

**Skamania County Public Utility District #1
Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners**

February 1st 2010

A regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order by President Curt Esch at 9:00 a.m. at the PUD office in Carson, WA. The following persons were present: Commissioner Curt Esch; Commissioner Dennis Gale; Commissioner Clyde Leach; Manager, Bob Wittenberg; Auditor, Chris Iobst; Attorney, Ken Woodrich.

The Minutes of the January 18th 2010 Meeting were approved by Commissioner Leach's **motion**. Commissioner Gale **seconded**, and the motion was **approved unanimously**.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Old Mt. Pleasant Substation Land** – Wittenberg recalled a conversation with Dan Huntington who is interested in purchasing the land where the old Mt. Pleasant Substation was located. Commissioner Leach made a **motion** to not sell the land at this time, but to follow up with the Forest Service about a possible land trade at Bear Creek. Commissioner Gale **seconded**, and the motion was **carried unanimously**.
- **Open Door Policy Resolution** – Esch presented a resolution to formally recognize an open door policy of communication between Employees and Commissioners with no threat of disciplinary action. The Board and Staff discussed whistleblower policies and Woodrich will bring examples from other municipalities for the next meeting. Commissioner Esch stepped down and a **motion** to adopt the Resolution. The motion died for a lack of second, both Leach and Gale agreeing to consider a revised resolution with different wording.
- **Underwood Connection Buyback** – Board and Staff considered factors in selling and purchasing water connections. The Board directed Staff to draft a policy outlining considerations the Board may evaluate in deciding to purchase water connections back . No action was taken.

The Meeting recessed for Break at 9:55 a.m., reconvening in Regular Session at 10:00 a.m.

NEW BUSINESS

- **2010 IRS Mileage Rate** – Iobst announced the IRS mileage rate had changed to \$.50 per mile, effective January 1, 2010.

- **Resolution #2335 – Electric Construction Fund Transfer** – Iobst presented Resolution #2335 to transfer \$371,000 from the Electric Construction Fund to the Electric General Fund for 2009 capital projects. Gale made a **motion** to approve Resolution #2335 with the addition of labels on Schedule A. Commissioner Leach **seconded**, and the motion was **carried unanimously**.
- **Computer Maintenance Contract** – Iobst reviewed conversations with Ryan Kreps of Radcomp Technologies and their proposal to enter into a maintenance contract with the District to monitor computers, servers and connections. Iobst noted the District had gone from 7 computers when he first started to 15 currently, and he believed the District could avoid many computer malfunctions and down time with a daily monitoring system.

MANAGER’S REPORT

- **Customer Compliments** - Wittenberg pointed to five letters from customers thanking the District’s staff for their responsiveness and services.
- **Packwood Hydro Update** - Wittenberg presented options regarding the District’s 1% share of the Packwood Hydro Project.

The Meeting entered **Executive Session** at 12:20 p.m. to discuss the performance of employees, estimated for 15 minutes.

At 12:30 p.m., **Executive Session** was extended another 10 minutes.

At 12:45 p.m., **Executive Session** was extended another 15 minutes.

At 12:55 p.m., **Executive Session** ended with no action taken, and the Meeting resumed in **Regular Session**.

The Meeting recessed for Lunch at 1:10 p.m., reconvening in Regular Session at 1:55 p.m.

ATTORNEY’S REPORT

- **Fire Hydrant Legislation** - Woodrich noted he will keep his eyes on PUD and County issues regarding fire hydrant legislation and how that will affect the District.

MANAGER’S REPORT Cont.

- **Employee Compensation** - Gale reviewed language in RCW 54.16.100 pertaining to the Manager’s duty to recommend to the Board the compensation paid to employees. Wittenberg referenced the Budget process and his discretion to compensate employees within the budgeted amount.

- **WECC Compliance** - Wittenberg and Project Manager, Humaria Falkenberg reviewed the WECC compliance reporting requirements and the upcoming WECC audit.
- **Energy Northwest – Participant Review Board Meeting** - Leach reported that the search for a new CEO has been narrowed down to three candidates. Wittenberg noted discussions on the current and future salary of the CEO position.

COMMISSIONERS’ REPORT

- **Commissioner Leach** - Leach reported on his attendance at the Energy Northwest Executive Board Meeting which included a presentation on electric cars.
- **Commissioner Esch** - Esch reported on meeting led by Terri Mundorf discussing BPA’s conservation programs and the push to streamline the process for utilities.

VOUCHER APPROVAL

The following vouchers were approved for payment by a **motion** made by Commissioner Gale.

Voucher	Number	Amount
Electric System	44479-44518	\$ 247,061.89
Carson Water	5560-5563	\$ 1,726.06
Underwood Water	3300-3301	\$ 2,468.90

Commissioner Leach **seconded**, and the motion was **carried unanimously**.

The Meeting **adjourned** at 2:40 p.m.

Curt C. Esch, President

Clyde D. Leach, Secretary

The next regular scheduled Board of Commissioner’s Meeting will be:
Tuesday, February 16th, 2010 at 9:00 a.m..