

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

March 19, 2012

A regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order by President Dennis Gale 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; Interim Manager, Robert Gentry; Auditor, Jasen McEathron; Special Project Coordinator, Scott Fielding; and Attorney Ken Woodrich.

MINUTES:

- Commissioner Leach made a **motion** to accept the March 5, 2012 Board of Commissioners' meeting minutes as corrected. Commissioner Esch **seconded** the motion and the minutes were **approved unanimously**.
- Commissioner Esch made a **motion** to accept the March 14, 2012 Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners' meeting minutes as corrected. Commissioner Leach **seconded** the motion and the minutes were **approved unanimously**.

OLD BUSINESS:

- None

NEW BUSINESS:

- **EES Consulting Professional Services Contract – 20 Year Capital Plan** – Manager Gentry presented the proposed Professional Service Contract of \$40,000 with EES Consulting for 20 year Capital Plan with a 5 year Capital Plan coming out of the 20 year plan. This will provide a planned road map for capital planning in the future. The budget for this service was included in the 2012 Capital Budget. Attorney Woodrich discussed the language in EXHIBIT B that asks for net 15 days and 12% per annum be changed to net 30 days with zero percent per annum. Commissioner Leach made a **motion** authorizing the manager to sign the Professional Services Agreement with changes to EXHIBIT B. Commissioner Esch **seconded** the motion and the motion was **approved unanimously**.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- **Scheduled Commissioner meeting in all areas of Skamania PUD service area** – Manager Gentry proposed the Commissioners periodically hold Board meetings in Underwood, District 3, and West end, District 1. Reasons for county wide scheduled meetings: population and rate payers are diverse and rural in nature, locations for meetings need to be closer to the geographic center, scheduled meetings will be more predictable and therefore attendees can plan and participate in the PUD exchange of information. Both daytime and evening hours should be planned to meet the various peoples schedule, and determine the best method to notify rate payers and voters of meeting times. Manager Gentry would like to follow this discussion with a survey/questionnaire of the rate payers about changing meeting

locations and times. Manager Gentry will provide a list of survey questions to the board for review. The survey/questionnaire will be sent out in the newsletter. The Manager can send questions to the commissioners which could foster other questions. The Manager will begin working on a survey/questionnaire that will be reviewed by the Commissionaires.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

- Outages Report in terms of February it was weather related and typical of the February season. These are not untypical outages.

AUDITOR'S REPORT:

- Auditor McEathron presented the Fund Balances for all three systems: Electric, Carson Water, and Underwood Water.
- Auditor McEathron reported Presidential approval for FEMA disaster funds was granted and the PUD is continuing the process to acquire disaster relief funds.
- Manager Gentry stated he negotiated a refund with Clark PUD on the fuel charges during the storm damage repair.

Break at 10:05 a.m. for 7 minutes.

The meeting reconvened at 10:12 a.m.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:

Commissioner Gale attended Association meeting held last week. The first day was the Education Roundtable with Don Cohen of Gordon Thomas Honeywell to review of PDC guidelines for local government agencies. Copies of the PDC guidelines will be submitted to staff and commissioners as a reference. Klickitat PUD stated that WRIA 29 is currently out of money at this time and activities have been put on hold. Unknown at this time what the county has accomplished with WRIA 29. Uncertain what will happen with WRIA 29 in the future. The Energy Committee presented a lawsuit in which energy companies in Montana owes back rent to the State of Montana for occupying the land impacted by the dams on Montana rivers. The US Supreme Court issued a ruling that rivers would need to be clarified as navigable prior to the building of the dams. This could provide some issues to other states with dams. This cost would most likely be passed onto rate payers. BPA also came in with Scott Cohen and Bill Drummond reported the potential of CRAC this spring at less than fourteen percent. Some snow packs are above average and this could help power supplies throughout the basin. The Association is buying some video conferencing equipment to help defer the costs of traveling to Association meetings. This equipment should be up and running in about a month. Unknown what type of equipment is needed here at the PUD at this time. Water Committee meeting is scheduled for 29th March. The meeting is rather detailed and may need a staff member to sit in on the Water Committee meeting (via telephone). The staff member would not have voting power.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Liz Green commented on the proposed Public Meetings, NWPPA, and the pending lawsuit with the former Manager.

Attorney Woodrich was excused from the meeting at 10:44 a.m.

Entered into **Executive Session** with legal counsel from Karr Tuttle to discuss potential litigation in accordance with RCW 42.30.110 (1)(i) at 10:45 a.m. for a duration of 30 minutes.

Executive Session ended at 11:15 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Sherry Esch would like a copy of the PDC guidelines distributed to the Commissioners. Commended Manager Gentry and Attorney Woodrich and commented about the pending lawsuit with the former Manager.

VOUCHER APPROVAL:

Commissioner Esch made a **motion** to approve the vouchers. Commissioner Leach seconded the **motion**, and the **motion was carried unanimously**.

Voucher	Number	Amount
Electric System	47516-47578	\$398,752.88
Carson Water	5903-5907	\$48,553.79
Underwood Water	3492-3496	\$22,974.61

ATTORNEY REPORT: None.

Meeting adjourned at 11:27 a.m.

Dennis Gale, President

Curt Esch, Secretary

The next regular scheduled Board of Commissioners' Meeting will be
Monday April 2nd, 2012 at 9:00 a.m.