

**PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1
OF
BENTON COUNTY**

Date: July 12, 2022

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Place: 2721 West 10th Avenue, Kennewick, Washington

Attendees (in person):

Commissioners Sanders, Bush, and Hall

General Counsel Dahlhauser

General Manager Dunn

Assistant General Manager Hunter

Senior Director of Finance and Customer Services Meyer

Director of Executive Administration Conover

Director of IT & Broadband Services Folta

Director of Power Management White

Manager of Contracts & Purchasing Ochweri

Manager of Risk Management and Treasury Operations Mercer

Manager of Customer Service McAloon

Manager of System Engineering Edwards

Manager of Communications and Governmental Relations Henderson

Manager of Customer Engagement Sparks

Senior Engineer Scherer

Customer Service Programs Specialist Timmerman

Supervisor of Executive Administration/Clerk of the Board Marshall

Attendees (virtual):

Manager of Conservation & Renewable Energy Programs Johnson

Supervisor of Distribution Design Lang

Manager of Accounting Zirker

Power and Energy Programs Analyst Durham

Cyber Security Engineer Holgate

The pledge of allegiance was given.

No public comment was received.

Treasurer's Report

Manager of Risk Management & Treasury reviewed the June 2022 treasurer's report. The Commission accepted the June Treasurer's Report.

Consent Agenda

Motion by Barry Bush, seconded by Jeff Hall to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- a) Approving Commission Meeting Minutes of June 28, 2022.
- b) Approving Travel Report dated July 12, 2022.
- c) Approving Vouchers audited and certified by the auditing officer as required by RCW 42.24.080, and those expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090, have been recorded on a listing made available to the Commission. As of this date, the Commission does approve the following for payment: Accounts Payable: Automated Clearing House (DD) payments 91906-91992 in the total amount of \$1,870,567.71, Checks & Customer Refund payments (CHK) 84014-84146 in the total amount of \$421,236.36, Electronic Fund Transfer (WIRE) payments 6248-6262 in the total amount of \$7,160,746.88; Residential Conservation Rebates: Credits on Customer Accounts in the total amount of \$860.00; Payroll, Direct Deposit 06/23/2022 91749-91905 in the total amount of \$403,691.28, for a grand total of \$9,857,102.23. Voided Checks in the total amount of \$5,057.87 were also included in the report.
- d) Reviewing Jobs Report for Commission.
- e) Authorizing the General Manager on behalf of the District to sign a Interlocal Cooperative Agreement with the City of Kennewick, Contract #22-21-164, to relocate existing Fiber and Electric overhead and underground infrastructures for the P2012 Steptoe St. / Gage Blvd. intersection project for a not-to-exceed amount of \$161,000.00 plus Washington State sales tax, this project will be paid for by the City of Kennewick in the form of Contribution in aid to Construction.
- f) Approving conveying to the owners of record the District easement under Auditor's File Number 2019-016923, records of Benton County, Washington, located in Section 32, Township 9 North, Range 29 East, W.M. per customer's request.
- g) Approving work order #3623148 for the replacement of three feeder breakers, bay protection relays and associated SCADA control.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Report from Management

General Manager:

1. General Manager reviewed an article published in today's Tri-City Herald, "NOAA report: Breach WA Snake River dams to restore salmon." A discussion was held on the article and next steps. General Manager reviewed a statement within the article that states the Biden administration has not endorsed or recommended the actions in the draft report, including breaching dams.
2. General Manager reviewed a letter written by staff on behalf of District Commissioners and customers, providing comments on the draft Murry/Inslee report.
3. General Manager provided an update on a recent Columbia Basin Collaborative meeting.
4. Director of Power Management Kevin White's last day with the District is Friday, July 15, 2022. Manager of Conservation & Renewable Energy Programs Chris Johnson has accepted the offer of Director of Power Management effective Monday, July 18, 2022.

Manager of Communications & Governmental Relations:

1. Based on feedback provided during a previous commission meeting, the next customer newsletter will be mailed directly to all customers.
2. Due to the expected high-temperatures, staff plans to share energy saving tips and details on the District's conservation program via our social media platforms.
3. Staff are planning an employee event to celebrate the District's 75th Anniversary that will take place on September 12, 2022. A placeholder has been added to commissioner's calendars.

Manager of Risk Management & Treasury:

1. Manager provided a brief PURMS update and informed the Commission the PURMS Liability premiums are estimated to increase about \$100,000.00. The PURMS Administrator is exploring ways to limit costs to members. Staff will continue to keep the Commissioners updated.
2. Manager gave a Rural Economic Development Fund update presentation. Manager reviewed the history of the Fund and informed the Commissioners the final loan was paid off in 2021 and there are currently no outstanding loans. On June 17, 2022, the Benton Franklin Council of Governments Board approved a Resolution to phase out their revolving loan programs. Staff recommended dissolving the fund via resolution due to lack of utilization and to grant \$50,000 (the tax credit the District received) to qualifying projects as allowed by RCW 82.16.0491. The Commission agreed it would be in the best interest to dissolve the fund. However, prior to dissolving the fund, staff will explore options on how to spend the \$50,000 in accordance with the State's RCW and will return to a future commission meeting with a recommendation and resolution that dissolves the fund for the Commission to consider.

Business Agenda

Resolution No. 2606, Modifying the Low-Income Discount Program

Manager of Customer Engagement recommended the Commission adopt Resolution No. 2606, Modifying the Low-Income Discount Program, to allow widows/widowers of active military and veterans to participate in the discount program as a result of receiving requests from customers.

Motion by Barry Bush, seconded by Jeff Hall adopting Resolution No. 2606, Modifying the Low-Income Discount Program effective July 12, 2022.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Benton PUD 2022 Integrated Resource Plan Progress Report - Introduction

Senior Engineer gave a 2022 Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) presentation. Senior Engineer reviewed the District's requirement, staff's recommendation to complete an IRP progress report for 2022, and a proposed 2022 IRP calendar.

Future Planning

Kim Fetrow will be in the office ahead of the July 26, 2022 commission meeting. Commissioners were asked to arrive for photos at 8:00 a.m.

A brief discussion was held amongst commissioners regarding the July WPUDA Association meetings.

Commissioner Jeff Hall reported on his plans to attend the APPA Policy Makers meeting in Washington DC next week.


Executive Session

At 10:34 a.m., Commissioner Lori Sanders announced the commission meeting would recess for 6 minutes and reconvene into executive session with legal counsel for 15 minutes for the purpose of discussing potential litigation.

At 10:55 a.m., Commissioner Lori Sanders announced that the commission meeting would continue in executive session with legal counsel for 3 minutes for the purpose of discussing potential litigation.

At 10:57 a.m., Commissioner Lori Sanders announced the commission meeting would reconvene into regular open session.

Hearing no objection, Commission President Lori Sanders concluded the Commission Meeting at 10:58 a.m.

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Lori Kays-Sanders, President

ATTEST:

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Jeffrey D. Hall, Secretary