

PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 OF FERRY COUNTY  
REGULAR MEETING OF COMMISSIONERS  
March 16, 2020

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

Visitors: David Heinen and John Friederichs

All stood for the Flag Salute.

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

Public Comments:

Mr. Heinen and Mr. Friederichs informed the Board that the Republic School received a grant to purchase a state-of-the-art fume extraction system, plasma cutting table, welders, and metal lathes. The current electrical system in the shop building is unable to handle the new equipment. They will be applying to the District's Revolving Loan/Grant Fund for assistance in upgrading the electrical system. Besides students gaining valuable job skills, training classes for displaced workers and community members will be offered. All agreed that a nationally certified welding program would be an asset to the community. A full meeting of the Revolving Loan/Grant Fund Committee will be held when the application is complete. Commissioner Fagerlie also added that he knows private donors who may be willing to help. Mr. Heinen and Mr. Friederichs exited the meeting at 9:19 a.m.

Reports:

The Superintendent's Report was presented by Steve VanSlyke:

1. The crew is almost finished with pole replacements. They are also working on replacing cutouts and doing other system repairs.

Commissioner Kroupa talked to a ratepayer who was complimentary that there were no major outages this winter. A discussion followed on the increased tree thinning on Sherman Pass near the BPA lines. Commissioner Kroupa also believes that having a District tree trimming crew has helped reduce outages.

The Manager's Report was presented by Steve VanSlyke:

1. Manager VanSlyke is still trying to obtain the original pictures used to paint the office wall mural. If they can't be found, different pictures may have to be used.
2. Manager VanSlyke updated the Board on a significant power theft case in the Keller area. Attorney Graham has asked the sheriff's office to investigate and wants the county prosecutor to press charges. Commissioner Aubertin suggested notifying tribal police, as well.
3. The COVID-19 pandemic was discussed. The District needs to provide a safe workplace for employees and for the public. Customers will be encouraged to pay remotely and to use the payment drop box by the office front door.

In response to the COVID-19 emergency, Resolution 20-01 A Resolution Authorizing the General Manager to Act to Ensure the Health and Safety of Employees was presented to the Board. Commissioner Kroupa made a motion to approve the resolution, Commissioner Aubertin seconded the motion and it unanimously carried.

A recess was called at 9:51 a.m. for twenty minutes. The meeting resumed at 10:11 a.m.

The commissioners presented information from meetings they attended since the last Board Meeting. Many meetings are being cancelled due to the newly enacted state restrictions that limit the size of gatherings.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Pam Allen:

1. Operating Funds available as of March 10, 2020 were \$3,407,140.59 with restricted funds of \$2,879,874.03. There were 4 outages in the month of February, for a year-to-date total of 15 compared to 13 for the same period in 2019. The Large Power Summary, Revolving Loan and Line Extension Loan reports were presented.

The Auditor's Report was presented by Sue Nush:

1. The voucher listing was presented to the Board.
2. Warrants number 18772 through 18852, Direct Payroll Deposits number 905055 through 905095, and Electronic Fund Transfers number 656 through 663, in the total amount of \$778,482.77 were approved by a motion made by Commissioner Aubertin, seconded by Commissioner Kroupa and unanimously carried.
3. Cost and usage graphs were presented and discussed.

A recess was called at 11:07 a.m. for ten minutes. The meeting resumed at 11:18 a.m. and was adjourned at that time. Attorney Steve Graham entered at 11:27 and President Fagerlie called the meeting back to session.

The Board went into Executive Session as per RCW 42.30.110 Subsection 1, paragraph i at 11:28

a.m. for fifteen minutes for the purpose of discussing pending litigation. The Board returned to regular session at 11:43 a.m.

There was no Attorney’s report. Attorney Graham was briefly updated on items discussed earlier in the meeting.

With no other business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

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Vice-President

ATTEST:

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Secretary

APPROVED:

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Manager