

# **CITY OF COALINGA**

## **STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT POLICY**

### **PURPOSE**

This Statement is intended to provide guidelines for the prudent investment of the City's temporary idle cash and outline the policies for maximizing the efficiency of the City's cash management system. The ultimate goal is to enhance the economic status of the City while protecting its pooled cash.

### **OBJECTIVE**

The City's cash management system is designed to accurately monitor and forecast expenditures and revenues, thus enabling the City to invest funds to the fullest extent possible. The City attempts to obtain the highest yield obtainable as long as the investments meet the criteria established for safety and liquidity.

### **POLICY**

The City of Coalinga operates its temporary pooled idle cash investments under the prudent investor rule as generally described in California Probate Code section 16045, et. seq. The prudent man rule states, in essence, that "in investing ... property for the benefit of another, a trustee shall exercise the judgment and care, under the circumstances then prevailing, which men of prudence, discretion and intelligence exercise in the management of their own affairs ...". This affords the City a broad spectrum of investment opportunities as long as the investment is deemed prudent and is allowable under current legislation of the State of California. Government Code (Section 53601) restricts the City from purchasing investment securities with a maturity length greater than five years unless prior legislative approval is given.

Investments may be made in the following media and as specifically outlined under Government Code Section 53601:

- U.S. Treasury issues
- Federal Agency issues
- Registered warrants, treasury notes, or bonds of this state, or treasury notes or bonds of any other state
- Bonds, Notes
- Commercial Paper
- Bankers Acceptances
- Certificates of Deposits
- Repurchase Agreements and Reverse Repurchase Agreements
- Local Agency Invest Fund Demand Deposits (State Pool)
- Passbook Savings Account Demand Deposits

Criteria for selecting investments and the order of priority are:

1. Safety. The safety and risk associated with an investment refers to the potential loss of principal, interest or a combination of these amounts. The City only operates in those investments that are considered very safe.
2. Liquidity. This refers to the ability to "cash in" at any moment in time with a minimal chance of losing some portion of principal or interest. Liquidity is an important investment quality especially when the need for unexpected funds occurs occasionally.
3. Yield. Yield is the potential dollar earnings an investment can provide, and sometimes is described as the rate of return.

Safekeeping. If a physical copy of a security is obtained by the City, securities purchased from brokers/dealers shall be held in third party safekeeping by the trust department of the local agency's bank or other designated third-party trust, in local agency's name and control, whenever possible.

Investment Objective. The cash management system of the City of Coalinga is designed to accurately monitor and forecast expenditures and revenues, thus insuring the investment of monies to the fullest extent possible. Attempts to obtain highest interest yields possible as long as investments meet the criteria required for safety and liquidity. The City strives to maintain the level of investment of all idle funds as near 100% as possible, through daily and projected cash flow determinations. Idle cash management and investment transactions are the responsibility of the City Treasurer/Finance Officer (Assistant City Manager).

Prudence. As it pertains to its pooled cash investments, the City adheres to the guidance provided by the “prudent investor standard,” as set forth in Government Code section 53600.3, which specifically addresses public investing, as follows:

“Except as provided in subdivision (a) of Section 27000.3, all governing bodies of local agencies or persons authorized to make investment decisions on behalf of those local agencies investing public funds pursuant to this chapter are trustees and therefore fiduciaries subject to the prudent investor standard. When investing, reinvesting, purchasing, acquiring, exchanging, selling, or managing public funds, a trustee shall act with care, skill, prudence, and diligence under the circumstances then prevailing, including, but not limited to, the general economic conditions and the anticipated needs of agency, that a prudent person acting in a like capacity and familiarity with those matters would use in the conduct of funds of a like character and with like aims, to safeguard the principal and maintain the liquidity needs of the agency. Within the limitations of this section and considering individual investments as part of an overall strategy, investments may be acquired as authorized by law”.

The basic premise underlying the City's investment philosophy is, and will continue to be, to ensure that money is always safe and available when needed.

Public Trust. All participants in the investment process shall act as custodians of the public trust. Investment officials shall recognize that the investment portfolio is subject to public review and evaluation. The overall program shall be designed and managed with a degree of professionalism that is worthy of the public trust. In a diversified portfolio it must be recognized that occasional measured losses are inevitable and must be considered within the context of the overall portfolio investment return, provided that adequate diversification has been implemented.

Ethics and Conflicts of Interest. Employees and officials involved in the investment process shall refrain from personal business activities that create a conflict of interest or the appearance of a conflict with proper execution of the investment program or impairs their ability to make impartial investment decisions. The City Council, or City Manager in the case of Employees, may choose to take action through the City Attorney, to address any conflicts which may arise, should the employee or official fail to avoid or recuse themselves in the case of such conflicts.

Reporting. Consistent with industry best practices, the City Treasurer/Finance Officer will prepare quarterly summary investment reports within 45 days after the close of each quarter, with an Annual Investment Report prepared and filed within 60 days of year end. Quarterly and annual reports will be presented to City Council as a Receive, Review and File item.