

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF DECEMBER 15, 2020
OF
PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1
OF
THURSTON COUNTY, WASHINGTON

The second special meeting for December 2020 of the Commissioners of Public Utility District No. 1 of Thurston County was called to order on Tuesday, December 15, 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)
- TaSeana Tartt, Finance and Customer Service Manager (FCSM)
- Joe Rehberger, Chief Legal Counsel
- Kurin Miller, Clerk to the Board

Call to Order:

Commissioner Olsen called the regular meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda:

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

Information or Discussion of Operations/Policy Issues:

Discussion – Commissioner Elections for 2021

GM Weidenfeller opened the discussion for elections for 2021 Commissioner positions. Commissioner Oosterman suggested that Commissioner Olsen retain the Board presidency. Commissioner Stearns requested to become Vice President, switching positions with Commissioner Oosterman so that she is Secretary for 2021. The Board will vote on elections at an upcoming regular meeting.

Discussion – Commissioner Assignments for 2021

AGM presented current Commissioner assignments. The Board reviewed these assignments, and some suggestions were made to amend this document. The Board will further review Commissioner assignments before upcoming Commission Meetings.

Discussion – Customer Service Representative Cost Savings

AGM Parker presented the cost savings associated with new payment deposit software in the Customer Service Department. The AGM spoke on background information for the old and new process. Commissioner Olsen and Commissioner Stearns asked about goals and additional resource savings; the AGM addressed these questions and went into greater detail on these processes.

Discussion – Telecommunications

Commissioner Olsen spoke about his work in researching possible options for the District in 2021. The Commissioner will have more information at the first regular 2021 Commission Meeting. Commissioner Stearns spoke about possible technical options available to the District.

Discussion – COVID-19 Updates

GM Weidenfeller spoke about vaccinations and implementation updates. The Board spoke about this topic in greater detail.

1st Reading – Resolution 20-48, General Facility Charges

GM Weidenfeller presented this resolution with the change recommended by Commissioner Stearns at the last regular meeting. The Board discussed the change in greater detail with the District's attorney, and an amendment to the initial change was suggested. This resolution is scheduled for approval at the next regular meeting in December.

1st Reading – Resolution 20-49, Service Installation Fees and Other Fees

AGM Parker presented Resolution 20-49 with a change similar to the one suggested for Resolution 20-48. Upon further discussion with staff, the Board and the District's attorney, an amendment to the initial change was suggested. The Board discussed this topic at length. This resolution is scheduled for approval at the next regular meeting in December.

Presentations:

There were no presentations or staff reports.

Commissioner Topics, Discussions and Reports:

Commissioner Stearns and Commissioner Oosterman reported on recent meetings they attended including the 2020 Re-Wire Conference and an Emergency Management meeting. The Board also discussed several topics including tribal land projects, recent elections, water rights, public service, and recent Governor initiatives.

At 6:00 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, as authorized by RCW 42.30.110 (1)(b), and to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency litigation or potential litigation to which the agency, the governing body, or a member acting in an official capacity is, or is likely to become, a party, when public knowledge regarding the discussion is likely to result in an adverse legal or financial consequence to the agency, as authorized by RCW 42.30.110 (1)(i), for 20 minutes until 6:20 p.m. At 6:20 p.m., it was announced that the Executive Session would be extended for ten minutes until 6:30 p.m. At 6:30 p.m., the Executive Session was concluded, and the special meeting resumed. The District's attorney was present for the Executive Session, and no decisions were made during the Executive Session.

Adjournment: Commissioner Oosterman made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Commissioner Stearns seconded the motion; the motion passed with all in favor. The meeting adjourned at 6:31 p.m.

Russell E. Olsen, Commissioner and President

Attest:

Chris Stearns, Commissioner and Secretary