This Agreement may be signed in counterparts, each of which shall constitute an original.

**3.6 Subcontracting.**

3.6.1 Prior Approval Required. Consultant shall not subcontract any portion of the work required by this Agreement, except as expressly stated herein, without prior written approval of RCA. Subcontracts, if any, shall contain a provision making them subject to all provisions stipulated in this Agreement.

**RICK BISHOP**  
**RCA Executive Director**

**ELLEN SHOWALTER LANEY**

By:

By: \_\_\_\_\_

*Approved as to Form:*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Best Best & Krieger LLP

