



PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 OF OKANOGAN COUNTY
1331 Second Ave N. Okanogan, WA
REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Zoom Meeting Info: Phone: 1-346-248-7799 Meeting ID: 922 7822 8992

Join by Zoom Meeting <https://zoom.us/j/92278228992> Meeting ID: 922 7822 8992

November 13, 2023

ATTENDEES:

Board Members: Jerry Asmussen, Scott Vejraska, Bill Colyar
Staff: Steve Taylor, Janet Crossland, Ron Gadeberg, Rob Gillespie, Wendy Foth, Jerry Day, Dan Simpson, Randy Bird, Dale Dunckel, Katie Pfitzer, Mindy Morris, Jeri Timm, John MacDonald, Travis Olson, Dana Kincaid, Scott Abrahamson
Staff Via Zoom/Phone: Debbie Dibble, JJ Boettger, Allen Allie, Derik Grooms, Justin Dibble
Other: Heidi Appel, General Counsel
Other Online: Matt Hobson, FCS Group
Public: Mike Cusick, Rod Haeberle
Public Via Zoom: No one from the public attended via Zoom

SUMMARY AGENDA

- I.** Call to Order
- II.** Business Meeting
 1. Pledge of Allegiance
 2. Roll Call
 3. Review of Agenda
 4. Public Comment
 5. Approval of Consent Agenda
 - a) Minutes from October 23rd, 2023, Regular Meeting
 - b) Vouchers
 6. Unfinished Business
 7. New Business
 - a) FCS Group Presentation
 - b) Resolution No. 1806 – 2024 Proposed Wage and Salary Program
 - c) Resolution No. 1808 – Approving 2024 Budget
 8. Administrative Reports
 - a) Managers' Report
 - b) August Financial Report
 - c) October Treasurers Report
 9. Other Business
 10. Commissioners Meetings Attended
 11. The next Board of Commission meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 27th, 2023.
- III.** Executive Session
- IV.** Adjournment

I. Call to Order

Commission President Asmussen called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

II. Business Meeting

1. Pledge of Allegiance:

Meeting attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call

3. Review of Agenda

No changes to the agenda were made.

4. Public Comment

Mike Cusick read a letter from the Okanogan County Farm Bureau regarding the recent GM Salary increase and proposed 2024 rate increase.

Rod Haeberle asked Commissioner Asmussen and Colyar their justification for the GM salary and proposed 2024 rate increase.

5. Approval of Consent Agenda

a) Minutes from October 23rd, 2023, Regular Meeting

b) Vouchers

Vouchers submitted for approval:

2620, 2621, 2622; 165498 through 165559 totaling \$2,781,765.87

2623, 2624; 165560 through 165621 totaling \$505,242.50

2625 through 2628; 165622, 165623 totaling \$423,463.77

2629; 165624 through 165701 totaling \$440,597.90

Commissioner Colyar moved to approve the consent agenda items a and b, seconded by Commissioner Vejraska; the consent agenda was approved unanimously.

6. Unfinished Business

No unfinished business was discussed.

7. New Business

a) FCS Group

Matt Hobson from FCS Group presented an overview of the Equity Management Plan regarding the 2024 budget with key policy and financial elements of 2023. Hobson further reviewed the rate-setting process, equity management plan objectives, and key financial assumptions.

FCS Group will return on November 27th for a workshop at 1:00 p.m. to review different rate structure scenarios.

Commissioner Vejraska asked Ron Gadeberg to show the current snowpack.

b) Resolution No. 1806 – 2024 Proposed Wage and Salary Program

Resolution No. 1806 was presented for Board review containing the 2024 Proposed Wage and Salary Program, including a 3.6% adjustment to the salary scale for non-bargaining employees; adjustment to Energy Services Coordinator and Public Relations Coordinator salary grades; updated job title for Director of Customer Service and Regulatory Affairs; addition of a new position title of Distribution Engineer at grade 12, and addition of HR Assistant and Capital Improvement Project Manager positions.

Commissioner Vejraska moved to approve Resolution No. 1806, first read-only, seconded by Commissioner Colyar; Resolution 1806 was approved unanimously for first read-only.

c) Resolution No. 1808 - Approving 2024 Budget

Resolution No. 1808 was tabled. A special meeting on November 27th was scheduled to discuss the 2024 Budget in more detail.

8. Administrative Reports

a) Managers' Report

General Manager Taylor reported he signed:

- BPM LLP – Information Security Agreement
- Beazley Cyber Insurance Application
- Okanogan and Wenatchee National Forest Consent Agreement FSR – 4330000 Easement

General Manager Taylor reported he attended:

- WPUA Managers Meeting and Energy Northwest in Tri-Cities
- PPC in Portland
- Legislative Luncheon in Colville
- PURMS Zoom meeting

Taylor reported a press conference regarding the Fiber grant was held this morning.

General Manager Taylor and Director of Broadband Ron Gadeberg asked the Board's direction on the Okanogan County Commissioners' offer of ARPA funds in the amount of \$500,000 earmarked for the Conconully fiber to the home project. If the Board wants to proceed with this project, an approximate 3.6 million adjustment to the 2024 budget may need to be made.

Commissioner Vejraska motioned to proceed with the evaluation of the Conconully fiber to the home project and its impact on the 2024 Budget. Commissioner Colyar seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

b) August Financial Report

Janet Crossland, Director of Finance and Accounting provided the August 2023 budget overview and customer statistical and financial report comparing the Equity Management Plan to actuals for the 12 months ending August 2023.

c) October Treasurer Report

Treasurer Rob Gillespie presented an overview of cash transactions for October 2023. The District began the month of October with \$53,844,621.85 in cash and investments on hand, cash receipts of \$6,007,080.96, and \$54,408.17 in interest. Warrants paid \$5,682,721.36 for an ending cash balance and investments of \$54,223,389.62.

9. Other Business

No other business was discussed.

10. Commissioners Meetings Attended:

Commissioner Colyar:

- October 26th – Zoomed into Energy Northwest

Commissioner Vejraska:

- October 24th – Enloe Dam Meeting
- October 30th – Tim Thompson phone call
- November 6 – Legislative Luncheon in Colville

Commissioner Asmussen:

- October 25th – Traveled to Tri-Cities for Energy Northwest
- October 26th – Attended Energy Northwest meetings
- October 27th – Traveled home
- November 13th – Zoom call with USDA regarding grant


11. The next Board of Commissioners meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 27th, 2023.

III. Executive Session

There was no executive session held.

IV. Meeting Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 5:07 p.m.


Jerry Asmussen, President


Scott Vejraska, Vice President

ATTEST:


William C. Colyar, Secretary