Agenda Item # 7.1
For Board Meeting of: May 15, 2025

CITY OF SANTA ROSA
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

TO: BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
FROM: JENNIFER BURKE, DIRECTOR OF WATER
SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION FOR THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR WATER RESOURCES TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA WATER AGENCIES (ACWA) REGION 1 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

AGENDA ACTION: RESOLUTION

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by Santa Rosa Water that the Board of Public Utilities, by resolution, nominate Peter Martin as a member of the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) Region 1 Board for the 2026-2027 term.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Santa Rosa Water is a member of the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA). ACWA is comprised of 10 regions throughout California and each region has a Board that provides leadership and direction for the region. Santa Rosa Water is located in Region 1. ACWA is looking for candidates who are interested in serving on the Region 1 Board for the 2026-2027 term.

BACKGROUND

Santa Rosa Water is a member of ACWA, which is the largest statewide coalition of public water agencies in the country. ACWA has represented and provides key services to members on topics from legislation to regulatory activity, in Sacramento and in Washington, D.C. ACWA's more than 460 public agency members are responsible for 90% of the water delivered to communities, farms and businesses in California and play an active role in managing the state's water resources and promoting investments in water use efficiency, water recycling, groundwater management and desalination.

PRIOR BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES REVIEW

None.

ANALYSIS

1. ACWA consists of 10 Regions throughout California. Each Region has a Board, and the Chair and Vice Chair of each Region Board serves on ACWA's Statewide Board of Directors.
2. Santa Rosa is located in Region 1. Region 1 is comprised of western counties from the North Bay to the Oregon Border. The members of the Region 1 Board are elected every 2 years and the Board is comprised of representatives from ACWA member agencies in Region 1. Region Board meetings typically occur four times per year, with two of the meetings occurring at the Fall and Spring ACWA Conferences respectively.
3. ACWA is looking for candidates who are interested in leading the direction of ACWA Region 1 for the 2026-2027 term. Jennifer Burke, Santa Rosa Water Director, is serving as the Vice Chair of the Region 1 Board for the current term. This is the Water Director's third consecutive term on the ACWA Region 1 Board and she has determined that she no longer has capacity to continue serving on the Board.
4. Peter Martin, Deputy Director Water Resources, is interested in serving on the Region 1 Board for the upcoming 2026-2027 term on behalf of Santa Rosa Water. The Water Director is fully supportive of Peter Martin serving in this role.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds for the Deputy Director to attend the ACWA Spring and Fall conferences, estimated to be $4,000, are included in the proposed Water Department budget for Fiscal Year 2025-26 that will be considered by the City Council on June 17, 2025. Funds for the Deputy Director Water Resources to attend the ACWA Spring and Fall conferences, estimated to be $4,000, in Fiscal Year 2026-27 will need to be budgeted and appropriated in the Fiscal Year 2026-27 Water Department Budget.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378, the proposed action is not a "project" subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because it does not have a potential for resulting in either a direct physical change in the environment or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment. In the alternative, the proposed action is exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) because it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the project may have a significant effect on the environment.

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Not Applicable.

NOTIFICATION

Not Applicable.

ATTACHMENTS

- Resolution

PRESENTER

Jennifer Burke, Water Director