

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

January 18, 2016

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 Liz Green; General Manager Brent Bischoff; Auditor Jasen McEathron; Project Coordinator Melanie Sharp; and Attorney Ken Woodrich.

**MINUTES:**

- Commissioner Green wants the record to reflect that she broached the subject of the Open Public Meetings Act because of concerns she had – specifically that the Board has been inconsistent in communicating on return to public session following executive session whether or not direction was given to staff. Commissioner Gale made a **motion** and Commissioner Green **seconded** to approve the January 4, 2016 Regular Meeting minutes as corrected. **Motion passed unanimously.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- None.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- Commissioner Esch inquired with Attorney Woodrich regarding how the Doctrine of Necessity applies to the PUD and how the separation of powers dovetails into RCW 54. Attorney Woodrich will research both issues and report to the board.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Wireless NASPO Contract – Verizon Wireless-** Auditor McEathron presented a contract with Verizon Wireless to provide cell phones and wireless services to the PUD. After discussion, Commissioner Gale made a **motion** and Commissioner Green **seconded** to authorize Manager Bischoff to sign the contract with Verizon Wireless. **Motion passed unanimously.**

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

- None.

**MANAGER’S REPORT:**

Manager Bischoff reported on the following items:

- December 2015 outage report

## **ATTORNEY'S REPORT:**

The Board entered into Executive Session at 9:30 a.m. to discuss litigation per RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) for a duration of 30 minutes. Commissioner Green, Commissioner Gale, Manager Bischoff, Auditor McEathron, Attorney Woodrich, and Attorney Ramsey Ramerman via phone were in attendance. Commissioner Esch recused himself from the Executive Session. Executive Session was extended 18 minutes. Commissioner Esch joined the Executive Session and Attorney Woodrich left Executive Session at 9:50 a.m. There was no action taken in Executive Session.

## **MANAGER'S REPORT CONTINUED:**

Manager Bischoff reported on the following items:

- Underwood substation project update
- New Carson reservoir site geotechnical work
- Duggan Falls feasibility study
- Shepherd pump station project
- Carson water treatment plant hazard tree removal and harvest
- Underwood water system agricultural irrigation survey
- Carson test well site acquisition
- Manager's Bischoff upcoming annual performance review
- Union contract negotiations

## **AUDITOR'S REPORT:**

- **Bad Debts** - Auditor McEathron presented bad debts in the amount of \$2,266.42. After discussion, Commissioner Gale made a **motion** and Commissioner Green **seconded** to approve the bad debts in the amount of \$2,266.42. **Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Website Stats** - Auditor McEathron presented a summary of website activity for 2015.
- **Water Connects** – Auditor McEathron presented a summary of the active and inactive water connects for the Carson and Underwood Water Systems.

## **COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:**

- Commissioner Gale and Green reported on their attendance at the WPUDA meetings.
- Commissioner Esch reported on his attendance at the PPC meeting.

## **CALENDAR:**

- WPAG Meeting January 21, 2016
- Energy NW Board Meeting January 27, 2016
- PPC Meeting February 4, 2016
- WPUDA Meetings February 24-26, 2016

**VOUCHER APPROVAL:**

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

<b>Voucher</b>	<b>Numbers</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Electric	<b>52897-52903 52955-53012</b>	<b>\$259,992.40</b>
Carson Water	<b>6602-6607</b>	<b>\$3,702.15</b>
Underwood Water	<b>3859-3861</b>	<b>\$375.62</b>

Attorney Woodrich noted that the Commissioners should review RCW 42.17A.555(1) in regards to taking a stance on a ballot proposition.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- None.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

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**Curt Esch, President**

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**Liz Green, Secretary**

The next regular scheduled Board of Commissioners' Meeting will be  
**Monday, February 1, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.**