

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

December 1, 2014

A regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order by President Clyde Leach at 9:00 a.m. at the PUD office in Carson, WA. The following persons were present: Commissioner Clyde Leach; Commissioner Curt Esch; Commissioner Dennis Gale; General Manager Brent Bischoff; Auditor Jasen McEathron; Project Coordinator Melanie Sharp; and Attorney Ken Woodrich.

MINUTES:

- Commissioner Esch made a **motion** and Commissioner Gale **seconded** to approve the November 17, 2014 Regular Meeting minutes. **Motion passed unanimously.** Commissioner Gale made a **motion** and Commissioner Esch **seconded** to approve the November 24, 2014 Special Meeting minutes. **Motion passed unanimously.**

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Sherry Esch commented on health insurance continuation for retired Commissioners.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Commissioner Health Benefits** – Attorney Woodrich presented a memo discussing the legality of continuing health insurance for retiring Commissioners. Commissioner Esch submitted for the record excerpts from the Washington State Department of Retirement Systems website.
- **Labor-Management Committee Recommendations** – Auditor McEathron discussed the healthcare benefit recommendations from the Labor-Management Committee. The Commissioners directed staff to provide more information for potential implementation of recommendations: 1) Increasing the healthcare premiums, 5) a. Provide retirees the same healthcare plan as actives, and 5) b. Extend coverage to spouses of deceased retirees beyond the 6 months in statute. The Board was not in favor of pursuing the other recommendations from the Labor-Management Committee.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Large Load Policy PSC – EES Consulting** – Auditor McEathron presented a Professional Services Contract with EES Consulting to assist the PUD in the determination of rate policies and rate schedules for serving new large loads, including new loads associated with the production of cannabis. After discussion, Commissioner Gale made a **motion** and Commissioner Esch **seconded** to approve the contract in the amount of \$6,000. **The motion passed with two votes for (Commissioner Gale and Commissioner Esch). Commissioner Leach abstained from the vote.**

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- **Rates Workshop** – Manager Bischoff discussed the steps leading up to the current rate hearing process. The Commissioners discussed various rate restructuring and rate increase options and then directed staff to set up an additional rate workshop to further discuss the topic.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

The Board entered into Executive Session at 11:10 a.m. to discuss Employee Performance per RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) for a duration of 20 minutes. Executive session was extended 15 minutes. Executive session ended at 11:45 a.m.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

- **URD Cable Replacement** – Manager Bischoff reported on the status of the URD cable replacement projects.
- **Underwood Substation Rebuild** – Manager Bischoff reported that the PUD will be going out to bid this week on the control building. Purchase orders have been sent out for the previously bid equipment.
- **Emergency Generator Industrial Site** – Manager Bischoff noted that the emergency generator has been installed at the Industrial Site well to provide backup power.
- **Outages** - Manager Bischoff noted that there we no power outages associated with the strong winds over the weekend.

AUDITOR'S REPORT:

- **SAO Audit Update** – Auditor McEathron reported the State Auditor's Office audit was in the closing stages and the exit conference will be scheduled soon.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:

- Commissioner Gale reported on attendance at the WPUDA Meetings.

CALENDAR:

- The WPUDA Annual Meeting is scheduled for December 3-5, 2014.
- The WPAG Meeting is scheduled for December 10, 2014.
- The PPC Annual Meeting is scheduled for December 11, 2014.
- The Swearing In of Commissioner Elect Green is scheduled for January 5, 2015.

VOUCHER APPROVAL:

Commissioner Gale made a **motion** and Commissioner Esch **seconded** to approve the vouchers audited and certified as required by RCW 42.24.080 and RCW 42.24.090. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Voucher	Number	Amount
Electric System	51292-51323	\$113,086.59
Carson Water	6395-6398	\$6,119.66
Underwood Water	3759	\$63.00

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- None.

Meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Clyde Leach, President

Dennis Gale, Secretary

The next regular scheduled Board of Commissioners' Meeting will be
Monday, December 15, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.