

**SANTA ROSA BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES MEETING MINUTES  
THURSDAY, JUNE 5, 2008  
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBER, 100 SANTA ROSA AVENUE  
REGULAR MEETING**

1:32 p.m. City Council Chamber

**ROLL CALL**

Present (6) Chairman Dowd, Vice Chairman Lowe, Board Members Galvin, Holt, Lindsay and Swinth

Absent (1) Board Member Downey

**STATEMENTS OF ABSTENTION BY BOARD MEMBERS**

Chairman Dowd abstained from item 6.2 because work will be done within 500 feet of property that he owns. He also abstained from items 6.1 and 6.3 because his company carries a note on some property that Pipeline Excavators purchased. Board Member Lindsay abstained from item 6.2 because work will be done within 500 feet of property that he owns.

**MINUTES APPROVAL**

Board Member Lindsay moved approval of the minutes of May 15, 2008. The motion was seconded by Board Member Swinth and carried unanimously. AYES (6) NO (0) ABSENT (1) Downey ABSTAIN (0)

**STAFF BRIEFINGS**

**5.1 LEAK REPAIR AND HYDRANT MAINTENANCE DIVISION OVERVIEW**

Dave Ward, Utilities System Supervisor provided the staff briefing and reviewed the functions and personnel of the division. Hydrant maintenance consists of responding to concerns made by customer calls; graffiti removal; requests for fire flows; knockdowns; and preventative maintenance. In 2007, the leak repair crew repaired a total of 312 water service leaks in addition to the 17 water main leaks and 10 water valve leaks. He explained the levels of severity of the leaks and which require emergency repairs. He showed pictures of a typical service line repair from beginning to end. Polyethylene is now being used to replace water service lines because it is light weight, easy to use, allows for faster installation and is lower in cost. Field crews are now testing field lap tops that are being

installed in their trucks to allow them to use the most up to date maps and asset data. The leak crew has been utilizing the mud dog truck for many of their repairs because it allows them to make smaller holes in the streets and make more dangerous jobs safer to complete.

**CONSENT ITEMS**

**6.1 BID AWARD–BARNETT, DAVIS AND EARLE STREET SEWER AND WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT PROJECT**

**MOTION:**

Board Member Swinth moved a motion to award a construction contract in the total amount of \$674,837.00 to the lowest responsive bidder, Pipeline Excavators of Sebastopol, CA, for Barnett, Davis and Earle Street Sewer and Water Main Replacement and approve a construction contingency of 15 percent. The motion was seconded by Board Member Galvin and carried unanimously. AYES (5) NO (0) ABSENT (1) Downey ABSTAIN (1) Dowd

**6.2 BID AWARD–2008 UTILITIES PAVEMENT PATCHING**

**MOTION:**

Board Member Galvin moved a motion to award a construction contract in the total amount of \$208,715.45 to the lowest responsive bidder, Team Ghilotti, Inc. of Petaluma, CA, for 2008 Utilities Pavement Patching and approve a construction contingency of 15 percent. The motion was seconded by Board Member Holt and carried unanimously. AYES (4) NO (0) ABSENT (1) Downey ABSTAIN (2) Dowd and Lindsay

**6.3 BID AWARD–PALM STREET AND SANTA ROSA AVENUE WATER AND SEWER IMPROVEMENTS**

**MOTION:**

Board Member Swinth moved a motion to award a construction contract in the total amount of \$408,191.00 to the lowest responsive bidder, Pipeline Excavators of

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Sebastopol, CA, for Palm Street and Santa Rosa Avenue Water and Sewer Improvements and approve a construction contingency of 15 percent. The motion was seconded by Board Member Lindsay and carried unanimously. AYES (5) NO (0) ABSENT (1) Downey ABSTAIN (1) Dowd

**6.4 MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING REGARDING THE SONOMA-MARIN SAVING WATER PARTNERSHIP**

**MOTION:**

Vice Chairman Lowe moved to approve Resolution No. 928 entitled "Resolution of the Board of Public Utilities Recommending that the City Council Approve the Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Sonoma-Marine Saving Water Partnership (SM MOU) Without an Amendment and Authorize the Mayor to Sign the SM MOU. The motion was seconded by Board Member Holt and carried unanimously. AYES (6) NO (0) ABSENT (1) Downey ABSTAIN (0)

**REPORT ITEMS**

**7.1 REPORT—INCREMENTAL RECYCLED WATER PROGRAM (IRWP) DISCHARGE COMPLIANCE PROJECT, SEASONAL STORAGE PROJECT, AND PROGRAM MANAGEMENT—PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT AMENDMENT NO.5 WITH KENNEDY/JENKS CONSULTANTS, AMENDMENT NO.6 WITH WINZLER & KELLY CONSULTING ENGINEERS, AMENDMENT NO.5 WITH WINZLER & KELLY CONSULTING ENGINEERS, AND AMENDMENT NO.1 WITH MERRITT SMITH CONSULTING FOR PROGRAM MANAGEMENT AND RELATED SERVICES**

Glen Wright, Deputy Director Water Resources, gave the staff presentation and explained that the contracts would be funded by the proposed bond sale scheduled to be completed on July 2, 2008. He then reviewed the components of the scopes and indicated the amendments had been developed to complete the Discharge Compliance Project (DCP) and Seasonal Storage Project (SSP) EIRs and to support the DCP selection

process. The amendments also include tasks to support IRWP activities such as Santa Rosa Urban Reuse Pilot Project design, CEQA documentation for grants, policies and ordinances, discharge operations and water supply development. A table was presented showing the proposed budget changes for each of the amendments including the methodology used for establishing the cost of preparing responses to comments. Dr. Dave Smith, Merritt Smith Consulting discussed the current practice for addressing labor rate increases in professional services agreements, provided an explanation for how labor rates are established, provided a comparison graph of the proposed rates with those from numerous bay area firms and gave examples of the factors that are causing the proposed rate increases.

Brenda Adelman, Russian River Watershed Protection Committee expressed concern about the amount of work the consultants are being asked to do in the amendments. She asked that the Board consider taking out D1 due to fatal flaws and noted money would be saved if that occurred.

Colleen Fernald requested that consultants consider giving a 10% discount until the economy improves and asked that the scope of work be changed based on Ms. Adelman's comments submitted on June 4, 2008.

Board Member Lindsay asked if a third party review of a random sample of time cards was conducted, with Dr. Smith responding that one round of review had been completed, a written report was prepared and no irregularities were found. Board Member Swinth stated that the subcommittee spent a great deal of time reviewing the contracts and felt the increases were reasonable but they had not seen the rate increase portion of the amendments. Chairman Dowd stated that a cost of living increase should have been imbedded in the original agreements and because some of the classification rate increases are 15%, he would not be supporting the increase. Vice Chairman Lowe requested that staff revisit certain rates as they seem higher than the average of the firms that were reviewed. Board Member Galvin expressed concern that the subcommittee did not have the opportunity

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to review the labor rate increases during their meeting. Board Member Holt asked if an alternative were to be removed from the Final EIR, would a savings be realized, with Dr. Smith responding that alternatives could not be removed from the EIR at this point in the process based on information currently available, and that the next point in the process to discuss alternatives is the Project Selection phase following EIR certification.

The Board directed staff to go back to the consultants to negotiate the labor rates and then go back to the subcommittee prior to the full Board.

**7.2 REPORT-INTERNATIONAL  
RECOGNITION FOR A LAGUNA  
TREATMENT PLANT (LTP)  
DEMONSTRATION PROJECT AND SOLAR  
SONOMA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF  
ENERGY GRANT**

Dell Tredinnick, Utility Project Development Manager gave the staff presentation and informed the Board that the City had been selected to receive a grant from the Department of Energy for \$200,000 to establish a program entitled Solar Sonoma County. Only 12 other cities across the nation were selected for such a program. He then reported that the City was the unanimous choice to receive the 2008 International Council on Local Environmental Initiatives award for Innovation. The award was received for its Algae-to-Fuel project currently underway at the Laguna Treatment Plant. The recognition came with a \$1,000 prize and will assist the \$75,000 grant that has been awarded by the Bay Area Quality Management District for Phase II of the project. Mr. Tredinnick noted that the two grants are being reviewed by the City Attorney's office and will come back to the Board for a recommendation to City Council.

Colleen Fernald congratulated the Board for pursuing the Algae-to-Fuel project and encouraged them to pursue similar projects, possibly a grease collection project to generate Biofuel.

**7.3 WATER SUPPLY UPDATE**

Jennifer Burke, Sr. Water Resources Planner gave the staff presentation and provided the Board with an update on current water supply. Due to one of the driest springs on record coupled with the continued reduction in diversion from the Potter Valley Project, the Sonoma County Water Agency (SCWA) is projecting that Lake Mendocino storage will drop below last year's storage curve by July. The SCWA has suggested that a reduction in diversions from the Russian River of 12,000-15,000 acre-feet is needed to preserve water supply for the fall. SCWA has requested implementation of voluntary water conservation measures from all users in the watershed and maximization of local production and recycled water use. The water contractors have agreed on a coordinated effort to implement voluntary conservation measures, maximize use of local supply and recycled water, work with SCWA on a coordinated marketing campaign, and to sign the Sonoma-Marin Saving Water Partnership MOU. Ms. Burke highlighted Santa Rosa's response to SCWA's request for voluntary water conservation and briefly reviewed the existing Water Conservation Programs. Glen Wright gave an overview of the Water Waste Patrol.

**8. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA  
MATTERS**

Colleen Fernald spoke about fluoride being added to potable water, expressed concerns about fluoride in wastewater and submitted written comments on the subject.

John Jenkel spoke about the contamination of the Laguna de Santa Rosa and the impacts of discharging and irrigating at the site.

**9. REFERRALS**

**10. WRITTEN COMMUNICATION (And  
Possible Board Action)**

**11. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS - NONE**

**12. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

Board Member Swinth reported that she is working on the Request for Proposals for the Power Master Plan with Mike Prinz and that

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the panel reviewed proposals on June 2, 2008. The item will be coming to the Board at a future meeting.

**13. DIRECTORS REPORT**

Mr. Ferris reported that he and several staff members had visited a biodiesel plant in Stockton similar to a project that has been proposed to the Agency and City. He further reported that staff is negotiating with Calpine to reduce flows through the irrigation season but that the farmers have been notified that they will be assigned a ration.

**14. ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION ITEM(S) AND ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION(S) (MAYOR'S CONFERENCE ROOM-ROOM 10)**

At 4:14 p.m., Chairman Dowd announced that the Board would be going into closed session.

**14.1 CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR**

Property: 4090 Walker Avenue  
Agency Negotiator: Josh Maresca, Right-of-Way Agent  
Negotiating Parties: Max Graff Trust  
Under Negotiation: Price and terms of payment

**14.2 CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR**

Property: 1811 Ludwig Avenue  
Agency Negotiator: Josh Maresca, Right-of-Way Agent  
Negotiating Parties: James Lafayette Trust  
Under Negotiation: Price and terms of payment

**14.3 CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR**

Property: 5217 Llano Road  
Agency Negotiator: Josh Maresca, Right-of-Way Agent  
Negotiating Parties: Clement & Ann Marie Carinalli  
Under Negotiation: Price and terms of payment

**15. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

At 4:55 p.m., Chairman Dowd announced that the Board met in closed session with its real property negotiator on the three items listed on the agenda and provided him with instructions.

**16. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING**

At 5:00 p.m. the meeting was adjourned. The next special meeting of the Board of Public Utilities will be held on Thursday, June 26, 2008 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