

PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 OF FERRY COUNTY
REGULAR MEETING OF COMMISSIONERS
February 20, 2024

The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order by Commissioner 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. Attorney Steve Graham joined the meeting remotely at 10:00 a.m.

All stood for the Flag Salute.

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

Visitors: None.

Public Comments: None.

Reports:

The Superintendent's Report was presented by Mike Brown:

1. Two trucks were budgeted for this year. Superintendent Brown found used pickups that suited the District's needs and has purchased them. A Polaris Ranger was also budgeted and will be delivered soon. One pickup and a Ranger will be surplussed when the new vehicles are all in place.
2. Superintendent Brown is working on contracts for pole testing and brush clearing.

The Manager's Report was presented by Steve VanSlyke:

1. Manager VanSlyke discussed an On-Call Office Support position that was budgeted for 2024. The District will begin advertising for it.
2. Manager VanSlyke presented the Board with an updated Wage and Salary Administration Schedule No. 41-24 for non-bargaining employees. The percentage increase matches the Collective Bargaining Agreement. Commissioner Fagerlie made a motion to approve the schedule as presented. Commissioner Aubertin seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

A recess was called at 9:41 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. The meeting resumed at 9:58 a.m.

The Board went into Executive Session as per RCW 42.30.110 Subsection 1, paragraph i for the purpose of discussing potential litigation at 10:00 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. The Board returned to regular session at 10:30 a.m.

The Board discussed the billing adjustment disputed by customers Scott and Rhonda Schultz after their meter was erroneously processed without a multiplier. The Board had told them that they could delay payment until the usage was confirmed. After testing with a parallel meter and a separate data logger, the District determined that the billing for the corrected usage was accurate. Commissioner Fagerlie suggested that they be offered a payment arrangement over either three or six years to repay the adjusted amount. Commissioner Kroupa made a motion directing Manager VanSlyke to contact them by letter to relay this determination and inform them that the Board expects them to pay their bill and to start payments by March 15th. Commissioner Aubertin seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Attorney's Report: There was no Attorney's Report.

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 February 10, 2024 were \$4,488,922.73 with restricted funds of \$2,992,371.19. There were 11 outages in the month of January, for a year-to-date total of 11 compared to 10 for the same period in 2023. The Large Power Summary, Revolving Loan and Line Extension Loan reports were also included in the mailed packet.

The Auditor's Report was mailed to the Board prior to the meeting.

1. Auditor Nush presented the Board with final numbers for Budget Year 2023.
2. There is one local senior who has indicated that she intends to apply for the annual WPUA Educational Scholarship. Commissioner Fagerlie made a motion to name Aleena Maycumber as the District's nominee, assuming she completes the application process. Commissioner Aubertin seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.
3. The voucher listing was reviewed by the Board.
4. Warrants number 22416 through 22505, Direct Payroll Deposits number 907023 through 907061, and Electronic Fund Transfers number 1039 through 1045, in the total amount of \$801,071.99 were approved by a motion made by Commissioner Fagerlie, seconded by Commissioner Kroupa, and unanimously carried.
5. Cost and usage graphs were presented and discussed.

The commissioners presented information from meetings they attended since the last Board Meeting. Commissioner Fagerlie exited the meeting at 11:35 a.m.

With no other business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:38 a.m.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Public Utility District Number One
Ferry County, Washington

President

Vice-President

ATTEST:

Secretary

APPROVED:

Manager