

PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 OF FERRY COUNTY
REGULAR MEETING OF COMMISSIONERS
November 16, 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, Manager Steve VanSlyke, Superintendent Mike Brown, Auditor Sue Nush, and Treasurer Pam Allen. Attorney Steve Graham joined the meeting by telephone.

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

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

Visitors: None

Public Comments: Commissioner Aubertin received a call from a resident on Bridge Creek. Their power keeps going off even though the District has been there multiple times to reset it.

Reports:

The Superintendent's Report was presented by Mike Brown:

1. The crew has stayed busy with new line extensions. They are finally starting to taper off with the cold weather.
2. The crew also helped with seasonal meter reads. Having multiple people out for reads gets it done faster.
3. Truck 30 needed emissions repairs and new injectors. This is the newest bucket truck. It has 50,000 miles on it, but that does not reflect the hours on the truck when it idles while working.
4. Marty Maycumber passed his test and is now a journeyman tree trimmer.
5. The request for GenerLinks remains high but it is taking several weeks to get our orders from the company so there is a waiting list.

The Attorney's Report was presented by Steve Graham.

1. The District's Interconnection of Electric Generators policy was reviewed. The District was informed of a change in law and needs to update it. After discussion, Commissioner Kroupa made a motion to accept the changes as proposed on the policy for Interconnection of Electric Generators. Commissioner Aubertin seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.
2. Attorney Graham has been reviewing the state's prevailing wage laws on public works contracts, and the filing requirements for contractors. While they are cumbersome, they are well founded in state law.
3. There are no changes to report in the Frontier bankruptcy proceedings.

The Manager's Report was presented by Steve VanSlyke:

1. Manager VanSlyke reported that the inverter for the solar panel on the electric car charging station is broken. There are still some kWhs banked on the system from solar generation, but once those are used, electricity for charging will be coming from the grid. Since the District is prohibited from gifting public funds, a discussion followed on whether the Utility should continue to host the charging station or if it would be more appropriate for someone else in town to install one. One local resident has used the free electricity to charge their car more than travelers from out of town. Plug-In North Central Washington provided the charging station at no cost and the District installed the solar panel and inverter from surplus parts. It will cost a couple of thousand dollars to replace the inverter. Attorney Graham will review the contract and Manager VanSlyke will report back on options.
2. An advertisement will be posted to replace the journeyman lineman who quit earlier this year.
3. The Republic TV Association contacted Manager VanSlyke and asked to meet with the Revolving Loan/Grant Fund Committee to request an increase in the amount of their previously approved loan. They did not receive the grant they applied for and now need to change the scope of their project to install fiber cable in additional parts of the county. Manager VanSlyke will contact them and find out if the meeting can be scheduled at the next monthly commissioners' meeting or if a special meeting needs to be called.

A recess was called at 10:12 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 November 9, 2020 were \$3,328,262.94 with restricted funds of \$2,917,022.17. There were 13 outages in the month of October, for a year-to-date total of 110 compared to 125 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 20-03 A Resolution to Write-off Uncollectible Accounts was presented to the Board. Commissioner Kroupa made a motion to approve the resolution, Commissioner Aubertin 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 19416 through 19493, Direct Payroll Deposits 905378 through 905416, and Electronic Fund Transfers number 726 through 731 and 733, in the total amount of \$423,489.08 were approved by a motion made by Commissioner Kroupa, seconded by Commissioner Aubertin, and unanimously carried. Included in the listing were warrants number 17156, 17159, 17391, 17392, 17502, 17892, 18031, and 18032 in the amount of \$950.37 which were voided as unclaimed warrants, and that same amount remitted to the Washington State Dept of Revenue electronically as EFT number CA005. Also, warrants number 19417 through 19419 were voided prior to release due to a clerical error.
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.

The Board recessed for lunch at 11:31 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. The meeting resumed at 1:00 p.m.

Manager VanSlyke contacted the Republic TV Association. They would appreciate an expedited meeting of the Revolving Loan/Grant Fund Committee as there are materials they need to order. Manager VanSlyke will send out an email with the meeting time to committee members, tentatively scheduled for Monday, November 23rd.

With no other business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 1:06 p.m.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Public Utility District Number One
Ferry County, Washington

President

Vice-President

ATTEST:

Secretary

APPROVED:

Manager