

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF AUGUST 18, 2020
OF
PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1
OF
THURSTON COUNTY, WASHINGTON

The special meeting for August 2020 of the Commissioners of Public Utility District No. 1 of Thurston County was called to order on Tuesday, August 18, 2020, commencing at 5:00 p.m. Commissioners Russell E. Olsen, Linda Oosterman, and Chris Stearns were present for the teleconference meeting hosted via Zoom. The following District employees were also present for the meeting:

- John Weidenfeller, General Manager (GM)
- Julie Parker, Assistant General Manager (AGM)
- Kim Gubbe, Director of Planning and Compliance (DPC)
- Ruth Clemens, Administrative Services Manager (ASM)
- TaSeana Tartt, Finance and Customer Service Manager (FCSM)
- Kurin Miller, Clerk to the Board

Call to Order:

Commissioner Oosterman called the special meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Approval of Agenda:

Commissioner Stearns made a motion to approve the agenda as presented: Commissioner Oosterman seconded the motion; the motion passed with all present in favor.

Information or Discussion of Operations/Policy Issues:

Continuing Update - District Response to Coronavirus, COVID-19 Threat

ASM Clemens reported on current policies, employee training, and new phone software. FCSM Tartt reported on accounts receivables, expenses related to COVID-19, and the District's Customer Support Program, including the Deferred Payment Program. Commissioner Stearns asked about employee use of the Microsoft Teams program; Commissioner Oosterman reported on an issue she is having accessing the Olympian. ASM Clemens and FCSM Tartt addressed these topics. ASM Clemens has agreed to follow up on and resolve the Olympian item for Commissioner Oosterman.

Discussion – Commissioner Workshops Through August 18, 2020

The Board approved Commission Workshops through August 2020; GM Weidenfeller asked for direction going forward. Commissioner Olsen spoke about this topic and asked for feedback from other Commissioners. Commissioner Oosterman requested that the discussion item be postponed until after the Executive Session.

General Manager and Staff Updates

GM Weidenfeller had no additional updates to provide. There were no updates or reports from staff.

Commissioner Topics, Discussions and Reports:

Commissioner Stearns reported on redistricting information. He also spoke about congressional and legislative topics. Both Commissioner Stearns and Commissioner Oosterman spoke at length about these topics. Commissioner Stearns also gave a report on upcoming meetings.

Commissioners Olsen and Oosterman had nothing to report.

At 5:15 p.m., Commissioner Olsen announced that the Board would enter into an Executive Session to consider the selection of a site or the acquisition of real estate by lease or purchase when public knowledge regarding such consideration would cause a likelihood of increased price in accordance with RCW 42.30.110 (1)(b) for 30 minutes until 5:45 p.m. At 5:45 p.m., it was announced that the Executive Session would be extended for 20 minutes until 6:05 p.m. At 6:05 p.m., it was announced that the Executive Session would be extended for another 10 minutes until 6:15 p.m. At 6:15 p.m., the Executive Session concluded, and the regular meeting resumed. No decisions were made by the Board during Executive Session.

Information or Discussion of Operations/Policy Issues:

Discussion – Commissioner Workshops Through August 18, 2020

Commissioner Oosterman discussed the need for further special work sessions. The Board and staff discussed it in depth. GM Weidenfeller made a suggestion that only he would attend workshops, alleviating staff of any administrative tasks associated with meeting preparation. This topic will be scheduled for ongoing discussion at the next Commission Meeting.

Adjournment: Commissioner Stearns made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Commissioner Oosterman seconded the motion; the motion passed with all in favor. The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Russell E. Olsen, Commissioner and President

Attest:

Chris Stearns, Commissioner and Secretary