Agenda Item # 8.2
For Board Meeting of: July 17, 2025

CITY OF SANTA ROSA
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

TO: CHAIR AND BOARD MEMBERS
FROM: ZACHARY KAY, BIOSOLIDS COORDINATOR
SUBJECT: THIRD AMENDMENT FOR AGREEMENT F002459 ACCEPTANCE OF BIOSOLIDS AND LAND APPLICATION WITH GILARDI & JACOBSEN AG SERVICES, INC.

AGENDA ACTION: MOTION

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by Santa Rosa Water that the Board, by motion, approve amending contract F002459, Acceptance of Biosolids and Land Application, with Gilardi & Jacobsen Ag Services, Inc. (Gilardi & Jacobsen) to increase compensation payable under the Agreement by $125,000.00, which is an amount that accounts for the increase in the San Francisco Area Consumer Price Index (CPI) of 3.1%, determined in March 2025, for a total maximum compensation of $458,418.95.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This amendment implements an annual adjustment to the contract compensation based on CPI in addition to an annual budgetary replenishment. The City has historically contracted with Gilardi & Jacobsen, who, per the amended agreement, will continue to provide the necessary equipment and personnel for spreading the biosolids generated by the Laguna Treatment Plant (LTP) at various locations.

BACKGROUND

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

Federal 503 regulations (40 CFR Part 503) for biosolids agricultural land application require the addition of agricultural lime for soil pH adjustment as needed. Agricultural lime is purchased by the City and delivered to the farms where it is staged prior to spreading.

Under their agreement with Santa Rosa, Gilardi & Jacobsen provide biosolids and lime spreading service to the City on properties that are owned and leased by them, in addition to properties in Southern Sonoma County that are owned by the City. Gilardi & Jacobsen continue to perform services satisfactorily and are familiar with and adhere to Federal 503 and State Water Resources Control Board General Order regulations.

PRIOR BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES REVIEW

The Board of Public Utilities originally approved Agreement F002459 on April 7, 2022 for a term of five years, with the option to extend for an additional four years.

The Board approved the First Amendment F002459 on June 22, 2023 to increase compensation to reflect the CPI at that time of $94,00.00.

The Board also approved the Second Amendment F002459 on September 24, 2024 to increase compensation to reflect the CPI at that time of $125,00.00.

ANALYSIS

This is the third amendment to the referenced agreement with Gilardi & Jacobsen. The primary purpose of the amendment is to increase the maximum compensation of the agreement pursuant to the CPI increase specified per contract and replenish the annual budget.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds for this operational expense have been allocated in the Fiscal Year 2025-26 operations and maintenance budgets of the Water Department and will be similarly proposed in future years.

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 determined to be consistent with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to (1) Residuals Processing Mitigated Negative Declaration adopted in 1997, (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. The project was included in the scope of previously adopted environmental documents. No substantial changes are proposed, and no new significant environmental effects are anticipated. As such, the project qualifies for exemption under CEQA Guidelines §15162 and §15168(c)(2), which allow for continued implementation of projects covered by a certified program EIR or previously adopted negative declarations without the need for additional review.

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Not applicable.

NOTIFICATION

Not applicable.

ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment 1 – Amendment to Gilardi & Jacobsen Application and Spreading Agreement

CONTACT

Zachary Kay, Biosolids Coordinator