Agenda Item # 7.1
For Board Meeting of: October 2, 2025

CITY OF SANTA ROSA
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

TO: BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
FROM: TRACY DUENAS, SUPERVISING ENGINEER
CAPITAL PROJECTS ENGINEERING
SUBJECT: CONTRACT AWARD – WATER PUMP STATION 9 ELECTRICAL UPGRADES, CONTRACT NO. C02438

AGENDA ACTION: MOTION

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by Santa Rosa Water and the Transportation and Public Works Department that the Board of Public Utilities, by motion, award Construction Contract No. C02438 in the amount of $2,144,600.00 to the lowest responsive bidder, CWS Construction Group, Inc. of Novato, CA, for Water Pump Station 9 Electrical Upgrades, approve the project, approve a 15% contingency, and authorize a total contract amount of $2,466,290.00.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This motion will award a construction contract in the amount of $2,144,600.00 to the lowest responsive bidder, CWS Construction Group, Inc. of Novato, CA, approve the project, approve a 15% contract contingency, and authorize a total contract amount of $2,466,290.00 to Water Pump Station 9 Electrical Upgrades, Contract No. C02438.

BACKGROUND

Water Pump Station 9 is a critical facility serving customers within the R9, R9R1, and R10 pressure zones of the City's water system, maintained and operated by the City of Santa Rosa (City) Water and Sewer Operations Division. Within the station, three 300 horsepower (HP) vertical turbine pumps provide the only means of filling water reservoirs R9A and R9B, and two 75 HP vertical turbine pumps feed directly into the reduced pressure zone R9R1. One of the 300 HP pumps and both 75 HP vertical turbine pumps are connected to variable frequency drives (VFDs). The pump station has a 1,000-kW on-site stationary backup generator. The station currently lacks a safe and reliable method to connect and operate an external portable generator for redundant backup power. This project will provide additional means of redundantly powering the facility, ensuring an uninterrupted water supply for firefighting and residents. Deemed a critical

facility, operation during times of emergencies, such as natural disasters or power outages, is necessary.

Contract No. C02438, Water Pump Station 9 Electrical Upgrades (Project), will replace aging equipment nearing the end of its useful life, as well as incorporate new equipment to enhance the safety and reliability of the facility by installing a main power PG&E disconnect. Improvements will include enhancing the current power supply of the station with the installation of a new mechanically interlocked portable generator breaker and an 800-AMP portable generator connection panel. These improvements will enable the operation of two pumps using a single large portable generator. The Project will also include replacing the VFDs for one of the 300 HP pumps and both 75 HP pumps, as well as the 8" and 18" magnetic flowmeters and transmitters. Upgrades to the station building HVAC system, overall electrical system, antenna, and ancillary utility piping will also be required as part of the Project.

PRIOR BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES REVIEW

On August 15, 2024, the Board of Public Utilities (Board) approved sole source specifications for various electrical equipment and services for the Water Pump Station 9 Electrical Upgrades Project, Contract No. C02438.

On December 19, 2024, the Board rejected the sole bid received for Water Pump Station 9 Electrical Upgrades, Contract No. C02438. During the October 15, 2024 bid opening, only one (1) bid in the amount of $2,903,800.06, 77.97% over the Engineer's Estimate, was received. Staff determined that proceeding with the proposed bid would have required approximately $1.5 million in additional funding. A post-bid inquiry identified Project Labor Agreement (PLA) requirements, an insufficient advertising period, sole source requirements, and the overall scope of work as primary factors that dissuaded other prime contractors from bidding on the project.

ANALYSIS

This project was advertised on July 16, 2025, and bids were received on August 19, 2025. A total of three (3) bids were received, ranging from $2,144,600.00 to $2,497,215.00. The apparent low bid submitted by CWS Construction Group, Inc. was $2,144,600.00, approximately 7.99% above the Engineer's Estimate of $1,986,000.00.

The project anticipates a lengthy lead time for material procurement. Additionally, critical work involving temporary impacts to water supply and fire flows serving the surrounding vicinity will be limited to the winter season. For these reasons, project completion is anticipated to be in Spring of 2027.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds for this Project were previously appropriated in the Water Department Capital Improvement Program budget and do not impact the General Fund.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

The proposed project consists of electrical upgrades at Water Pump Station 9 to replace and improve existing equipment and facilities. The work is limited to modifications of an existing public utility facility and the installation of related electrical equipment, with no expansion of capacity or change in use. The project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 (Class 1 – Existing Facilities), specifically Section 15301(d), which exempts restoration or rehabilitation of deteriorated or damaged structures, facilities, or mechanical equipment to meet current standards of public health and safety, and Section 15303 (Class 3 – New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures), which exempts the construction and installation of limited numbers of new, small facilities or equipment in existing structures. No unusual circumstances or other exceptions under CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 apply, and no further environmental review is required.

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

N/A

ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment 1 – Location Map
- Attachment 2 – Summary of Bids

CONTACT

Tracy Duenas, Supervising Engineer, Transportation and Public Works