

PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 OF FERRY COUNTY  
REGULAR MEETING OF COMMISSIONERS  
August 15, 2022

The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order by President Doug Aubertin at 9:01 a.m. Present 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 July 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: There were no public comments.

Reports:

The Superintendent's Report was presented by Mike Brown:

1. The District was contacted by a supplier who may be able to provide some transformers.
2. Structural and dielectric testing on District equipment has been scheduled for next month.
3. This year's pole testing cycle has been completed. Of the 850 poles tested, only 20 were found to be deficient. Five of those need to be replaced immediately and the others will be done after construction for the season is completed.
4. A new compressor has been purchased, as budgeted. Superintendent Brown has had some discussions with the local school district about the old one and suggested that it be given to them. It is over 50 years old and has little value. A resolution to surplus it will be prepared for the Board to review at next month's meeting.

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

The Manager's Report was presented by Steve VanSlyke:

1. Manager VanSlyke had the opportunity to view aerial footage of some of the District's lines that was taken by a drone. General Pacific, a company that sells electrical equipment and specializes in utility drones, will be coming on-site to demonstrate one of their commercial drones. Given the rugged terrain in some of the service area, a drone would be very useful for system inspections and in locating problems during outages. The company also offers courses to train and license drone operators so that all laws are followed and personal privacy is respected.

A recess was called from 10:08 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. The meeting resumed at 10:30 a.m.

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 August 9, 2022 were \$3,931,163.91 with restricted funds of \$2,910,603.62. There were 30 outages in the month of July, for a year-to-date total of 76 compared to 131 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. The two-year term for membership on the Rural Economic Development Revolving Loan Fund for Katherine Meade has expired. Treasurer Allen presented the Board with a new form to extend her membership for another two years. Commissioner Fagerlie made a motion to approve the extension, Commissioner Kroupa seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.
3. Some WPUA staff will be on-site to give a presentation at the September Board meeting. Treasurer Allen will arrange for sandwiches to be brought in for a working lunch.

The Auditor's Report was presented by Sue Nush:

1. The voucher listing was presented to the Board.
2. Warrants number 21008 through 21089, Direct Payroll Deposits number 906228 through 906268, and Electronic Fund Transfers number 902 through 908, in the total amount of \$645,544.49 were approved by a motion made by Commissioner Fagerlie, seconded by Commissioner Kroupa, and unanimously carried.
3. Cost and usage graphs were presented and discussed.

A recess was called at 11:22 a.m. for two minutes. The meeting resumed at 11:25 a.m.

Commissioner Kroupa updated the group about his NRU and PPC meetings. Bonneville Power is the sole energy supplier for the District and the current contract expires in 2028. There are multiple issues of concern about the new contract, all probably resulting in higher costs for the District's customers.

With no other business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:53 a.m.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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Ferry County, Washington

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APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
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