

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

September 17, 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 September 4, 2012 Board of Commissioners meeting minutes as corrected. Commissioner Leach **seconded** the motion and the minutes were **approved unanimously**.
- Commissioner Leach made a **motion** to accept the September 6, 2012 Board of Commissioners Special Meeting minutes. Commissioner Esch **seconded** the motion and the minutes were **approved unanimously**.
- Commissioner Esch made a **motion** to accept the September 10, 2012 Board of Commissioners Special Meeting minutes. Commissioner Leach **seconded** the motion and the minutes were **approved unanimously**.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Liz Green – Inquired as to the need for legal counsel at the September 6, 2012 Special Meeting. Ms. Green offered several suggestions to the Board in their search for a General Manager: someone vested in the community, not necessarily an engineer, look outside the box, and be cautious of previous managers. Commissioner Gale stated that the Attorney was only present at the Special Meeting for a brief time to answer any questions about the General Manager’s search process.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Digital Mapping and Bear Creek Fish Passage Update** – Special Projects Coordinator Fielding provided an overview of the Digital Mapping and Bear Creek Projects.
- Commissioner Leach asked staff for clarification on VEBA benefits and contributions. Auditor McEathron provided a brief overview of employee contributions to VEBA accounts.
- The Board entered into Executive Session to discuss potential litigation in accordance with RCW 42.30.110(1)(i), at 9:28 a.m. for a duration of 30 minutes.

Executive session ended at 9:58 a.m.

Meeting reconvened at 10:00 a.m.

- **Resolution No. 2401 – Modify Health Reimbursement Arrangement/Voluntary Employees’ Beneficiary Association (VEBA) Plan** – Auditor McEathron provided an overview of VEBA contribution rates. After further discussion, Commissioner Leach made a **motion** to accept Resolution No. 2401 as corrected. Commissioner Esch **seconded** the motion and the motion was **approved unanimously**.
- **Electric Capital Plan** – Interim Manager Gentry provided an overview of the electric capital plan.

Break at 11:18 a.m. for 5 minutes

Meeting Reconvened at 11:23 a.m.

- **Electric Capital Plan cont.** – The Board discussed the electric capital plan further and expressed a desire to adopt a capital plan for the future.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **BPA Energy Audit/Bid Evaluation** – Interim Manager Gentry provided an overview of the BPA Energy Audit Bid Evaluations. As directed by the Board of Commissioners, Interim Manager Gentry requested that bidders clarify their bids to ensure all the requirements of the BPA Energy Audit and the addition of CO₂ sensors and wiring to meet code requirements were included. Interim Manager Gentry recommended awarding the bid to MacDonald & Miller Heating in the amount of \$56,828.00 to upgrade the heating and air conditioning unit at the PUD Headquarters. Commissioner Esch made a **motion** to accept the MacDonald & Miller Heating bid in the amount of \$56,828.00. Commissioner Leach **seconded** the motion and the motion was **approved unanimously**.

Attorney Woodrich dismissed at 11:38 a.m.

NEW BUSINESS Cont.

- **Budget Plan & Process** – Auditor McEathron provided an overview of the 2013 Budget Index.

Break for lunch at 12:30 p.m. for 45 minutes

Meeting reconvened at 1:15 p.m.

- **Proposed 2013 Budget** – Auditor McEathron provided and overview of the proposed 2013 budget.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Sherry Esch – Suggested the substation upgrades and new transformers be funded with debt service and the remainder of capital improvements 50% rate revenues & 50% construction reserve funds.
- Liz Green – Commented that she is grateful for the work being done and believes that the rate payers would welcome a rate increase given the needs of the electric and water systems. She also objected to the hiring of an Executive Assistant.

- **Carson Water System Proposed 2013 Budget** – Auditor McEathron presented an overview of the Carson Water Systems 2013 proposed budget.
- **Underwood Water System Proposed 2013 Budget** – Auditor McEathron presented an overview of the Underwood Water Systems 2013 proposed budget.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- None

ATTORNEY REPORT:

- None

MANAGERS REPORT:

- **Outage Report** – Interim Manager Gentry presented the outage report for August 2012.

AUDITOR’S REPORT:

- **Bad Debts** – Auditor McEathron presented Bad Debts in the amount of \$4,025.30. After further discussion, Commissioner Esch made a **motion** to accept the bad debts as listed. Commissioner Leach **seconded** the motion and the motion was **approved unanimously**.

COMMISSIONER’S REPORT:

- None

VOUCHER APPROVAL:

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

| Voucher | Number | Amount |
|-----------------|---------------|---------------|
| Electric System | 48170-48229 | \$218,061.57 |
| Carson Water | 5997-6004 | \$11,306.70 |
| Underwood Water | 3548-3552 | \$3,130.17 |

Meeting recessed at 3:47 p.m. and was scheduled to reconvene the following day, Tuesday, September 18, 2012, at 9:00 a.m. so the Commissioners could continue the evaluation of General Manager applicants.

Meeting reconvened at 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, September 18, 2012.

The Board scheduled a Capital Planning Workshop for Monday, October 8, 2012, at 9:00 a.m.

The Board entered into Executive Session to evaluate General Manager applicants in accordance with RCW 42.30.110(1)(g), at 9:05 a.m. for a stated duration until 11:00 a.m.

Executive session was extended for 20 minutes.

Meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m. and was followed by an exempt meeting to discuss collective bargaining negotiations.

Dennis Gale, President

Curt Esch, Secretary

The next regular scheduled Board of Commissioners' Meeting will be
Monday, October 1, 2012 at 9:00 a.m.