



Consent Item 11

To:	Ava Community Energy Authority
From:	Chris Eshleman, Director of Energy Analytics and Electric Supply
Subject:	Adopting a Resolution of the Board of Directors of Ava Community Energy Authority Authorizing the CEO to Negotiate and Execute a Fourth Amendment (“Amendment D”) to the SmartBidder Master Agreement (“the Agreement”) - Software as a Service with Ascend Analytics
Date:	June 17, 2026

Recommendation

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute a Fourth Amendment to the SmartBidder Master Agreement for Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) bid optimization services with Ascend Analytics LLC (“Ascend”). The proposed Fourth Amendment would renew the Agreement for a one-year term and continue software and support services for all covered storage and renewable generation assets. The Amendment would authorize a not to exceed amount of \$336,110 for the renewal term for the Agreement.

The original Agreement was executed on June 22, 2023, and subsequently amended on March 21, 2024, March 20, 2025, and September 19, 2025 (collectively, the “Agreement”). The proposed Fourth Amendment will ensure continuity of bid optimization services that support Power Resources’ participation in wholesale energy markets and ongoing portfolio optimization activities. The Fourth Amendment will also establish a framework for future annual renewals, transition identified project licenses to annual invoicing, reconcile prior invoices to confirm proper application of applicable discounts, continue application of the existing multi-project discount, and amend Exhibit A (Statement of Services, Support, and Service Level Agreement) of the Agreement to reflect the renewal pricing schedule for the covered projects.

Financial Impact

The proposed Fourth Amendment will renew the existing SmartBidder Master Agreement for a one-year renewal term beginning June 24, 2026 and ending June 23, 2027 at a cost not to exceed \$336,110. Staff evaluated the renewal pricing and determined it to be competitive with, and generally below, comparable market offerings for energy storage and renewable asset optimization software and related support services.

Analysis and Context

Renewal of the Agreement with Ascend will ensure continuity of critical bid optimization and asset management services for an additional one-year renewal term. Continued use of a centralized optimization platform reduces operational redundancies, streamlines workflows, and enhances the efficient management of Ava's storage and renewable generation assets.

Attachments

- A. Resolution Authorizing the CEO to Negotiate and Execute a Fourth Amendment to the Software as a Service SmartBidder Master Agreement with Ascend Analytics LLC

RESOLUTION NO. R-2026-XX

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**OF AVA COMMUNITY ENERGY AUTHORITY AUTHORIZING THE CEO TO
NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE A FOURTH AMENDMENT TO THE SMARTBIDDER
MASTER AGREEMENT - SOFTWARE AS A SERVICE WITH ASCEND ANALYTICS**

WHEREAS Ava Community Energy Authority (“Ava”) was formed as a community choice aggregation agency (“CCA”) on December 1, 2016, under the Joint Exercise of Powers Act, California Government Code sections 6500 *et seq.*, among the County of Alameda, and the Cities of Albany, Berkeley, Dublin, Emeryville, Fremont, Hayward, Livermore, Piedmont, Oakland, San Leandro, and Union City to study, promote, develop, conduct, operate, and manage energy-related climate change programs in all of the member jurisdictions. The Cities of Newark and Pleasanton, located in Alameda County, along with the City of Tracy, located in San Joaquin County, were added as members of Ava and parties to the Joint Powers Agreement (“JPA”) in March of 2020. The City of Stockton was added as a member to Ava in September of 2022. The City of Lathrop was added as a member to Ava in October of 2023. San Joaquin County was added as a member to Ava in July 2024. On October 24, 2023, Ava legally adopted the name Ava Community Energy Authority, where it had previously used the name East Bay Community Energy Authority since its inception; and

WHEREAS Ava and Ascend Analytics LLC (“Ascend”) previously entered into a Master Agreement – Software as a Service for storage and renewable bid optimization software services dated June 22, 2023, which was first amended on March 21, 2024, subsequently amended on March 20, 2025, and further amended on September 19, 2025 (collectively, the “Agreement”); and

WHEREAS the Agreement provides software and support services that enable centralized optimization and management of Ava’s storage and renewable generation assets in support of Power Resources’ operational and market participation objectives; and

WHEREAS Ava desires to renew the Agreement for an additional one-year renewal term beginning June 24, 2026 and ending June 23, 2027, to ensure continuity of operations, maintain existing functionality and services, and continue efficient management and optimization of portfolio resources through a centralized platform; and

WHEREAS Ava and Ascend desire to establish a framework for annual renewals, transition identified project licenses to annual invoicing, reconcile prior invoices, continue the existing multi-project discount, and amend Exhibit A (Statement of Services, Support, and Service Level Agreement) of the Agreement to reflect the renewal pricing schedule; and

WHEREAS Ava and Ascend desire to increase the Agreement amount by an amount not to exceed \$336,110 for the renewal term.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF AVA COMMUNITY ENERGY AUTHORITY DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The Board of Directors hereby authorizes the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute, subject to approval by General Counsel, a Fourth Amendment to the Agreement to renew the Agreement for an additional one-year renewal term beginning on June 24, 2026 and ending on June 23, 2027, add additional terms to the Agreement regarding renewals and billing, and increase the Agreement amount by an amount not to exceed \$336,110.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 17th day of June 2026

Betsy Anderson, Chair

ATTEST:

Adrian Bankhead, Clerk of the Board