

**SANTA ROSA BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2010
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBER, 100 SANTA ROSA AVENUE
SPECIAL MEETING**

3:00 P.M. (COUNCIL CHAMBER)

1. JOINT STUDY SESSION WITH CITY COUNCIL

1.1 CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL OF CITY COUNCIL AND BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

Mayor Gorin called the joint session of the City Council and Board of Public Utilities to order at 3:11 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

Members of the Council present: Mayor Gorin, Vice Mayor Wysocky, Councilmembers Bender, Sawyer, Jacobi, Vas Dupre and Olivares.

Members of the Board of Public Utilities present: Chairman Dowd, Board members Galvin, Holt, Lowe, and Swinth. Vice Chair Gale and Board member Meechan were absent.

1.2 PUBLIC COMMENTS (see below)

1.3 JOINT STUDY SESSION WITH THE CITY COUNCIL

Linda Reed, Administrative Services Officer, introduced the staff presentation, outlined the agency budget, its review process, and details of the wholesale water rates. She then introduced Sonoma County Water Agency (SCWA) staff.

Grant Davis, Director of the water agency, along with Spencer Bader, Administrative Services Director of the water agency, presented the 2010/11 Water Transmission System budget request to the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors and the water rates. Mr. Davis spoke of his commitment to build a collaborative relationship between the agency and its contractors, saying dismissal of the lawsuit had been important to generating good will and their commitment to build a better relationship. Mr. Bader detailed the budget, saying that the amount of water delivered is the primary driver of the rate, and they are delivering less water. If they can somehow deliver more water that should ease and stabilize the rates.

The Council and the Board asked questions and discussed the SCWA. Chairman Dowd thanked the SCWA staff for their presentation, and stated his recommendation to the Council to continue working with the agency to better understand the budget, but would not recommend approval until clearer information could be made available. Mayor Gorin echoed appreciation, and the need for more information in a more understandable format.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Duane DeWitt urged more citizen participation opportunities.

Brenda Adelman noted that, based upon water sales, Petaluma, North Marin and Marin Municipal used the same amount of water as Santa Rosa, Rohnert Park and Cotati. She said that almost half of the water was leaving the watershed and suggested a different rate for out-of-basin transfers which use more energy.

Mayor Gorin adjourned the joint study session at 4:40 p.m.

Richard Dowd

Gina Perez