Pursuant to N.J.S.A.13:20-5j these Minutes shall have no force or effect
until the completion of the Governor's review of the Highlands Council minutes

RESOLUTION 2019-16

NEW JERSEY HIGHLANDS WATER PROTECTION AND PLANNING COUNCIL APPROVAL OF CONTRACT TO DEVELOP A REGIONAL INTERACTIVE ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE INVENTORY

WHEREAS, the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act (Highlands Act) has created a public body corporate and politic with corporate succession known as the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Council (Highlands Council); and

WHEREAS, section 6.g of the Highlands Act authorizes the Highlands Council to enter into any and all agreements or contracts to effectuate the purposes of the Highlands Act; and

WHEREAS, on July 17, 2008, the Highlands Council adopted Resolution 2008-27 thereby adopting the Highlands Regional Master Plan (RMP), which became effective September 8, 2008; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 6 of the RMP sets forth the procedural and programmatic methods utilized by the Highlands Council to implement the goals and objectives of the RMP; and

WHEREAS, under Chapter 6, Part 1, Subpart A, the Highlands Council has adopted municipal and county conformance with the RMP (referred to as Plan Conformance) as the overall strategy for implementation of the goals and objectives of the RMP; and

WHEREAS, one of the basic requirements for Plan Conformance is the preparation of an Environmental Resource Inventory (ERI), which provides an index of natural resources and environmental features within a particular municipality or county; and

WHEREAS, the Highlands Council prepares ERIs on behalf of conforming municipalities and counties and provides grant funding to support these efforts, which to date has exceeded $250,000 and requires considerable staff time and resources; and

WHEREAS, due to the nature of the information needed to prepare ERIs, the documents are costly to create, time consuming to develop and quickly become obsolete; and

WHEREAS, in consideration of the requirements of the Act and the RMP and in furtherance of the Highlands Council's Plan Conformance objectives, the Highlands Council prepared a Request for Proposals (RFP) to create an interactive ERI to provide every municipality and county, as well as the general public, immediate access free of charge to a full ERI with current data that is scalable at the property, multiple property, subwatershed, municipal, county and regional levels; and

WHEREAS, the RFP was released to the public on January 11, 2019 and was open until March 1, 2019 seeking qualified firms; and

WHEREAS, five (5) firms submitted a proposal and qualifications on or before the deadline of March 1, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Highlands Council staff evaluated the proposals and shared its findings with the Highlands Council's Budget and Finance Committee on September 4, 2019; and

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until the completion of the Governor's review of the Highlands Council minutes

RESOLUTION 2019-16

NEW JERSEY HIGHLANDS WATER PROTECTION AND PLANNING COUNCIL APPROVAL OF CONTRACT TO DEVELOP A REGIONAL INTERACTIVE ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE INVENTORY

WHEREAS, the Budget and Finance Committee has reviewed the staff findings and the process utilized to evaluate the submissions, and has further determined that funds are available for the award of a contract pursuant to the RFP; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 13:20-5.j, no action authorized by the Highlands Council shall have force or effect until thirty (30) days, Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays excepted, after a copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Council has been delivered to the Governor for review, unless prior to the expiration of the review period the Governor shall approve same, in which case the action shall become effective upon such approval.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Highlands Council that:

The Executive Director, or his/her designee, is hereby authorized to enter into a contract with T&M Associates for an amount not to exceed $274,633 to complete the scope of services set forth in the RFP.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Highlands Council at its regular meeting held on the 19th day of September, 2019.

Carl J. Richko, Chair

Vote on the Approval of The Resolution	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Alstede			√			
Councilmember Carluccio			√			
Councilmember Dougherty		√	√			
Councilmember Dressler				√		
Councilmember Francis			√			
Councilmember Holtaway	√		√			
Councilmember James						√
Councilmember Sebetich			√			
Councilmember Visioli			√			
Councilmember Vohden			√			
Councilmember Walton						√
Chairman Richko			√			