

PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 OF FERRY COUNTY
REGULAR MEETING OF COMMISSIONERS
May 15, 2023

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 Steve VanSlyke, Superintendent Mike Brown, Auditor Sue Nush, and Treasurer Pam Allen.

All stood for the Flag Salute.

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

Visitors: Randy Glass

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

Reports:

The Superintendent's Report was presented by Mike Brown:

1. BPA has notified Superintendent Brown that it will need another scheduled outage for the Keller area on September 27th from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
2. Alamon, the pole-testing contractor, will be on-site the first or second week of June.
3. The crew has begun working four ten-hour shifts for the summer.

The Manager's Report was presented by Steve VanSlyke:

1. Manager VanSlyke updated the group on items discussed at the WPUA General Managers meeting held in Spokane last week.

Attorney Steve Graham joined the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

Visitor Randy Glass, a wildlife biologist, talked to the Board about placing nesting platforms around Curlew Lake to encourage ospreys not to nest on District power poles. Birds nesting on power poles are at risk of electrocution and can cause fires. Currently, the District places structures on some poles that prevent ospreys from building nests on them. Randy would like for the District to donate some used power poles for him to set on private property around the lake and he will build nesting platforms on them. A discussion followed on the poor condition of the used poles and the effectiveness of platforms in drawing ospreys away from nesting on electric power poles. Commissioner Fagerlie suggested Randy create a non-profit organization to get local involvement in the project and funding to purchase new poles. Randy Glass exited the meeting at this time.

A recess was called at 10:04 a.m. until 10:25 a.m. The meeting resumed at 10:25 a.m.

Commissioner Fagerlie would like to travel to Seattle to meet with some of the non-profit groups who have been involved in the state's decisions on CETA's low-income assistance programs. He would like to advocate for the state to fund and administer the program, not the local ratepayers. Commissioners Kroupa and Aubertin were agreeable to the travel costs.

The Board went into Executive Session at 10:32 a.m. until 10:55 a.m. as per RCW 42.30.110 Subsection 1, paragraph g to conduct the yearly performance review of a public employee. Superintendent Brown, Auditor Nush, and Treasurer Allen exited the meeting at this time.

The Board returned to regular session at 10:55 a.m. Superintendent Brown, Auditor Nush and Treasurer Allen rejoined the meeting at this time.

The Board went into Executive Session as per RCW 42.30.110 Subsection 1, paragraph i for the purpose of discussing potential litigation at 10:57 a.m. until 11:10 a.m.

The Board returned to regular session at 11:10 a.m. Attorney Graham exited the meeting at this time.

The Manager's Report continued:

2. Manager VanSlyke discussed the heat protection standards for outdoor workers that the Washington Department of Labor and Industries is currently developing.

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 May 9, 2023 were \$4,177,037.35 with restricted funds of \$2,941,867.69. There were 4 outages in the month of April, for a year-to-date total of 27 compared to 28 for the same period in 2022. The Large Power Summary, Revolving Loan and Line Extension Loan reports were also included in the mailed packet.
2. Treasurer Allen discussed the passage of Bill 1329 by Washington State that prevents utility shutoffs during extreme heat and allows for payment arrangements to reconnect service during those periods at the customer's request.

Attorney Graham rejoined the meeting at 11:54 a.m.

The Auditor’s Report was presented by Sue Nush:

- 1. The voucher listing was presented to the Board.
- 2. Warrants number 21730 through 21806, Direct Payroll Deposits number 906597 through 906637, and Electronic Fund Transfers number 975 through 976 and 978 through 983 and 986, in the total amount of \$739,943.08 were approved by a motion made by Commissioner Fagerlie, seconded by Commissioner Aubertin, and unanimously carried. Included in the listing was warrant number 21051 which was voided and reissued in the amount of \$42.54, and warrant number 21730 which was voided prior to release due to a clerical error.
- 3. Cost and usage graphs were presented and discussed.

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

With no other business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 12:17 p.m.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Public Utility District Number One
Ferry County, Washington

President

Vice-President

ATTEST:

Secretary

APPROVED:

Manager