

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

May 7, 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 April 2, 2012 Board of Commissioners meeting minutes as amended. Commissioner Leach **seconded** the motion and the minutes were **approved unanimously**.
- Commissioner Esch made a **motion** to accept the April 16, 2012 Board of Commissioners meeting minutes. Commissioner Leach **seconded** the motion and the minutes were **approved unanimously**.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Sherry Esch – Stated she had information about the PUD from the Sherriff’s Office that conflicted and may be deemed an illegal act. Ms. Esch also referenced the Public Disclosure Commission legal requirements upon elected officials. She stated that if an elected official for the PUD had violated the law, then it is her understanding the PUD governing body could have a degree of responsibility. Commissioner Gale requested that Ms. Esch submit her information to the Board when she has completed her research.
- Mary Repar – Inquired as to the status of the Wind River Joint Task Force and the governance policy. Attorney Woodrich provided a brief status report on the Task Force.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Jacque Schei & Isreal Duran Leak Adjustment Request** – Ms. Schei and Mr. Duran are Underwood customers and were seeking a leak adjustment to their water bill . The homeowners isolated the leak but had not fixed the plumbing problem on their side of the water meter. The Commissioners allowed a variance to the PUD Leak Adjustment Policy that requires leaks be repaired prior to any billing adjustment. The Commissioners directed staff to adjust the homeowner’s water bill in accordance with PUD policy.
- **Customer Assistance Programs** – Linda Schneider and Jan Pearo, Washington Gorge Action Programs (WGAP) provided details about several energy assistance programs available to PUD customers. The eligibility criteria for the various programs was explained and the PUD’s contractual arrangement with WGAP was discussed. The Commissioners strongly supported WGAP’s efforts and asked PUD staff to increase information distributions promoting Operation Warmheart.
- **Resolution No. 2394 Energy Efficiency Program** – Auditor McEathron presented Resolution No. 2394 and the schedule of energy efficiency rebates. Commissioner Esch made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2394. Commissioner Leach **seconded** the motion and the resolution was **approved unanimously**.

- **Resolution No. 2395 Privilege Tax Refund Transfer** – Auditor McEathron presented Resolution No. 2395 transferring reserve funds of \$177,504.99 to the General Fund for the annual privilege tax payment to the Washington State Department of Revenue. Commissioner Esch made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2395. Commissioner Leach **seconded** the motion and the resolution was **approved unanimously**.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- None

ATTORNEY REPORT:

- None

Break at 10:15 a.m. for 7 minutes.

The Board entered into Executive Session to discuss potential litigation & public employee performance in accordance with RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) and RCW 42.30.110(1)(g), respectively, at 10:22 a.m. for a duration of 30 minutes.

Executive session extended 15 minutes at 10:52 a.m.

Executive session extended 15 minutes at 11:07 a.m.

Executive session ended at 11:24 a.m.

Meeting reconvened at 11:24 a.m.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Paulus Request for Power Lines Relocate** - Manager Gentry provided a cost estimate range of \$24,900 to \$32,200 for relocating the power lines and recommended PUD resources be used for higher priority capital needs. The Commission concurred and no action was taken.
- Commissioner Esch stated the board should make a decision on Paul Spencer's, EDC consultant, request for the PUD to fund a \$14,000 Fisheries/Aquatics study for a Bear Creek Thinning Project. The Commissioners decided to reject his request.

MANAGERS REPORT:

- Manager Gentry reported that he planned to recognize the linemen crew at the meeting but an outage prevented the crew from being able to attend this Commissioners Meeting. Manager Gentry will recognize the crew during the next meeting.

AUDITOR'S REPORT:

- Auditor McEathron provided information of Special Meeting state law changes, PUD life insurance benefits, and 2012 1st Quarter financial reports.

COMMISSIONER’S REPORT:

- Commissioner Leach reported on his attendance of the Energy Northwest board meeting.
- Commissioner Esch reported on his attendance of the WPAG and PPC meetings.

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	47675-47751	\$965,802.49
Carson Water	5931-5941	\$11,147.06
Underwood Water	3505-3509	\$3,919.99

Commissioner Gale requested the General Manager Search be placed on the agenda for the next meeting as an Old Business topic.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Susan Krug – Commented on the use of catchment tanks and their potential for PUD customers.

Meeting adjourned at 12:08 p.m.

Dennis Gale, President

Curt Esch, Secretary

The next regular scheduled Board of Commissioners’ Meeting will be
Monday May 21, 2012 at 9:00 a.m.