

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

October 5, 2015

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 Liz Green; Commissioner Curt Esch; Commissioner Dennis Gale; General Manager Brent Bischoff; Auditor Jasen McEathron; Project Coordinator Melanie Sharp; and Attorney Ken Woodrich (arrived at 9:05am).

**MINUTES:**

- Commissioner Gale requested that the minutes be corrected to reflect the discussion regarding the water systems participation in the cost of the bond reserve and that staff were directed to evaluate different cost options. Commissioner Gale made a **motion** and Commissioner Green **seconded** to approve the September 21, 2015 Regular Meeting minutes as corrected. **Motion passed unanimously.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- Mary Repar commented on governance policy, online bill payment, and renewable energy projects.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Mailing & Postage Machine Lease – Neopost** - Auditor McEathron discussed updating the mailing/postage machine through a new lease with Neopost to meet upcoming USPS requirements. After discussion, Commissioner Gale made a **motion** and Commissioner Green **seconded** to authorize Manager Bischoff to sign the lease agreement with Neopost for the mailing/postage machine for a monthly lease amount of \$870.73 for 36 months. **Motion passed unanimously.**

**ATTORNEY’S REPORT:**

Commissioner Green made a **motion** and Commissioner Gale **seconded** to allow the Commissioners to seek outside council regarding their potential for personal liability in the Sherry Esch litigation not to exceed 3 hours or \$1,050. **Motion passed unanimously.**

The Board entered into Executive Session at 9:35 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, and Attorney Woodrich, and Attorney Ramsey Ramerman via phone were in attendance. Commissioner Esch recused himself from the Executive Session. Executive Session was extended 10 minutes. Executive Session ended at 10:15 a.m.

There was a 5 minute break at 10:15a.m. The meeting resumed at 10:20 a.m.

**NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED:**

- **Resolution No. 2511 – 2015 Electric Bond Fund Transfer** - Auditor McEathron presented Resolution No. 2511. After discussion, Commissioner Gale made a **motion** and Commissioner Green **seconded** to approve Resolution No. 2511 transferring \$479,858.77 from the Electric 2015 Bond Fund to the Electric

Construction Fund and \$727,287.05 to the Electric General Fund for costs associated with the Underwood Substation rebuild project. **Motion passed unanimously.**

- **Resolution No. 2512 – 2015 Carson Bond Fund Transfer** - Auditor McEathron presented Resolution No. 2512. After discussion, Commissioner Gale made a **motion** and Commissioner Green **seconded** to approve Resolution No. 2512 transferring \$76,508.79 from the Carson Water 2015 Bond Fund to the Carson Water General Fund for costs associated with the New Carson Water Reservoir project. **Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Resolution No. 2513 – 2005 Bond Debt Service Fund Closures**- Auditor McEathron presented Resolution No. 2513. After discussion, Commissioner Gale made a **motion** and Commissioner Green **seconded** to approve Resolution No. 2513 authorizing the Skamania County Treasurer to close the 2005 Bond Debt Service Funds. **Motion passed unanimously.**

#### **ATTORNEY’S REPORT CONTINUED:**

- Attorney Woodrich reported that the Supreme Court denied review in the Klickitat PUD v DNR court case.

#### **NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED:**

- **Resolution No. 2515 – 2015-2016 Senior/Disable Rebates**- Auditor McEathron presented Resolution No. 2515. After discussion, Commissioner Gale made a **motion** and Commissioner Green **seconded** to approve Resolution No. 2515 establishing 2015-2016 electric rebates for senior and disabled customers. **Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Resolution No. 2516 – New Large Load & Cannabis Rate Schedule Update**- Auditor McEathron presented Resolution No. 2516. After discussion, Commissioner Gale made a **motion** and Commissioner Green **seconded** to approve Resolution No. 2516 establishing a New Large Load and Cannabis rate schedules based on BPA’s 2016 rate case. **Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Energy Efficiency Rebates – Residential**- Auditor McEathron presented the residential energy efficiency rebate schedule for the period October 1, 2015 through March 31, 2016. After discussion, Commissioner Gale made a **motion** and Commissioner Green **seconded** to approve the residential energy efficiency rebate schedule. **Motion passed unanimously.**

There was a 10 minute break at 10:50 a.m. The meeting resumed at 11:00 a.m.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**2016 Budget Hearing** – Commissioner Esch opened the public hearing on the 2016 budget at 10:58 a.m. Auditor McEathron presented the third draft of the proposed Electric, Carson Water and Underwood Water budgets for 2016. The Board discussed several line items with management.

Commissioner Esch opened the public comment portion of the 2016 budget hearing. Diane Green inquired whether the water and electric meters are read at the same time and staff replied that they were. Ms. Green commented on the location of meter maintenance expenses in the water system budgets.

Mary Repar commented on reducing meter expenses and undergrounding electric lines to reduce costs associated with the maintenance of overhead lines, tree trimming, and fire liability.

After discussion, Commissioner Gale made a **motion** and Commissioner Green **seconded** to approve Resolution No. 2514 adopting the 2016 budgets. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Commissioner Esch closed the 2016 budget hearing at 11:18 a.m.

- **Resolution No. 2509 – WRIA 29A DIP** – Manager Bischoff presented Resolution No. 2509 to formalize PUD concurrence with the conclusions and recommendations of the WRIA 29A Detailed Implementation Plan (DIP). The Commissioners discussed the DIP as it relates to the PUD and requested that Resolution No. 2509 be modified to only provide Commissioner concurrence to those sections of the DIP that apply to the Carson and Underwood Water Systems.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

- None.

### **MANAGER’S REPORT:**

Manager Bischoff reported on the following items:

- The PUD received two NWPPA communication awards for the PUD’s website (2<sup>nd</sup> place) and Drinking Water Quality Report (3<sup>rd</sup> place).
- Electric system mapping project update.
- Underwood Substation project update and discussion of required outage.
- Carson Reservoir interior maintenance work.
- The upcoming transmission main restraint repair project.
- Status of the New Carson Reservoir lease agreement.
- Completion of the Bear Creek fish screen project.
- County approval of geotechnical borings for the New Carson Reservoir.
- The Shepherd Pump Station project.

Commissioner Esch noted that the Commissioners should review RCW 54.16.050 Water rights, in regards to the Commissioners’ roles in the WRIA 29A DIP process.

### **AUDITOR’S REPORT:**

- Auditor McEathron provided two scenarios for charging interest to the water systems for DSRF funding resulting in transfers from the water construction funds to the electric construction fund. A resolution will be provided at an upcoming Board Meeting.

### **COMMISSIONER’S REPORT:**

- Commissioner Green reported that she attended the PPC Meeting.

**CALENDAR:**

- WPAG October 8, 2015
- ENW Board Meeting October 29, 2015
- PURMS Board Meeting November 5, 2015
- PPC Meeting November 5, 2015
- WPUA Meetings November 18-20, 2015

Manager Bischoff reported on his attendance at the WPUA Water Workshop.

**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>52524-52577</b>	<b>\$243,779.80</b>
Carson Water	<b>6550-6559</b>	<b>\$19,424.93</b>
Underwood Water	<b>3833-3836</b>	<b>\$5,222.48</b>

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- Diane Green commented regarding publicizing the availability of the community room and online bill pay. She also commented on the lease for the mailing/postage machine.

Meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.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, October 19, 2015 at 9:00 a.m.**