

PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 OF FERRY COUNTY
REGULAR MEETING OF COMMISSIONERS
September 21, 2020

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

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

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

Visitors: None

Public Comments: None

Reports:

The Superintendent's Report was presented by Mike Brown:

1. The Customs Road Fire damaged some poles, but the District was lucky to not have more damage. The poles were not burned badly and will be repaired later. A request was then received to provide mutual aid to Nespelem Valley Electric Co-op for a week. They were grateful for the help as they lost 500 poles to fire. The District also sold them a couple of reels of underground cable as supplies are difficult to find with the fire and hurricane damage across the country. They help us out when we need it, so it is good to help them back.
2. The crew continues to install new line extensions.

The Board went into Executive Session as per RCW 42.30.110 Subsection 1, paragraph i at 9:38 a.m. for fifteen minutes for the purpose of discussing potential litigation. The Board returned to regular session at 9:53 a.m.

There was no further Attorney's Report.

A recess was called at 9:53 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. The meeting resumed at 10:00 a.m.

Auditor Nush led the scheduled Budget Workshop. Figures are still preliminary at this time, but estimated sources and uses were discussed, including proposed capital items. After further discussion, it was agreed to schedule a budget hearing for the next Board meeting on October 19th at 1:00 p.m.

A recess was called at 10:50 a.m. for twenty minutes. The meeting resumed at 11:10 a.m.

The Manager's Report was presented by Steve VanSlyke:

1. Manager VanSlyke had a customer inquire about the effect of an electromagnetic pulse (EMP) on the District's system. There is overvoltage protection on the transmission system. Manager VanSlyke showed the Board a Siemens compact modular recloser that is now being used to replace older hydraulic reclosers. It is much better than the hydraulic reclosers and can be programmed to replace all the different reclosers used by the District.
2. Manager VanSlyke presented a proposed Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between the District and Ferry County, along with a related Memorandum of Understanding for reciprocal data backup with Ferry County. After discussion, Commissioner Kroupa made a motion to approve the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement with Ferry County, Commissioner Aubertin seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.
3. The Board was updated on the status of the Keller AMI project. There are a few meters in blind spots, but the gateways are working. Manager VanSlyke showed the Board the Vision website with the map locations of the AMI meters that have been installed. There is a lot of functionality with it. It will send an email to Manager VanSlyke, Superintendent Brown and the linemen when it detects an outage. The meter usage data needs to be confirmed and paralleled for a few months before switching everything over.
4. Manager VanSlyke presented the Board with an analysis of the cost of constructing new line extensions, and a proposal for new rates that more accurately reflect District costs. A discussion followed on the proposed rates.

The Board recessed for lunch at 11:59 a.m. for an hour. The meeting resumed at 1:00 p.m.

The Manager's Report continued:

4. Commissioner Kroupa made a motion to approve the proposed changes to line extension rates. Commissioner Aubertin seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. The new rates will go into effect immediately, but any estimates that have been given previously will be honored for a year from the time provided.
5. A discussion was held about supporting a candidate for the Executive Committee of the Public Power Council. Candidates on the ballot will be known by the October Board meeting and it was agreed that a decision on how to vote will be made at that time.

The Treasurer’s Report was presented by Pam Allen:

- 1. The regular Treasurer’s reports were mailed to the Board for review prior to the meeting. Operating Funds available as of September 10, 2020 were \$3,378,302.88 with restricted funds of \$2,907,720.45. There were 8 outages in the month of August, for a year-to-date total of 77 compared to 102 for the same period in 2019. The Large Power Summary, Revolving Loan and Line Extension Loan reports were also included in the mailed packet.

Resolution 20-02 A Resolution to Cancel Unclaimed Warrants was presented to the Board. Commissioner Kroupa made a motion to approve the resolution, Commissioner Fagerlie seconded the motion and it unanimously carried.

The Auditor’s Report was presented by Sue Nush:

- 1. The voucher listing was mailed to the Board for review prior to the meeting.
- 2. Warrants number 19219 through 19319, Direct Payroll Deposits 905300 through 905338, and Electronic Fund Transfers number 707 through 719, in the total amount of \$605,162.75 were approved by a motion made by Commissioner Kroupa, seconded by Commissioner Aubertin, and unanimously carried. Included in the listing was Electronic Fund Transfer number 709 which was void before release.
- 3. Cost and usage graphs were included in the packet mailed to the Board for their review.

The commissioners presented information from meetings they attended since the last Board Meeting. Commissioner Fagerlie updated the Board on the letter he was going to draft to BPA on keeping their right of way clear over Sherman Pass. He was advised that a meeting with the different parties involved would be better than a letter, so he did not write one.

A recess was called at 2:14 p.m. for ten minutes. Superintendent Brown and Auditor Nush exited the meeting at this time. The meeting resumed at 2:24 p.m.

The Board went into Executive Session as per RCW 42.30.110 Subsection 1, paragraph g at 2:24 p.m. for thirty minutes to conduct the yearly performance review of a public employee. The Board returned to regular session at 2:56 p.m.

With no other business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 2:57 p.m.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Public Utility District Number One
Ferry County, Washington

President

Vice-President

ATTEST:

Secretary

APPROVED:

Manager