

CITY OF SANTA ROSA  
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

TO: BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES  
FROM: JOE SCHWALL, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, REGIONAL WATER  
REUSE OPERATIONS, WATER DEPARTMENT  
SUBJECT: CONTRACT AMENDMENT – AGREEMENT FOR ACCEPTANCE  
OF BIOSOLIDS AND LAND APPLICATION NO. F001429 WITH  
GILARDI & JACOBSEN AG SERVICES, INC.

AGENDA ACTION: MOTION

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RECOMMENDATION

The Water Department recommends that the Board of Public Utilities, by motion, approve an amendment to Agreement No. F001429 for biosolids land application with Gilardi & Jacobsen Ag Services, Inc., extending the term of the Agreement for one year and increasing compensation payable under the Agreement by \$47,951.00, for a total amount not to exceed \$132,586.00.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Agreement No. F001429 between the City and Gilardi & Jacobsen Ag Services, Inc. for the spreading of biosolids and agricultural lime at BBRRBR Farm, 3900 Highway 37, Sonoma, CA 95476 during the 2017 Land Application season was executed by the City Manager on June 16, 2017 in an amount not to exceed \$43,395.00. The First Amendment to Agreement No. F001429 was executed by the City Manager on April 27, 2018 to extend the term for one year and increase total compensation by \$41,240.00, for a total amount not to exceed \$84,635.00. The Water Department and the Contractor have mutually agreed to extend the term of the Agreement for one additional year. With this Amendment, the Contractor shall continue to provide the necessary equipment and personnel for spreading biosolids generated at the Laguna Wastewater Treatment Plant ("LTP") and agricultural lime purchased by the City at BBRRBR Farm through April 30, 2020.

BACKGROUND

Santa Rosa Water's Biosolids Management System includes beneficial reuse of approximately 2/3 of the biosolids generated at the LTP via direct application of biosolids to Sonoma County farmlands. Land application of biosolids supplies valuable nutrients to croplands and ultimately enhances fodder crop production.

The Federal 503 regulations for biosolids agricultural land application require the addition of agricultural lime for pH adjustment as needed. The agricultural lime is purchased by the City and delivered to the farms, where it is staged for spreading.

An outside contractor, through agreement with the City, spreads the staged agricultural lime onto the farmlands, then spreads the biosolids onto the fields. Gilardi & Jacobsen Ag Services, Inc., has performed land application services satisfactorily in the past and is familiar with and adheres to Federal 503 and State General Order regulations.

As a result of biosolids application, excessive weeds tend to grow on croplands, primarily because of the added nitrogen and moisture. Herbicide spraying on the areas of the farm that receive biosolids is therefore typically required. The City reimburses the contractor for herbicide spraying of farmland onto which biosolids have been applied.

BBRRBR Farm, located at 3900 Highway 37, Sonoma, CA 95476, has received biosolids through the City's Land Application program on an annual basis since 2016. Biosolids are applied to various fields on a rotating basis as arranged between the City's Biosolids Coordinator and the farm owner and user.

A separate contractor hauls the biosolids from the LTP to the farmlands, where they are staged for spreading when late spring and summer seasonal conditions allow. Biosolids are composted and stored at Alpha Barn during winter conditions.

#### PRIOR BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES REVIEW

None.

#### ANALYSIS

Based on a comparison of pricing for Biosolids Land Application services provided to the City in recent years by the two local Contractors typically responsive to the City's requests for such services (Gilardi & Jacobsen Ag Services, Inc., and Poncia Fertilizer, Inc.), the Gilardi & Jacobsen Ag Services, Inc. not to exceed pricing of \$132,586.00, after increased amendment compensation of \$47,951.00, is considered fair and reasonable.

#### FISCAL IMPACT

Funds for this operational expense have been allocated in the fiscal year 2019-2020 budget of the Water Department Operational Key number 130807-5321.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Spreading of City-generated biosolids and agricultural lime is part of the City's Biosolids land application project on City-owned and private lands, which has been reviewed consistent with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to (1)

Residuals Processing Mitigated Negative Declaration adopted in 1977, (2) the Santa Rosa Subregional Sludge Beneficial Use Project Program EIR certified in 1991, (3) the Management Plan for the Beneficial Reuse of Biosolids by Land Application CEQA TM 2.2 adopted in 1993, and (4) the South County Biosolids Reuse MND adopted in 2010.

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

Not Applicable

#### ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment 1 – Second Amendment to Agreement No. F001429 for Acceptance of Biosolids and Land Application with Gilardi & Jacobsen Ag Services, Inc.

#### CONTACT

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