

**SANTA ROSA BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES MEETING MINUTES  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2007  
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBER, 100 SANTA ROSA AVENUE  
REGULAR MEETING**

1:32 p.m. City Council Chamber

**ROLL CALL**

Present (7) Chairman Dowd, Vice Chairman Lowe, Board Members Downey, Galvin, Holt, Lindsay and Swinth

**STATEMENTS OF ABSTENTION BY BOARD MEMBERS**

Chairman Dowd and Vice Chairman stated that they would be abstaining from item 9.1 on the agenda because the companies they work for pay miscellaneous fees.

**PUBLIC APPEARANCES - None**

**PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS**

Mayor Blanchard spoke on behalf of the City Council to thank the Board for their continued service to their community. He also presented them with wine glasses and pins with the All American City award logo.

**MINUTES APPROVAL**

Board Member Swinth moved approval of the minutes of November 15, 2007. The motion was seconded by Board Member Galvin and carried unanimously. AYES (7) NO (0) ABSENT (0) ABSTAIN (0)

**STAFF BRIEFINGS**

**6.1 STORM WATER NPDES PERMIT RENEWAL**

Colleen Ferguson, Interim Deputy Director Utilities Engineering introduced Rita Miller Associate Civil Engineer for Public Works. Ms. Miller provided a brief history of the Storm Water Permit process. She then reviewed the Storm Water Management Program, required components and key goals. The Program requires the reduction of storm drain pollution through construction site control; inspection of industrial and commercial sites; municipal operations; spill response, monitoring; the Standard Urban Storm Water Mitigation Plan and public outreach and education. She explained that the permit renewal will be submitted in December 2007 followed by

Regional Board Tentative Order, public comment period and adoption in June 2008 for a five year term.

**CONSENT ITEMS**

**7.1 INCREMENTAL RECYCLED WATER PROGRAM (IRWP) DISCHARGE COMPLIANCE PROJECT**

**MOTION:**

Vice Chairman Lowe moved to approve Resolution No. 911 entitled "Resolution of the Board of Public Utilities of the City of Santa Rosa Adopting the Revised Purpose and Need Statement for the Discharge Compliance Project." The motion was seconded by Board Member Lindsay and carried unanimously. AYES (7) NO (0) ABSENT (0) ABSTAIN (0)

**7.2 APPROVAL TO COMPLETE PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS AND REQUEST BIDS FOR WEST COLLEGE FACILITIES PHASES TWO AND THREE**

**MOTION:**

Vice Chairman Lowe moved a motion to direct staff to complete the plans, specifications and request bids for West College Facilities Phase Two and Three. The motion was seconded by Board Member Lindsay and carried unanimously. AYES (7) NO (0) ABSENT (0) ABSTAIN (0)

**7.3 SANTA ROSA EXPLORATORY GROUNDWATER TEST BORING GRANT FUNDING**

**MOTION:**

Vice Chairman Lowe moved to approve Resolution No. 912 entitled "Resolution of the Board of Public Utilities Authorizing the Submittal of a Grant Application to the California Department of Water Resources for a Local Groundwater Assistance Grant to Partially Fund Santa Rosa's Groundwater Program to Identify and Perform Exploratory Groundwater Test Borings." The motion was seconded by Board Member Lindsay and carried unanimously. AYES (7) NO (0)

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ABSENT (0) ABSTAIN (0)

REPORT ITEMS

8.1 REPORT – UPDATE FROM THE LAGUNA FOUNDATION

Dan Carlson, Deputy Director Utility Operations introduced Dan Schurman from the Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation. Mr. Schurman provided a brief update on the Ludwigia Control Project and noted that staff would return in February with the results of the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of the project. He then further provided brief updates on the Mid Reach Restoration Project, Stone Farm Project, the recently completed conceptual model on Water Quality Impairments in the Laguna, and the upcoming Demonstration Garden Project. Other future projects include the 4<sup>th</sup> year of the Ludwigia Control Project and the Learning Center which would provide public education and showcase work that the City and Laguna Foundation has worked on jointly.

8.2 REPORT – SANTA ROSA URBAN REUSE PROJECT PHASE 1 WEST

Jennifer Burke, Senior Water Resources Planner, began the staff presentation. She briefly reviewed the background of the proposed project, the Board and City Council actions to date and CEQA document availability. Ted Whiton, Winzler & Kelly, reviewed maps depicting the Phase 1 West Project area, details of the proposed Pilot Project including the cost analysis for Phase 1 and all future Phases, and the proposed budget for the Pilot Project. Dr. Dave Smith, Merritt Smith Consulting, reviewed the Phase 1 West implementation milestones and criteria used to determine that the CEQA Checklist was the appropriate environmental document. Staff also recommended that the Council authorize the Director of Utilities to approve changes to the Project and to consider CEQA documents related to Project changes. Dr. Smith further explained that the construction of any Phase 1 West facilities would not occur until after the Regional Water Quality Control Board has amended its Basin Plan to address incidental runoff of recycled water.

Board Member Holt introduced an amended resolution for Board consideration which included future consideration of a Water Quality Study. A discussion ensued about the amended resolution and the concerns of other Board members which included the inability to quantify a dollar amount for such studies.

Brenda Adelman, Russian River Watershed Protection Committee, expressed concern about incidental runoff and asked that staff prioritize sites not near creeks. She also encouraged the use of Smart Irrigation controllers and submitted an article about the devices.

Ms. Burke responded that in the design section of the Recycled Water Users Guide, there is a specific section about protection of aquifers and surface waters. She further responded that the City has been following Smart irrigation controllers for a number of years and implemented a pilot project on Smart irrigation controllers a few years ago. Currently, the Water Efficient Landscape Policy and the Single Family Residential Landscape Policy includes smart irrigation controllers as an option, not a requirement. She noted that irrigation systems need to be designed with efficiency in mind to make sure runoff does not occur. Once that has taken place, a smart controller is a good idea.

MOTION:

Vice Chairman Lowe moved to approve the original Resolution with no amendments - Resolution No. 913 entitled "Resolution of the Board of Public Utilities Determining that the Santa Rosa Urban Reuse Project Phase 1 West is Within the Scope of the IRWP EIR, Adopting a Mitigation Monitoring Program, Adopting a Statement of Overriding Considerations, Making CEQA Findings of Fact; Approving Phase 1 West of the Santa Rose Urban Reuse Project; and Recommending that the Council Approve the Project and Authorize the Director of Utilities to Approve Changes to the Project and to Consider CEQA Documents Therefor." The motion was seconded by Board Member Galvin. AYES (6) NO (1) Holt ABSENT (0) ABSTAIN (0)

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**8.3 REPORT – STATE PROPOSITION 50  
GRANT FUNDS**

Ms. Burke provided an overview of Proposition 50 and the City's participation in Prop 50 and the North Coast Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) processes. She provided a brief description of the City's project – Sonoma County Water Recycling and Habitat Preservation Program and noted that the project was recommended for funding as part of the North Coast IRWMP grant application for a total of \$1.04 million. She spoke about the project elements, timing requirements, and project completion deadlines. She reviewed the provisions of the Sub-Grantee Agreement between the County of Humboldt and the City of Santa Rosa that are not typical in City contracts. She indicated that a Project-specific CEQA Checklist is the appropriate environmental document for this project and is attached as an Exhibit to the Resolution for Agenda item 8.2.

**MOTION:**

Board Member Downey moved to approve Resolution No. 914 entitled "Resolution of the Board of Public Utilities Determining that the Project Funded by Proposition 50 Funds is Within the Scope of the IRWP EIR, Adopting a Mitigation Monitoring Program, Adopting a Statement of Overriding Considerations, and Making CEQA Findings of Fact and Approving the "Proposition 50 Sub-Grantee Agreement Between the County of Humboldt and the City of Santa Rosa for the Project Entitled: Sonoma County Water Recycling and Habitat Preservation Program – Phase 2A" and Authorizing the Chair to Sign." The motion was seconded by Board Member Swinth and carried unanimously. AYES (7) NO (0) ABSENT (0) ABSTAIN (0)

**8.4 REPORT - WATER SUPPLY UPDATE**

Glen Wright, Deputy Director Water Resources reported that the water supply pool in Lake Sonoma was at 80% and that Lake Mendocino was at 24% full with a water supply pool of 32%. There has been 1061 Chinook salmon counted by the Water Agency as of November 25<sup>th</sup>. He further reported that there were 50 water waste

complaints taken last year by Water Conservation but there have been 500 taken this year. Water Conservation staff completed 70 Landscape audits last year but have completed 700 this year. The Green Exchange program has removed a total of 3 acres of grass this year. He then spoke about a recent ACWA conference that he attended where it was reported that Lake Shasta is on 20-35% of normal and noted that significant rain was needed to assist with the shortfall.

At 3:40 p.m. Chairman Dowd and Vice Chairman Lowe left the dais. Board Member Downey chaired the meeting in their absence.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**9. PUBLIC HEARING – REVISED  
MISCELLANEOUS FEES AND CHARGES  
SCHEDULE**

Linda Reed, Administrative Services Officer reported that while reviewing data for the miscellaneous fees calculations, staff discovered that not all data was being captured correctly. Ms. Reed requested that the Public Hearing be opened to allow for public comment and then be continued to January 17, 2008. Data included in the original report will be revised and available to the public prior to the new date. No members of the public were present so the hearing was continued without comment.

**MOTION:**

Board Member Lindsay moved a motion to continue the Revised Miscellaneous Fees and Charges Public Hearing to January 17, 2008. The motion was seconded by Board Member Swinth and carried unanimously. AYES (5) NO (0) ABSENT (0) ABSTAIN (2) Dowd and Lowe

**10. REFERRALS**

**11. WRITTEN COMMUNICATION (And Possible Board Action) - None**

**12. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS - None**

**13. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS - None**

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14. DIRECTORS REPORT

Mr. Ferris reported that there has been a rise in hydrant knockdowns which is thought to be related to the holiday season. He further reported that there are on average 40 new meter requests per week, but only 6 were requested for this week. Mr. Ferris announced that Bob Austin, Geysers Operation Coordinator and Kacey Reed, Utility Technician for Geysers Operations have both announced their retirements effective April 2, 2008. He further reported on a proposal that was received from Riverkeeper to study endocrine disruptors on a certain fish. Staff reviewed the proposal and requested Riverkeeper to come back with a different proposal for consideration because the proposal in its current form provided no means for quality control.

15. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

At 3:51 p.m. the meeting was adjourned. The next regular meeting of the Board of Public Utilities will be held on Thursday, December 20, 2007 at approximately 1:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber, City Hall, 100 Santa Rosa Avenue, Santa Rosa.

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Richard Dowd

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Gina Perez