

**Minutes of Regular Commission Meeting of
Public Utility District No. 1 of Okanogan County**

**Okanogan PUD Auditorium
1331 2nd Avenue North, Okanogan, WA
September 30, 2008
1:30 PM**

Present: Board: Ernest Bolz, Trish Butler, David Womack
Staff: John Grubich, Doug Adams, Don Coppock, Ron Gadeberg,
Steve Brown, Debra Peters, Derek Miller, Dan Boettger
Attorney: Michael Howe
Public: Sheila Corson - The Chronicle
Marcy Stamper - Methow Valley News
Michael Graves, Jim Blackledge, Kurt & Pearl Ramcke,
Vicky Welch, Maeyowa, Celeste Roberts

Summary Agenda

- I. Call to Order
- II. Business Meeting – 1:30 p.m.
 - 1. Approval of Agenda
 - 2. Approval of Consent Agenda
 - a) Minutes of 9-9-08
 - b) Vouchers
 - c) Transfer of Accounts
 - 3. Public Comment
 - 4. Unfinished Business
 - 5. New Business
 - a) Resolution No. 1468 – Acquisition by Eminent Domain
 - b) Resolution No. 1470 – Architect Selection
 - 6. Manager’s Report
 - 7. Other Business
 - 8. Future Planning
 - 9. Meetings
 - 10. Public Comment
- III. Executive Session
- IV. Adjournment

I. Call to Order – Pledge of Allegiance

President Bolz called the regular meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

II. Business Meeting, 1:30 p.m.

1. Approval of Agenda:

Manager John Grubich added New Business item **b) Resolution No. 1470 – Architect Selection** to the agenda, and a twenty minute executive session to discuss potential litigation which the District may become a party to.

Commissioner Butler moved, seconded by Commissioner Womack, to approve the Agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Approval of Consent Agenda Items:

a) Minutes:

Minutes of the September 9, 2008 regular meeting were submitted for approval.

b) Vouchers:

Vouchers in the amount of \$3,325,676.18 were submitted for approval.

c) **Transfers of Accounts:**

No account transfers were submitted for approval.

Commissioner Womack moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Butler seconded the motion, which received unanimous approval.

3. **Public Comment:**

Vicky Welch expressed opposition to the eminent domain process.

4. **Unfinished Business:**

No unfinished business items were presented.

5. **New Business:**

a) **Resolution No. 1468 – Acquisition by Eminent Domain**

Resolution No. 1468 presented at the September 9, 2008 Board Meeting and subsequently tabled for further discussion was reopened. Following a brief discussion pertaining to the resolution’s status, Commissioner Butler moved to approve Resolution No. 1468. Commissioner Womack seconded the motion, which passed with unanimous approval.

The Board reiterated their desire to obtain the needed agreements through ongoing negotiations with all affected landowners, and directed staff to continue these efforts.

b) **Resolution No. 1470 – Architect Selection**

Manager John Grubich presented Resolution No. 1470 authorizing the General Manager to enter into a professional services agreement for architectural services for a new headquarters building on District-owned property in Okanogan.

Three architectural firms were interviewed and found to be qualified to perform architectural services for the project. Following unsatisfactory negotiations with the first firm chosen, the District subsequently negotiated a satisfactory contract with USKH, Inc, in an amount not to exceed \$551,952.50.

Commissioner Butler moved, seconded by Commissioner Womack to approve the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

6. **Manager’s Report:**

Manager Grubich commended Energy Services Coordinators Debra Peters and Steve Brown for their 07-05 issue of the District’s Watts-Up Newsletter, which won a second place award in the 2008 NWPPA Excellence in Communications competition. The awards represent the best communication efforts from NWPPA’s member utilities in various categories.

The District has successfully completed negotiations with the Department of Natural Resources on three franchise agreements, and with the Department of Transportation for five rights-of-way in support of present and future electric and telecommunication needs.

The General Manager reported he has executed a contract with Futura Systems, Inc to provide maintenance and support services for the District’s GIS mapping software program.

The General Manager reported he has executed a contract with D.R. Strong to provide surveying services in support of the P-T transmission line.

7. **Other Business:**

No Other Business items were presented.

8. Future Planning:

Richard Cuthbert of R.W. Beck is scheduled to be on site in October to conduct a workshop on the ratemaking process and cost of service studies. The Workshop will take place from 11:30 – 1:30 p.m. in conjunction with the October 14, 2008 Board meeting.

9. Meetings:

Commissioners Butler and Womack attended the WPUDA meetings held September 17 – 19, 2008 in Port Angeles.

Commissioner Bolz attended the Loomis Community Club meeting on September 11, 2008 and the Oroville Grange Friendship Meeting on September 27, 2008.

The next regularly scheduled Board Meeting will take place Tuesday, October 14, 2008 in the Okanogan PUD auditorium beginning with a workshop at 11:30 a.m. followed by the regular meeting at 1:30 p.m.

10. Public Comment:

Celeste Roberts offered comments in opposition to the eminent domain process.

III. Executive Session

The regular meeting was recessed and reconvened into executive session at 2:05 p.m. to discuss with legal counsel representing the District litigation or potential litigation to which the District, 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 District, pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i).

At 2:25 p.m. the executive session was recessed with no action taken.

IV. Adjournment:

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 2:26 p.m.

Ernest J. Bolz, President

Trish Butler, Vice-President

ATTEST:

David Womack, Secretary