

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

ITEM NO. C(5)

**AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT
MEETING DATE: March 20, 2007**

TITLE: Award of Contract for Bolin Creek Watershed Study

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| DEPARTMENT: PLANNING | PUBLIC HEARING: YES __ NO <u>X</u> |
| ATTACHMENTS: A. Resolution B. Grant Agreement | FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: D. Will Autry, 918-7326 Trish McGuire, 918-7327 |

PURPOSE

The Bolin Creek Watershed Restoration Team (BCWRT) will be conducting a watershed study funded by the Clean Water Management Trust Fund (CWMTF) Stormwater Mini-grant Program. Staff recommends that the Board of Aldermen authorize the execution of a contract with EarthTech to perform the watershed study as described in the Mini-grant Application.

INFORMATION

In April 2006 Bolin Creek was selected by the NC Department of Environment & Natural Resources (DENR) and the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as one of only seven watersheds in the state to receive assistance through the emerging Restoration Watershed Program. The BCWRT has been working together since that time to initiate our restoration efforts, and staff advised the Board of this in September 2006 (See Item D3 at http://www.townofcarrboro.org/BoA/Agendas/2006/09_05_2006.htm). After requesting permission from the Board to apply for a CWMTF Stormwater Mini-grant in October (See Item D3 at http://www.townofcarrboro.org/BoA/Agendas/2006/10_03_2006.htm), the BCWRT was informed by the CWMTF in November that Carrboro would receive a \$50,000 grant for our watershed study. The study's goal is to identify problem areas in the watershed through geomorphic analysis and identify potential stormwater retrofit locations to address these problems. This study will investigate the Bolin Creek Watershed at a much finer scale than the previous Morgan and Little Creek Watersheds study, and the results will be used to inform future grant applications for restoration activities.

The Town recently received and executed the grant agreement from the CWMTF (Attachment B). The MOA between Chapel Hill and the Town describing the matching funds responsibilities of Chapel Hill, \$3,725.00, and Carrboro, \$1,275.00, has been executed by Chapel Hill, and is awaiting signature by the Town's attorney on this meeting date. The BCWRT just completed a review and interview selection process of seventeen firms which submitted Statements of Qualifications in response to a Request for Qualifications for the watershed study. The BCWRT recommends that a contract be awarded to EarthTech. Once awarded, the watershed study should be completed in August 2007.

FISCAL IMPACT

There are no new fiscal impacts. As previously described, the CWMTF will reimburse the Town for \$45,000 after successful completion of the study. The remaining \$5000.00 local cash match will be paid based on population with \$3,725.00 being paid for by Chapel Hill and \$1,275.00 by Carrboro. Sufficient funds are available in the current year's budget to cover these expenses.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Board adopt the attached resolution accepting this report and authorizing the Town Manager to execute a contract with EarthTech for the purpose of carrying out the watershed study for which the Town has been awarded a CWMTF Stormwater Mini-grant.