

MARIN EMERGENCY RADIO AUTHORITY

c/o Novato Fire Protection District
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DATE: February 27, 2019

TO: MERA Governing Board

FROM: Maureen Cassingham, Executive Officer

SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM **B-3**: PROPOSED SECOND AMENDMENT TO
PERSONAL/PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
CONTRACT FOR GENERAL COUNSEL
BETWEEN MERA AND
RICHARDS, WATSON & GERSHON, LLC

Recommended Action: Approve the Proposed Second Amendment to the Personal/Professional Services Contract for General Counsel between MERA and Richards, Watson & Gershon, LLC and authorize the Executive Officer to execute same.

Background: Richards, Watson & Gershon (RWG), since March 15, 2004, has provided legal services to MERA through General Counsels Stepanicich, Karpiak and Ortiz. These Counsels and their firm have served MERA extremely well. Their knowledge of our unique operations, great attention to detail and follow-up is invaluable.

The attached Contract Amendment modifies the compensation or fees, effective 1/1/19, which have not been adjusted since 2013. The proposed increase in hourly rates is from \$250 to \$295. Specialized rates are: \$270 to \$340 per hour depending on attorney specialization and experience. These rates reflect RWG's current fee structure and CPI adjustments since the last Contract Amendment.

ATTACHMENT:

B-3a Second Amendment to Personal/Professional Services Contract for
General Counsel between MERA and Richards, Watson & Gershon, LLC