

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

July 1, 2013

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 Curt Esch; Commissioner Dennis Gale; Commissioner Clyde Leach; General Manager Brent Bischoff; Auditor Jasen McEathron; Project Coordinator Melanie Sharp; and Attorney Ken Woodrich.

MINUTES:

- Commissioner Esch noted a typographical error within the operations report. Commissioner Esch made a **motion** and Commissioner Gale **seconded** to approve the June 17, 2013 minutes as amended. **Motion passed unanimously.**

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- The public wished Commissioner Esch a happy birthday.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Commissioner Gale discussed tracking of old business items. This may include developing action items.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Website Redesign PSC – Ruralite Services, Inc** – Auditor McEathron discussed a redesign of the PUD website. The redesign would add new functionality, including the ability for the PUD to add and edit content, which currently is not available. Proposals ranged in price from \$1,500 to \$5,500. Auditor McEathron recommended contracting with Ruralite Services for a cost of \$1,500 with additional monthly costs of \$10 for site hosting and \$125 for maintenance and support. Commissioner Gale commented that he would like the ability to post links to other websites.

After discussion, Commissioner Gale made a **motion** and Commissioner Esch **seconded** to approve the contract with Ruralite Services. **Motion passed unanimously.**

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- None.

MANAGER’S REPORT:

- **Underwood Water System** - Manager Bischoff reported that Peach Lane improvements in Underwood will be starting soon. He is currently waiting on permit approval from the County, but could proceed under an emergency process if normal permit approvals are not received in time.
- **Carson Water System** - Manager Bischoff reported that Wallis is putting together a scope of work for a feasibility study that would evaluate construction of a new water transmission main between the existing

Port well in the Wind River Business Park and the Carson Water System. Commissioner Esch inquired if the study was going to evaluate taking over small water systems in the new territory. Manager Bischoff will find out and report back. Attorney Woodrich reported that the initial testing at the new Port well found that the well produced water at 800 gallons per minute.

Manager Bischoff reported that the planned waterline replacements for Carson are going out to small works contracts. Manager Bischoff reported on Scenic heights and Monaghan Road project in Carson. Once the projects are complete, if there is any money left in the budget in the fall then they will work to fill in the waterline gaps.

- **WRIA 29** - Commissioner Esch inquired about the status of the WRIA process. Project Coordinator Sharp reported that the County stated they do not have funding to start up the WRIA process again and didn't believe that the Department of Ecology would have funding available either. Attorney Woodrich discussed the process and logistics of starting the WRIA group up again. Additional streamflow data has been taken over the last few years since the WRIA group last met. Attorney Woodrich discussed instream flow in relation to water rights. Commissioner Esch commented that their needs to be discussion regarding how the instream flows effect development in the entire WRIA.
- **Highway 14 Reconducting** – Manager Bischoff reported that the Highway 14 reconductering work is complete. The communication companies still have some work to do. Commissioner Esch requested that a final summary of the total costs be prepared.

AUDITOR'S REPORT:

- **OFM Adjusted Commissioner Salary & Per Diem:** Auditor McEathron presented the Notice of Public Utility District Commission Dollar Threshold Adjustment that went into effect on July 1, 2013.
- **PCS Upgrade:** Auditor McEathron provided an update of the PCS upgrade. The revised billing system program went live on Monday and PCS staff was on hand to assist with the transition. PCS staff made some additional recommendations that staff will be implementing.

COMMISSONER'S REPORT:

- Commissioner Esch and Manager Bischoff attended the WPAG meeting. Commissioner Leach inquired about the deregistration request with WECC. Manager Bischoff reported that they are currently processing the request and he anticipates hearing back within the month.

Commissioner Gale inquired about the BPA contract for residential exchange lawsuit. Manager Bischoff is going to follow up and report back to the commission.

- Commissioner Gale and Manager Bischoff provided a summary of their attendance at the WUPDA meeting. BPA discussed mandating smart invertors on solar arrays to reduce over voltage issues. The commissioners had a discussion of small scale solar power. Commissioner Esch stated that the net metering policies might need to be readdressed in reference to solar arrays. Commissioners Gale requested that the strategic plan consider a large load policy. Commissioner Gale also discussed funding cuts to the Public Works Trust Fund.

CALENDAR:

- Commissioner Esch will be attending the PPC meeting on July 11, 2013.

- Commissioner Gale will be attending the WPUDA meeting on July 17 – 19, 2013.

VOUCHER APPROVAL:

Commissioner Esch made a **motion** and Commissioner Gale **seconded** to approve 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	49283-49334	\$369,359.55
Carson Water	6146-6153	\$50,762.66
Underwood Water	3632-3634	\$3,709.59

ATTORNEY’S REPORT:

Entered into Executive Session at 10:23 a.m. to discuss Employee Performance per RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) for a duration of 20 minutes. Executive Session was extended 15 additional minutes.

Meeting reconvened at 10:58 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- None.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Clyde Leach, President

Dennis Gale, Secretary

The next regular scheduled Board of Commissioners’ Meeting will be
Monday, July 15, 2013 at 9:00 a.m.