City of Santa Rosa

Council Chamber
100 Santa Rosa Avenue

Board of Public Utilities
Regular Meeting Minutes - Draft

Thursday, March 19, 2026 **1:30 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Galvin called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

Present 6 - Chair Daniel Galvin III, Vice Chair William Arnone Jr., Board Member Robin Bartholow, Board Member Duane De Witt, Board Member J. Matthew Mullan, and Board Member Glen Wright

Absent 1 - Board Member Lisa Badenfort

2. REMOTE PARTICIPATION UNDER THE BROWN ACT (Gov. Code § 54953.8)

None.

3. STATEMENTS OF ABSTENTION BY BOARD MEMBERS

None.

4. PROCLAMATION

4.1 PROCLAMATION - ROBIN BARTHOLOW

Chair Galvin read aloud a proclamation for Board Member Bartholow.

Board Members spoke regarding their time serving with Board Member Bartholow.

Board Member Bartholow spoke regarding her time serving on the Board of Public Utilities.

5. STUDY SESSION

5.1 FY 2026-27 WATER, LOCAL WASTEWATER, REGIONAL REUSE AND STORMWATER AND CREEKS FUNDS OPERATION, MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL EXPENDITURE REQUESTS

Santa Rosa Water manages the City of Santa Rosa's Water, Local Wastewater, Regional Reuse, and Stormwater and Creeks enterprise funds under the general policy authority and direction of the Board of

Public Utilities (BPU) pursuant to Section 25 of the City Charter. The BPU annually recommends these enterprise's proposed budgets to the City Council to be included in the annual City budget adoption. The study session will provide an overview of all FY 2026-27 budgets. The Board may discuss this item and provide direction to staff.

Nick Harvey, Deputy Director - Administration, and Liz Hanley, Supervising Engineer, presented and answered Board Member questions.

6. MINUTES APPROVAL

6.1 February 5, 2026 - Regular Meeting Minutes - Draft

The February 5, 2026 regular meeting minutes were approved as submitted.

6.2 March 5, 2026 - Regular Meeting Minutes - Draft

The March 5, 2026 regular meeting minutes were approved as submitted.

7. STAFF BRIEFINGS

7.1 SENATE BILL 707 - BROWN ACT AMENDMENTS OVERVIEW

Santa Rosa Water staff will provide an overview of the recent Brown Act changes adopted under Senate Bill 707 (2025). The Board may discuss this item and provide direction to staff.

Michelle Montoya, Administrative Analyst, presented and answered Board Member questions.

7.2 WATER AND RECYCLED WATER SUPPLY UPDATE

Staff will update the Board on water and recycled water supply issues. The Board may discuss this item and give direction to staff.

Peter Martin, Deputy Director - Water Resources, and Andrew Romero, Wastewater Reclamation Superintendent, presented and answered Board Member questions.

8. CONSENT ITEMS

A motion was made by Vice Chair Arnone, Jr., seconded by Board Member

Mullan, to approve Consent Items 8.1 to 8.3.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Chair Galvin III, Vice Chair Arnone Jr., Board Member Bartholow, Board Member De Witt, Board Member Mullan and Board Member Wright

Absent: 1 - Board Member Badenfort

8.1 MOTION - APPROVAL OF A LEASE AGREEMENT TO PG&E OVER A PORTION OF CITY OWNED PROPERTY LOCATED AT 0 W COLLEGE AVENUE, APN 010-320-031

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended by Santa Rosa Water and Real Estate Services that the Board of Public Utilities, by motion, authorize the Assistant City Manager to negotiate a Lease Agreement between the City and Pacific Gas & Electric Company, Inc., on a portion of City owned property located at 0 West College Avenue and delegate authority to the Assistant City Manager to execute the Lease Agreement, subject to approval as to form by the City Attorney.

This Consent - Motion was approved.

8.2 MOTION - APPROVAL - FOURTH AMENDMENT TO GENERAL SERVICES AGREEMENT F002599 - SANTA ROSA WATER JANITORIAL SERVICES

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended by Santa Rosa Water and the Finance Department that the Board of Public Utilities, by motion, approve the Fourth Amendment to General Services Agreement F002599 with James Furuli Investment Co., Inc., DBA Environmental Dynamics, Petaluma, California, for janitorial services to extend for one year and increase compensation in the amount of $196,899.89, for a cumulative total amount not to exceed $758,889.60.

This Consent - Motion was approved.

8.3 MOTION - APPROVAL - AMENDMENT TO BLANKET PURCHASE ORDER 169602 TO EXTEND ONE YEAR AND ADD COMPENSATION

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended by Santa Rosa Water and the Finance Department that the Board of Public Utilities, by motion, authorize the Chair of the Board to approve an Amendment to Blanket

Purchase Order (BPO) 169602 to extend one year and add compensation in the amount of $30,000 for carbon filter media disposal and replacement services to Carbon Supply, Inc., Bell Gardens, California, for a cumulative BPO total amount not to exceed $110,000.

This Consent - Motion was approved.

9. REPORT ITEMS

9.1 REPORT - ADOPTION OF MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION AND MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM FOR THE KELLY FARM MITIGATION BANK

BACKGROUND: The Kelly Farm Mitigation Bank proposes to develop 100 acres of Kelly Farm into a California tiger salamander (CTS) and wetland mitigation bank. This Mitigation Bank would be used to offset wetland or CTS impacts from construction projects for Santa Rosa Water projects, resulting in credit availability in the most cost-effective manner possible. This proposed resolution will adopt the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND), adopt the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP), and approve the Kelly Farm Mitigation Bank (Project). It will also direct City staff to file a Notice of Determination for the Project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines.

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended by Santa Rosa Water and the Transportation and Public Works Department that the Board of Public Utilities, by resolution: 1) adopt the Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Kelly Farm Mitigation Bank Project; 2) adopt the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program; 3) approve the Kelly Farm Mitigation Bank Project; and 4) direct staff to file the Notice of Determination.

Sean McNeil, Deputy Director - Environmental Services, and Kristine Gaspar, Senior Planner, GHD presented and answered Board Member questions.

Kent Gartmann shared his concerns regarding the project and the spread of manure.

A motion was made by Board Member Wright, seconded by Board Member

Bartholow, to adopt:

RESOLUTION NO. RES-2026-002 ENTITLED: RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES ADOPTING THE MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION AND MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM FOR THE KELLY FARM MITIGATION BANK AND APPROVAL OF THE PROJECT.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 6 - Chair Galvin III, Vice Chair Arnone Jr., Board Member Bartholow, Board Member De Witt, Board Member Mullan and Board Member Wright

Absent: 1 - Board Member Badenfort

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA MATTERS

None.

11. REFERRALS

None.

12. WRITTEN COMMUNICATION (AND POSSIBLE BOARD DISCUSSION)

None.

13. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Board Member Wright reported that the Budget Subcommittee met yesterday to do a final review of Water’s proposed Fiscal Year 2026-27 Water, Wastewater, Regional, and Storm water and Creeks operations and maintenance, capital improvement and debt service budgets and voted to recommend the budget to the full Board.

14. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Board Member DeWitt reported on the Roseland Earth Day event which will be held on April 18, 2026.

15. DIRECTORS REPORTS

Director Burke reported: The Santa Rosa Water team is working to apply for a WIFIA (Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act) loan to relocate and rebuild our sewer lift station at Fulton Rd and West College. The project will rebuild the station to current standards, upgrade the SCADA system, increase cybersecurity, improve system robustness and reduce vulnerability to service distributions that can occur during emergency conditions. The total project cost is estimated to be $38 million and we are requesting the max loan amount of $18,600,000. WIFIA is a federal credit program administered by the EPA that provides long-term, low cost supplemental loans for regional and national water infrastructure projects. If awarded, the loan can be paid back for up to 35 years after the Notice of Completion is filed on the project, with flexible terms that would allow us to strategically plan cash flows. The interest rate on any potential loans is not known at this time, but Federal funding programs are typically a low-cost option as compared to revenue bonds or other outside debt. We'll be sure to update the Board as we work through the application process with the EPA.

The Llano trunk project is looking at next steps.The board may recall a few years ago, that the City had received a Water Resources Development Act authorization for $19.4 million.That is available to the Water Department for water and sewer infrastructure improvements.We recently also received a $2.29 million appropriation.In this, federal work plan, this coming fiscal year federal work plan, to work with the Army Corps through their environmental infrastructure program, which would provide for the design and environmental, work for the next segment of Phase 2 of our Llano Trunk lining project. So we are very excited to be starting work with the Army Corps, and we have also put forward another earmark funding request, which was supported by the City Manager and City Council to ask for an additional $3.56 million in funding, which would allow us to continue working with the Corps to start construction on two of the five segments of Phase 2 of the project. So again, we're continuing to explore all options and opportunities to look at other funding mechanisms that can supplement our ratepayer dollars.

On March 5, 2026 the Northern California Chapter of the American Public Works Association (APWA) awarded the City's Lower Colgan

Creek Restoration Phase 3 Project the Best Public Works Project in the category of public works projects in the five-to-ten-million-dollar range. The Lower Colgan Creek Phase 3 Project tied together both Phase 1 and Phase 2 which all combined restored 1.3 miles of creek encompassing 15 acres of land of newly restored riparian habitat. There is a Class 1 ADA accessible pedestrian and bike pathway with a pedestrian bridge connecting the project area to Bellevue Avenue that is popular with the community helping to connect neighborhoods to local schools and commercial areas. We are working with members of the APWA to schedule a time to present the award at an upcoming BPU meeting. If you want to get more involved in this project the third volunteer planting day will occur this Saturday on March 21, 2026 from 9:00 a.m. until noon. We meet at the restoration site near the corner of Mojave Avenue and Monument drive. Tools, gloves, and snacks will be provided.

16. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Chair Galvin adjourned the meeting at 3:53 p.m. in honor of resigning Board Member Bartholow. The next meeting of the Board of Public Utilities is scheduled for April 2, 2026 at 1:30 p.m.