

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

April 2, 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; Attorney Ken Woodrich; and Special Project Coordinator, Scott Fielding.

MINUTES:

- Commissioner Esch made a **motion** to accept the March 19, 2012 Board of Commissioners' meeting minutes as corrected. Commissioner Leach **seconded** the motion and the minutes were **approved unanimously**.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Helen Paulus – Commended the PUD for their work during the January storm. Ms. Paulus also commented on four power poles on her property and inquired about having the poles and transformer moved.
- Sherry Esch – Commented on her federal tax concerns regarding the attorney healthcare issue and submitted a letter to be entered into the record.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Carson Water Reservoir** – Tom Vance and Bob Wallis presented information about the Carson Reservoir bids being higher than the budgeted amount for the Carson Reservoir work. Bob Wallis recommended the reservoir be drained and re-inspected. Bob Wallis also recommended the bids be rejected and the bid process be reinitiated. Commissioner Esch made a **motion** to reject the Carson Reservoir Painting Project bids. Commissioner Leach **seconded** the motion and the motion was **approved unanimously**.
- **Bear Creek Thinning Project** – Paul Spencer presented information about the Bear Creek Tree Thinning Project currently being considered.
- **Wind River Biomass Project** – Paul Spencer presented information about the Wind River Biomass Utilization Project currently being considered at the Wind River Business Park.
- **Resolution No. 2392 FEMA Disaster Assistance Representative Designations** – Auditor McEathron presented the resolution designating the Auditor and Manager as authorized representatives to sign FEMA disaster assistance agreements and documents. Commissioner Leach made a **motion** to approve Resolution No. 2392. Commissioner Esch **seconded** the motion and the motion was **approved unanimously**.

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

The meeting reconvened at 10:15 a.m.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- **WPUDA Committee Delegates** – The following member of the Skamania County PUD will assigned to the WPUDA committee: Board of Directors Dennis Gale (primary) and Clyde Leach (alternate), Managers Committee Robert Gentry (primary), Water Committee Scott Fielding (primary) and Robert Gentry (alternate), Energy Committee Dennis Gale (primary) and Robert Gentry (alternate), and Government Relations Committee Robert Gentry (primary).

ATTORNEY REPORT:

- Attorney Woodrich reported that the Wind River Task Force has received funding for a feasibility study that will be conducted by Wallis Engineering.

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

Executive session extended 5 minutes at 11:00 a.m.
Executive session extended 5 minutes at 11:05 a.m.
Executive session extended 5 minutes at 11:10 a.m.
Executive session extended 5 minutes at 11:15 a.m.
Executive session ended at 11:20 a.m.

Meeting reconvened at 11:20 a.m.

AUDITOR'S REPORT:

- Auditor McEathron presented information about the procurement of a new Meter Reader vehicle. The purchase through the State Contract will save about 25% off of the retail price.
- Auditor McEathron presented March 2012 Fund Balance Report and 2011 Financial Statistics.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Legal Services Contract** - The contract proposes that legal services be without a retainer at a rate of \$210 per hour. The Attorney will only be present when needed. Commissioner Leach made a motion allowing Manager Gentry to sign the Legal Services contract. Commissioner Esch **seconded** the motion and the motion was **approved unanimously**.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Customer Request for Rebate Variance** – The Commissioners considered a request from Debra Dittbrenner for a variance to the Electric Rebate criteria. The Commissioners chose not to make an

exception to the Special Electric Rebate policy and encouraged staff to help direct the customer of other assistance programs.

MANAGER’S REPORT:

- None

COMMISSIONER’S REPORT:

- None

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	47579-47614	\$588,949.65
Carson Water	5916-5919	\$5,792.69
Underwood Water	3501-3502	\$1,464.29

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Liz Green – Agreed with concerns of accepting FEMA funds, inquired on what the use of FEMA funds would be when received and voiced concerns about the rate in the Legal Services Contract.
- Betty Daubenspeck – Agreed with concerns of accepting FEMA funds but would like the PUD’s interests represented.
- Sherry Esch – Complimented staff on the financial reports and inquired as to the use of connection fees.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Dennis Gale, President

Curt Esch, Secretary

The next regular scheduled Board of Commissioners’ Meeting will be
Monday April 16th, 2012 at 9:00 a.m.