

PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 OF FERRY COUNTY
SPECIAL MEETING OF COMMISSIONERS
HELD BY TELECONFERENCE
November 23, 2020

A special meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order by President Dan Fagerlie at 9:03 a.m., pursuant to proper notice thereof.

Attending were Commissioners Dan Fagerlie, Chris Kroupa and Doug Aubertin, Attorney Steve Graham, Manager Steve VanSlyke, Auditor Sue Nush, and Treasurer Pam Allen. Also in attendance were Revolving Loan/Grant Fund Committee members Gail Kuehne and Katherine Meade.

Visitor: Sheila Welvaert of the TV Association of Republic

The special meeting of the Revolving Loan/Grant Fund Committee was called to discuss a request by the TV Association of Republic to increase the amount of the loan previously approved by the Committee. The TV Association applied for a state grant in the amount of \$1.8 million but were not selected. Sheila explained that they have now reduced the scope of the project to installing fiber backbone to Curlew. To do this, they would like to increase the loan previously approved by the Committee from \$150,000 to \$220,000. Katherine asked why they were turned down for the state grant. Sheila stated that she had received an email about the application but had not read it yet. Gail Kuehne asked if the first application was null and void now. Commissioner Fagerlie said that he believed so since the previous loan was contingent on them receiving the state grant. A discussion followed on the revised application and the project details. Sheila was unable to answer the questions as her engineer had completed the form. Gail was concerned that they already have a loan from the Revolving Loan/Grant Fund with over \$10,000 left to pay. She was not in favor of depleting the fund in one fell swoop to the TV Association. Gail also believes that they should pay interest on any loan given to them. Sue Nush asked if they could scale back to a smaller project. Sheila said that she needs to talk to her engineer about that. Commissioner Aubertin expressed his concern about the amount of the loan requested and whether the TV Association would have sufficient operating cash left. He also wondered if there were other loans or grants that might be available to them. Sheila said that fiber is hard to get right now and they will need to order it now to have it to install in the spring.

Committee members agreed that they would like to know why the TV Association did not receive the state grant and if they can re-apply for it. They would also like to know if there are other grants for which they may qualify. The Committee would like to know the cost of the materials, and if the amount of the loan can be reduced. Another Special Meeting will be scheduled for Monday, November 30th at 2:00 p.m., assuming the TV Association can be prepared by then. Sheila assured the Committee that they will be and that her engineer will attend to answer any questions.

With no other business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:43 a.m.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Public Utility District Number One
Ferry County, Washington

President

Vice-President

ATTEST:

Secretary

APPROVED:

Manager