

PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 OF FERRY COUNTY  
REGULAR MEETING OF COMMISSIONERS  
February 20, 2018

The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order by President Chris Kroupa at 9:00 a.m. Present were Commissioners Doug Aubertin, Chris Kroupa and Dan Fagerlie, Manager John Friederichs, Engineer/Superintendent Steve VanSlyke, Auditor Sue Nush, Treasurer Pam Allen, and Attorney Steve Graham.

All stood for the Flag Salute which was led by Commissioner Kroupa.

Visitor: Melissa Rose

The minutes of the January meeting were approved by a motion made by Commissioner Aubertin, seconded by Commissioner Fagerlie and unanimously carried.

Melissa Rose met with the Board to ask the Utility to advertise in this year's Ferry County Pride Week guide. Mrs. Rose was advised that the Board had decided previously to forgo advertising and sponsorships due to budget constraints and questions as to the legality of using funds for those purposes. Some commissioners and staff offered personal donations to help with Pride Week. Mrs. Rose thanked the Board for its time and exited the meeting at 9:21 a.m.

There were no public comments.

Reports:

The Engineer/Superintendent's Report was presented by Steve VanSlyke:

1. The crew has been replacing reclosers.
2. There were 36 outages in January caused by heavy snow.
3. The Utility is down a tree trimmer. Mr. VanSlyke is considering an apprenticeship program instead of hiring another journeyman tree trimmer.
4. Tree trimming is being done in the Empire Creek area. They will head west towards Bonaparte Lake next.
5. Mr. VanSlyke has ordered a new, larger recloser for west of town. This one will be a newer generation vacuum recloser. A discussion followed about the age of the reclosers currently used by the District and the cost of repairing them and putting them back in service versus buying newer, more reliable reclosers and phasing out the old ones.

The Board went into Executive Session as per RCW 42.30.110 Subsection 1, paragraph i at 9:22 a.m. for ten minutes for the purpose of discussing pending litigation. The Board returned to regular session at 9:33 a.m.

There was no Attorney's Report to present.

A recess was called at 9:34 a.m. for 20 minutes. The meeting reconvened at 9:52 a.m.

The Manager's Report was presented by John Friederichs:

Correspondence:

1. Correspondence received since the last meeting was briefly discussed.

Meetings:

1. Manager Friederichs and Deputy Auditor Marilee Kuehne will be attending a CWPU meeting in Spokane on Friday.
2. Engineer/Superintendent VanSlyke and Warehouseman/Mechanic Mike Brown will attend an East/West Operations meeting hosted by Franklin County PUD later this week.

General Business:

1. Manager Friederichs briefly discussed some proposed Washington State bills that could impact the Utility.

Conservation:

1. There was no Conservation Report to present.

Attorney Graham exited the meeting at 10:22 a.m. and returned at 10:28.

The commissioners presented information from meetings they attended since the last Board Meeting.

1. Commissioner Kroupa discussed the meetings he attended in Portland. President Trump's proposed budget includes selling off Bonneville Power's transmission assets. Legislators from the western states have sent a letter opposing the sale as it would not be good for Bonneville's customers.
2. Commissioner Fagerlie updated the Board on discussions he had with Ron Gadeberg from Okanogan County PUD regarding their telecom services. Commissioner Fagerlie also distributed copies of an article that he received at the last WPUDA meeting about Elon Musk and SpaceX's plans to launch low-earth orbit satellites to provide broadband to rural areas. It is possible that there may be state and federal funds offered to assist in bringing broadband to rural areas. Mr. Gadeberg has offered to come to a Board meeting and give a presentation. Commissioners Kroupa and Aubertin were both concerned about the District's business plan and not getting ahead of itself on this. They agreed that a

presentation by Mr. Gadeberg could provide helpful information and asked Commissioner Fagerlie to contact Mr. Gadeberg to arrange it.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Pam Allen:

- 1. Operating Funds available as of February 10, 2018 were \$2,532,044.41 with restricted funds of \$3,101,698.18. There were 42 outages in the month of January, for a year-to-date total of 42 compared to 7 for the same period in 2017. The Large Power Summary, Revolving Loan and Line Extension Loan reports were reviewed.
- 2. A local business that is behind on its bill was discussed. All commissioners agreed that the business needs to work out payment arrangements to get its account current as quickly as possible.

A recess was called at 11:16 a.m. for five minutes. The meeting reconvened at 11:21 a.m.

Commissioner Aubertin exited the meeting at 11:40 a.m. to attend to a personal emergency.

The Auditor's Report was presented by Sue Nush:

- 1. The voucher listing was presented to the Board. Cost and usage graphs were presented.
- 2. Warrants number 16485 through 16584, Direct Payroll Deposits number 904099 through 904135 and Electronic Fund Transfers number 504 through 508 and 510, in the total amount of \$718,745.11 were approved by a motion made by Commissioner Fagerlie, seconded by Commissioner Kroupa and unanimously carried. Also included was warrant 16471 in the amount of \$234.60 which was void and reissued as part of warrant numbered 16549.

With no other business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:58 a.m.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
Public Utility District Number One  
Ferry County, Washington

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

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Vice-President

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

APPROVED:

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Manager