

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

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Date: July 26, 2022

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Place: 2721 West 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Kennewick, Washington

***Attendees (in person):***

Commissioner Sanders and Bush

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 Power Management Johnson

Director of IT and Broadband Services Folta

Manager of Risk Management and Treasury Operations Mercer

Manager of Human Resources Dunlap

Manager of System Engineering Edwards

Manager of Customer Service McAloon

Senior Engineer Scherer

Supervisor of Distribution Design Lang

Supervisor of Executive Administration/Clerk of the Board Marshall

***Attendees (virtual):***

Manager of Human Resources Dunlap

Manager of Accounting Zirker

Manager of Customer Engagement Sparks

Manager of Contracts & Purchasing Ochweri

Manager of Customer Service McAloon

Manager of Communications and Governmental Relations Henderson

Superintendent of Transmission & Distribution Inman

Cyber Security Engineer Holgate

***Public:***

Mr. Charles Barnett

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The pledge of allegiance was given.

Member of the Public, Mr. Charles Barnett informed the Commissioners that he and his wife own the property across the road from the District's Benton City Substation. Mr. Barnett indicated he had sold a small portion of his property to the District many years ago on which the District

constructed a high voltage distribution feeder structure with associated equipment acting as an extension of the space limited Benton City Substation. In early 2020 the District completed a remodel of the Benton City Substation which included decommissioning and abandonment of the structures and equipment on Mr. Barnett's property. Mr. Barnett expressed his interest in purchasing back the small portion of property currently owned by the District. Assistant General Manager informed Mr. Barnett that staff would evaluate the District's needs and then contact him to discuss this request.

### **Consent Agenda**

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

- a) Approving Commission Meeting Minutes of June 7, 2022.
- b) Approving Travel Report dated June 28, 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 91512-91541 91698-91748 in the total amount of \$2,018,974.53, Checks & Customer Refund payments (CHK) 83945-84013 in the total amount of \$276,431.85, Electronic Fund Transfer (WIRE) payments 6228-6245 in the total amount of \$874,688.73; Residential Conservation Rebates: Credits on Customer Accounts in the total amount of \$1,630.00; Payroll, Direct Deposit 06/09/2022 91542-91697 in the total amount of \$393,770.90, for a grand total of \$3,565,496.01. Voided Checks in the total amount of \$643.76 were also included in the report.
- d) Approving Resolution No. 2607 declaring certain equipment surplus to District needs according to the laws of the State of Washington, Title 54, RCW 54.16.180, and authorizing the General Manager, on behalf of the District, to dispose of the same.
- e) Authorizing the General Manager on behalf of the District to sign Contract Completion and Acceptance for Riverfront Substation Bay 1 Turn-Key LTC Retrofit by Reinhausen Manufacturing, Inc. for Contract #19-02, (CPO #52433), in the amount of \$254,385.39.
- f) Awarding the contract for 4-inch schedule 40 Conduit, Bid Package #22-39-01 to Consolidated Electrical Distributors of Richland, WA for the total amount of \$198,360.00 plus Washington State sales tax in accordance with RCW 54.04.080.
- g) Declaring Howard Industries non-responsive and award the contract for Single Phase Step Voltage Regulators to Border States Electric / Siemens of Fargo, ND, Bid Package #22-21-143, for a total amount of \$227,352.00 plus Washington State sales tax in accordance with RCW 54.05.080.
- h) Reviewing Conservation Rebate Report for 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2022.
- i) Reviewing Quarterly Contract Activity Report to Commission.
- j) Reviewing Broadband Service Orders Report to Commission.
- k) Approving the amended Designation of Representatives to Various Organizations for 2022, changing various organizational representatives as presented today.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

## Report from Management

### *General Manager:*

1. General Manager informed the Commission he was invited to participate in a virtual meeting this afternoon with Governor Inslee and Senator Murray regarding their recently released draft report on possibilities for replacing the benefits of the Lower Snake River dams. General Manager reviewed key points he hopes to make in the meeting primarily centered on the draft reports bias toward diminishing the importance of the dam's power production capabilities.
2. Representative Dan Newhouse is hosting a Save Our Dams community rally next Monday, August 1, 2022 at Howard Amon park in Richland. Staff will forward the details to commissioners and employees.
3. General Manager informed the Commission he has been invited to participate in a meeting at TRIDEC on August 9, 2022 with representatives of The Nature Conservancy.
4. General Manager and Assistant General Manager shared an update and the details of the Bonneville Power Administration's (BPA) plans to upgrade their Tri-Cities area transmission system. Assistant General Manager showed a map of the proposed Webber Canyon Substation and two potential routes through Badger Canyon for the 115-kilovolt transmission line planned for interconnection at BPA's Badger switchyard located near the Meadow Springs area in Richland. General Manager informed the Commission of a meeting he has scheduled with BPA Administrator, John Hairston. General Manager plans to extend the meeting invitation to other Tri-Cities area utility General Managers. General Manager will return to a future commission meeting to give a briefing and presentation on the updated BPA Resource Program study results.

### *Director of Power Management:*

1. Director gave a Rural Economic Development Fund presentation and provided follow up from a previous commission meeting regarding staff's recommendation to dissolve the fund via resolution due to lack of utilization and to grant \$50,000 (the tax credit the District received) to qualifying project as allowed by RCW 82.16.0491. Staff are proposing granting the \$50,000 to Sunnyslope homes with the Housing Authority in Kennewick for the installation of approximately 36 heat pumps. These funds would be in addition to the BPA conservation rebates and therefore cover nearly all the costs for these heat pumps. Energy savings from these heat pumps would qualify toward our EIA conservation targets and CETA Low-Income customer reporting requirements. Commissioners concurred with staff's recommendation. Staff will return to a future commission meeting with a resolution that dissolves the fund for the Commission to consider.
2. Director gave a power supply update presentation.

*Senior Director of Finance and Customer Services:*

1. Senior Director reviewed financial and accounts receivable dashboards that were also included in the commission packet.

At 9:55 a.m., Commissioner Lori Sanders announced the commission meeting would recess for 5 minutes.

At 10:00 a.m., Commissioner Lori Sanders announced the commission meeting would reconvene into regular open session.

## **Business Agenda**

### **Benton PUD 2022 Integrated Resource Plan Progress Report, Review Draft and Motion to Set Public Hearing**

Senior Engineer gave a draft 2022 Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) presentation. The purpose of the presentation was to review the draft IRP and also recommend the Commissioners set a public hearing for August 9, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. to allow additional public comment prior to the commission considering final approval and adoption.

Motion by Jeff Hall, seconded by Barry Bush setting a Public Hearing on the District's 2022 Integrated Resource Plan Progress Report final draft for August 9, 2022, at 9:00 a.m., to be held at the District's Administration Office located at 2721 West 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Washington and accessible via MS Teams conference call at 1-323-553-2644, conference ID 574 892 679# to allow additional public comment prior to the commission considering final approval and adoption.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

### **2022-2026 Strategic Plan, 2022 Mid-Year Progress Report**

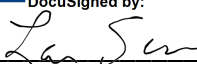
General Manager reviewed the 2022 Strategic Planning Mid-year progress report. A discussion was held on the two upcoming commission work sessions on Demand Response and Advanced Nuclear.

### **Other Business**

General Manager informed the Commissioners the Horse Heaven wind project will be topic of discussion for the Badger Club meeting scheduled for August 18, 2022, from 12:00 – 1:30 p.m.

Commissioner Lori Sanders asked Legal Counsel Dahlhauser if the District could provide information and education to the main opponent running against Senator Murray in the current election. A brief discussion was held on this topic. Legal Counsel will return with an answer on Commissioner Sanders request.

Hearing no objection, Commission President Lori Sanders concluded the Commission Meeting at 10:54 a.m.

DocuSigned by:  
  
Lori Sanders, President

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:  
  
Jeffrey D. Hall, Secretary