

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

October 6, 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 Gale made a **motion** and Commissioner Esch **seconded** to approve the September 15, 2014 Regular Meeting minutes. **Motion passed unanimously.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- Liz Green commented on the proposal to hire an administrative assistant at a time when the PUD is facing rate increases due to rising costs.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

- **Underwood Fire** - Manager Bischoff discussed the recent Underwood fire and possible methods to help prevent future fires.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Resolution No. 2467 – Surplus Line Truck**– Auditor McEathron presented Resolution No. 2467 declaring Truck #17, 1985 Ford F70A with aerial lift, as a surplus item. After discussion, Commissioner Gale made a **motion** and Commissioner Esch **seconded** to approve Resolution No. 2467. **Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Resolution No. 2469- Low Income Seniors & Disabled Citizen Rebate** – Auditor McEathron presented Resolution No. 2469 establishing 2014-2015 electric rebates for senior and disabled customers. After discussion, Commissioner Esch made a **motion** and Commissioner Gale **seconded** to approve Resolution No. 2467. **Motion passed unanimously.**

**ATTORNEY’S REPORT:**

The Board entered into Executive Session at 9:30 a.m. to discuss Potential Litigation per RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) for a duration of 30 minutes. The session was extended an additional 35 minutes. Executive session ended at 10:35 a.m.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**2015 Budget Hearing** – Commissioner Leach opened the public hearing on the 2015 budget at 10:35. Auditor McEathron presented the third draft of the proposed Electric, Carson Water and Underwood Water budgets for 2015.

Commissioner Leach opened the public comment portion of the 2015 budget hearing. Comments were made by Liz Green, Diane Green, and Sherry Esch. Commissioner Leach closed the public comment portion of the 2015 budget hearing.

The Board discussed several line items with management.

There was a break at 11:35 a.m. for 10 minutes. The meeting resumed at 11:45 a.m.

- **Resolution No. 2468- 2015 Budget** – Auditor McEathron presented Resolution No. 2468 to adopt 2015 budgets for the Electric, Carson Water, and Underwood Water Systems. Discussion followed. Commissioner Gale made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2468 with the qualification that staff research and present at a later meeting alternatives to hiring a full-time administrative assistant. Commissioner Leach stepped down to second the motion. **Motion passed with 2 votes for (Commissioner Leach and Gale) and 1 vote against (Commissioner Esch).**

There was a 55 minute break for lunch at 12:10 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 1:05 p.m.

#### **NEW BUSINESS CONT.:**

- **Hydrogeological Mapping Carson Water PSC – Mark Yinger Associates**– Manager Bischoff presented a Professional Services Contract with Mark Yinger Associates to provide hydrogeological mapping for the Carson water system. After discussion, Commissioner Esch made a **motion** and Commissioner Gale **seconded** to approve the General Manager to sign the contract with Mark Yinger Associates in the amount of \$5,410. **Motion passed unanimously.**

#### **DISCUSSION ITEMS CONT.:**

- **Large Load Policy** - The Commissioners discussed the large load policy in regards to new cannabis grow operations. The Commissioners requested that staff research how other utilities are handling the issue.

#### **MANAGER’S REPORT:**

- **URD Replacement Projects** - Manager Bischoff reported on the status of URD replacement projects.
- **Underwood Substation Rebuild** – Manager Bischoff reported that the major electrical equipment planned for the Underwood substation rebuild are currently out for bid.
- **Carson Reservoir Study** - Manager Bischoff discussed the ongoing evaluation of the new Carson reservoir site.
- **Commercial Load** – Manager Bischoff reported on plans to provide electrical services to a new commercial customer.

#### **AUDITOR’S REPORT:**

- **Fund Balance Report**– Auditor McEathron presented the fund balance report for September 2014.

- **BPA Power & Transmission Costs** – Auditor McEathron presented the year to date BPA power and transmission costs.

**COMMISSIONER’S REPORT:**

- Commissioner Gale reported on his attendance at the PUD Association meetings.

**CALENDAR:**

- The Energy NW Board Meeting is scheduled for October 23, 2014.
- The PPC Meeting is scheduled for November 6, 2014.
- The PURMS Board Meeting is scheduled for November 6, 2014.
- The WPUDA Meetings are scheduled for November 19-21, 2014.

**VOUCHER APPROVAL:**

Commissioner Esch made a **motion** and Commissioner Gale **seconded** to approve as amended 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	51040-51111	\$751,139.39
Carson Water	6369-6375	\$5,787.23
Underwood Water	3758-3749	\$79.85

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- Diane Green commented/inquired about payment policies for accounts with landlord/tenant relationships, how the administrative assistant position influences the 2015 budgets of the water systems and using sample policies from other public agencies to develop needed PUD policies.

Meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

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Clyde Leach, President

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Dennis Gale, Secretary

The next regular scheduled Board of Commissioners’ Meeting will be  
**Monday, October 20, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.**