

**SANTA ROSA BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, JULY 20, 2009  
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBER, 100 SANTA ROSA AVENUE  
SPECIAL MEETING**

1:30 p.m. Mayor's Conference Room

seconded by Board Member Meechan and carried unanimously. AYES (5) NO (0) ABSENT (1) Gale ABSTAIN (1) Lowe

**ROLL CALL**

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

STAFF BRIEFINGS - NONE

**CONSENT ITEMS**

Absent (1) Board Member Gale

6.1 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR LAGUNA TREATMENT PLANT COGENERATION SYSTEM UPGRADE DESIGN

**STATEMENTS OF ABSTENTION BY BOARD MEMBERS**

Board Member Galvin stated he would be abstaining from Item 6.2 because the low bidder is a client of his firm. Board Member Lowe stated he would be abstaining from the approval of the minutes from June 18, 2009 because he was absent from that meeting.

Board Member Lowe reported that the Contract Review Subcommittee met to discuss this item and agreed that it offered the best value and was in the best interest to continue working with Winzler & Kelly Consulting Engineers.

**STUDY SESSION**

**MOTION:**

**3.1 WEST COLLEGE FACILITY SECURITY SYSTEM**

Board Member Lowe moved a motion to award a Professional Services Agreement (PSA), in the amount of \$1,092,089 to Winzler & Kelly Consulting Engineers of Santa Rosa, California, for the Design of the Cogeneration System Upgrade for the Laguna Wastewater Treatment Plant. The motion was seconded by Board Member Galvin and carried unanimously. AYES (6) NO (0) ABSENT (1) Gale ABSTAIN (0)

David Guhin, Deputy Director Engineering Services and Eric McHenry, Chief Technology Officer discussed the West College Facility proposed security system. Mr. Guhin reviewed the Utilities Security Plan; discussed why the system is needed and explained which utilities sites would use the system. Mr. McHenry noted that he would be proposing a citywide standardization for other City facilities as a cost saving measure because of the number of standalone systems currently being utilized. He reviewed the components and benefits of implementing the proposed system and showed an example of the video surveillance portion of the system. Mr. Guhin reported that a Request for Proposals was sent out and the review panel selected DecoTech Systems as the most qualified. Staff will come back to the Board at a future meeting for contract approval.

**6.2 BID AWARD – MONTGOMERY DRIVE AND TALBOT AVENUE SEWER, WATER AND STORM DRAIN IMPROVEMENTS**

**MOTION:**

Adjourn study session and reconvene to open session in City Council Chamber at approximately 2:25 p.m.

Vice Chair Swinth moved a motion to award a construction contract in the total amount of \$1,579,123.00 to the lowest responsive bidder, FEDCO Construction, Inc. of Santa Rosa, CA, for Montgomery Drive and Talbot Avenue Sewer, Water and Storm Drain Improvements and approve a construction contingency of 15 percent. The motion was seconded by Board Member Holt and carried unanimously. AYES (5) NO (0) ABSENT (1) Gale ABSTAIN (1) Galvin

**MINUTES APPROVAL**

Board Member Holt moved approval of the minutes of June 18, 2009. The motion was

**6.3 AUTHORIZE SUBMITTAL OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH PROPOSITION 84**

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**DRINKING WATER PROGRAMS**

**MOTION:**

Vice Chair Swinth moved a motion to authorize the submittal of the grant application to the State of California Department of Public Health to fund the connection of four private water systems currently providing drinking water from contaminated wells to the City of Santa Rosa water system and authorize the Director of Utilities to submit the grant application on behalf of the City of Santa Rosa. The motion was seconded by Board Member Holt and carried unanimously. AYES (6) NO (0) ABSENT (1) Gale ABSTAIN (0)

**6.4 INCREASE IN CONSTRUCTION CONTINGENCY AMOUNT – CLEVELAND AVENUE SEWER AND WATER MAIN IMPROVEMENTS**

Chairman Dowd asked if the increase request was needed due to unforeseen conditions and Tracy Duenas, Associate Civil Engineer responded yes, there were unknown abandoned communication trenches and an unanticipated retaining wall footing excavation operation associated with CalTrans Hwy 101 widening project caused the failure of sewer trench walls at several locations.

**MOTION:**

Vice Chair Swinth moved a motion to approve an increase in construction contingency in the amount of \$35,075.70 for a total contingency amount of \$58,990.95 (37%) for Cleveland Avenue Sewer and Water Main Improvements. The motion was seconded by Board Member Galvin and carried unanimously. AYES (6) NO (0) ABSENT (1) Gale ABSTAIN (0)

**REPORT ITEMS**

**7.1 REPORT – WAIVER OF COMPETITIVE BIDDING – SOLE SOURCE AWARD OF PLC REPLACEMENT SERVICES**

Chairman Dowd requested that this item be pulled from the agenda and taken to the Contract Review Subcommittee for review.

**7.2 REPORT – REGIONAL WATER BOARD'S PROPOSED BASIN PLAN AMENDMENT RELATED TO INCIDENTAL RUNOFF**

Jennifer Burke, Senior Water Resources Planner provided an overview of the approved Santa Rosa Urban Reuse Project Phase 1 West; the project components, the funding available, and the current status of the Pilot Project. Dr. Dave Smith, Merritt Smith Consulting provided background information on the Basin Plan and on the draft Basin Plan amendment. He explained that the amendment to the Basin Plan would render incidental runoff of recycled water exempt from the seasonal discharge prohibition and therefore allow for project implementation. The Regional Water Board has scheduled a public meeting to consider adoption of the Basin Plan amendment on July 23, 2009. Dr. Smith presented an overview of the amendment and noted that staff had requested specific changes to the proposed amendment and that the Regional Board had addressed each of the concerns to the satisfaction of staff. Dr. Smith outlined the approval process which includes Regional Board adoption; State Board approval; Office of Administrative Law review and EPA approval.

Brenda Adelman, Russian River Watershed Protection Committee expressed concern about unregulated chemicals and their effect on aquatics, humans, algae and ludwigia. She also asked if a similar program was in place for Agricultural users.

Chairman Dowd stated that he respectfully disagreed with Ms. Adelman's comments and believes that the use of recycled water fits with the State Recycled Water Policy and this Basin Plan Amendment needs to move forward for adoption. The Board concurred with staff's recommendation to speak in support of the Basin Plan Amendment at the Regional Water Board meeting.

**7.3 REPORT – SONOMA COUNTY WATER AGENCY PROPOSED WATER SUPPLY STRATEGIES**

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Glen Wright, Deputy Director Water Resources provided background information about the strategic planning process that the Sonoma County Water Agency (SCWA) implemented in 2006 and adopted in 2007. He briefly reviewed the new SCWA's 12 Strategic Priorities which address water supply issues and challenges. The SCWA reviewed these strategies with the BPU on May 7, 2009 and with the City Council on May 19, 2009. Mr. Wright explained that staff analyzed the 12 possible strategies and prepared the following as the top priorities: restore reliability of current water supply of 75,000 acre-feet per year and current transmission system capacity to deliver water at a maximum monthly average rate of 92 million gallons per day; achieve reliable future water supply of 101,000 acre-feet per year and future transmission system capacity to deliver water at a maximum monthly average rate of 150.4 million gallons per day; and prioritize SCWA's and water rate payers' resources to achieve current and future water supply reliability.

Vice Chair Swinth stated that she supported the staff recommendation and expressed concern for potable water supply, dropped EIR's and the lack of budget transparency. She noted that water supply will continue to be an area of concern for at least the next 10 years and it is unclear how this will be addressed.

Grant Davis, SCWA stated that a legitimate effort is underway to address the reliability of the existing 75,000 acre-foot water right but that there is significant cost to complete the 101,000 acre-foot water right and the subsequent projects that an EIR might identify. Mr. Davis further indicated that the SCWA hopes to come up with approaches to improve and share information among the contractors. He added that the key area of concern for the SCWA is to go to the State Board to amend Decision 1610.

Chairman Dowd noted that the 12 Strategies were not well received by the Board and don't accomplish the goal.

#### 7.4 WATER SUPPLY UPDATE

Mr. Wright reported that Lake Mendocino is at

55,509 acre feet, Lake Sonoma is at 213,220 acre feet and flows at the Hacienda Bridge are at 68 cfs. He further reported that water use continues to be lower this year than when compared to the same period last year. For the month of March, total water use was 17.3% less than March of last year. For the month of April, total water use was 23.5% less than April of last year. For the month of May, total water use was 25% less than May of last year. For the month of June, total water use was 25% less than June of last year. Mr. Wright spoke about an email and draft memo that was received from the SCWA stating that the water demand was outpacing supply and was currently at about 60 mgd. On July 17<sup>th</sup>, the City was contacted because demand had reached 59 mgd and the storage tanks had dropped to 79.6 mgd. The SCWA requested that contractors turn on emergency wells; utilize their storage at an equivalent storage drawdown rate; turn off parks and other large irrigation users; cease deliveries to surplus customers; and implement any other water conservation measures available. As of today, storage is back to between 84-85 mgd and demand has dropped to 52 mgd. John Seymour, SCWA spoke about the Russian River well field and the effects of diversions and water quality.

#### 8. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA MATTERS - NONE

#### 9. REFERRALS

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

#### 11. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Vice Chair Swinth reported that the Budget Subcommittee met after the last BPU meeting to talk about the state of the budget. Revenues continue to be below projections and the committee will meet in August to talk about future spending and rates.

Board Member Lowe reported on the Water Conservation Subcommittee and said they were excited to see the ratepayers continuing to conserve. He further reported that the Contract Review Subcommittee met to discuss the Winzler & Kelly agreement that

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was on today's agenda and a second agreement that the committee requested some revisions be made.

**12. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

Vice Chair Swinth reported on the Wine Country Water Summit that she and Board Members Gale and Galvin attended. Board Member Galvin stated that the representatives from the City did a great job and the committee that Chairman Dowd lead was very informative. Chairman Dowd noted that the Summit was a good start to establishing the communication between the various urban, recreational and agricultural water users as well as species.

**13. DIRECTORS REPORT**

Miles Ferris, Director of Utilities reported that Water Conservation audits are now scheduled out into September and the Water Waste Patrol continues to make approximately 45 site visits per day.

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

Suzanne Rawlings, Assistant City Attorney reported that there was no need for a closed session during today's meeting.

**15. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING**

At 4:03 p.m. the meeting was adjourned. The next regular meeting of the Board of Public Utilities will be held on Thursday, August 6, 2009 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