For Board Meeting of: August 7, 2025

### CITY OF SANTA ROSA BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

TO: CHAIR AND BOARD MEMBERS

FROM: MIKE PRINZ, DEPUTY DIRECTOR REGIONAL WATER REUSE

OPERATIONS, SANTA ROSA WATER

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION TO NEGOTIATE NONSTANDARD PURCHASE

ORDER TERMS AND CONDITIONS WITH HUBER

**TECHNOLOGY** 

AGENDA ACTION: MOTION

#### RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by Santa Rosa Water and the Finance Department that the Board of Public Utilities, by motion, authorize staff to negotiate nonstandard terms regarding the Purchase Order (PO) for the procurement of one (1) Huber Sludgecleaner Strainpress 290 unit from Huber Technology, NC.

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Board of Public Utilities (Board) previously waived competitive bidding requirements and issued a sole source purchase order with Huber Technology; however, staff did not specifically request authorization to negotiate nonstandard terms and conditions with the vendor at that time. Such authorization is now being requested.

#### **BACKGROUND**

Santa Rosa Water currently owns and operates one Huber Sludgecleaner Strainpress 290 (Strainpress) for removal of inorganic matter from biosolids at the Laguna Treatment Plant (LTP). Contract number 1993-821, File number 1994-0060, project number 102859.DS indicates that the design intent was to have two (2) units installed; one (1) for normal operations and one (1) redundant unit for use while the lead machine is down for maintenance. LTP has only one (1) unit installed from the date of commissioning.

The existing strainpress unit was commissioned in 1993 and has since been disassembled, inspected, and refurbished multiple times to retain effective operation. Without a redundant unit available, operational staff must bypass the strainpress system when the sole unit is down for maintenance. Bypassing the strain press allows inorganic and fibrous materials to accumulate in the blend tank, creating clogs, and allowing

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foreign materials to enter the biosolids dewatering process. This results in impacts to downstream solids processing equipment and process down time due to excessive clogging and equipment damage.

Staff recommended and the Board issued a sole source purchase order to Huber Technology for one Strainpress to improve maintenance and operational processes. The new unit will fulfill the redundant position thereby increasing operational efficiency. Commissioning of the new unit is included with the purchase of the equipment and will be conducted by a manufacturer trained technician.

The Strainpress is proprietary to Huber Technology and is only available for purchase through the authorized representative, Goble Sampson.

#### PRIOR BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES REVIEW

The Board waived competitive bidding requirements and issued a sole source purchase order to Huber Technology for one Strainpress on November 7, 2024.

#### **ANALYSIS**

Subsequent to the Board's action and in response to the initial issuance of a purchase order for the Strainpress, Huber Technology staff proposed modifications to the standard purchase order template currently used by Santa Rosa. The agenda item approved by the Board on November 7, 2024 did not include authorization to negotiate nonstandard terms and conditions. Staff are now seeking such authorization in order to issue the purchase order. Any nonstandard terms and conditions agreed to by staff will be subject to review by the City Attorney's Office.

#### FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact directly associated with the authorization described herein.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

This action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 (Class 1 – Existing Facilities) and Section 15302 (Class 2 – Replacement or Reconstruction). The action involves the purchase of equipment to support the operation and maintenance of existing wastewater treatment infrastructure. The installation of the Strainpress unit will involve negligible or no expansion of capacity or use and constitutes a replacement of existing mechanical equipment serving the same function. As the project will not result in any significant environmental impacts and qualifies under the Class 1 and Class 2 categorical exemptions, no further environmental review is required under CEQA.

#### BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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Not applicable.

# **ATTACHMENTS**

None.

# **PRESENTER**

Mike Prinz, Deputy Director Regional Water Reuse Operations