

PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 OF FERRY COUNTY  
REGULAR MEETING OF COMMISSIONERS  
February 22, 2022

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

All stood for the Flag Salute.

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

Visitors: There were no visitors.

Public Comments: Commissioner Fagerlie was contacted by a customer who wanted to know why all the Utility's employees were not listed on the District website. Auditor Nush and Treasurer Allen informed the group that it was updated to list only those employees who have direct contact with the public.

Reports:

The Superintendent's Report was presented by Mike Brown:

1. BPA has now requested a separate outage for the Keller substation in addition to the outage for the Republic substation. The Republic outage has been changed to June 25<sup>th</sup> and the Keller outage will be on May 6<sup>th</sup>. Both will be from 8:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. The crew will use that down time to do District work.
2. The crew has been replacing poles in the Keller area. Testing has identified these poles as deficient. Superintendent Brown is getting bids for this year's pole testing program.
3. The Board was provided with an update on supply chain issues affecting the District. Superintendent Brown is still seeing long lead times and higher prices.
4. Superintendent Brown has been documenting the District's vegetation management and fire mitigation policy.

There was no Attorney's Report to present.

The Manager's Report was presented by Steve VanSlyke:

1. Manager VanSlyke has been working on nuisance tripping on the system and believes he has resolved the problems.

Commissioner Fagerlie and Manager VanSlyke presented a draft letter addressed to Lisa Brown, Director of the Washington State Department of Commerce, regarding issues with the low-income assistance requirements in the Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA).

A recess was called at 10:00 a.m. for twenty minutes. The meeting resumed at 10:20 a.m.

After some minor editing, Commissioner Fagerlie made a motion to approve the letter, Commissioner Kroupa seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. The Board expressed their concern about the ramifications of CETA's low-income subsidy goals and how the resulting costs can be met without severely impacting other vulnerable populations in Ferry County, which is one of the poorest counties in the state. Estimates provided by the Department of Commerce indicate that some customers could pay an additional \$741.20 a year to cover these subsidies.

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, 2022 were \$4,235,902.29 with restricted funds of \$2,873,751.97. There were 6 outages in the month of January, for a year-to-date total of 6 compared to 36 for the same period in 2021. The Large Power Summary, Revolving Loan and Line Extension Loan reports were also included in the mailed packet.
2. Treasurer Allen informed the Board that William Scott has paid \$3,000 of the \$12,687.93 balloon payment that was due on his revolving loan in January. The Board directed Treasurer Allen to send Mr. Scott a letter inquiring about his plan to pay off the balance.

The Auditor's Report was presented by Sue Nush:

1. The voucher listing was presented to the Board.
2. Warrants number 20561 through 20662, Direct Payroll Deposits number 905982 through 906022, and Electronic Fund Transfers number 848 and 850 through 860, in the total amount of \$1,078,601.57 were approved by a motion made by Commissioner Kroupa, seconded by Commissioner Fagerlie, and unanimously carried.
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 11:38 a.m.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Public Utility District Number One  
Ferry County, Washington

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Vice-President

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Manager