

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

**Okanogan PUD Auditorium
1331 2nd Avenue North, Okanogan, WA
March 18, 2008
1:30 PM**

Present: Board: David Womack, Ernest Bolz, Trish Butler
Staff: Doug Adams, Don Coppock, Ron Gadeberg, Mark Pritchard,
Tina Howe, Larry Attridge, Tina DeLap
Attorney: Michael Howe
Public: Sheila Corson – The Chronicle
Darrel Bunch

Summary Agenda

- I. Call to Order – Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Business Meeting – 1:30 p.m.
 - 1. Approval of Agenda
 - 2. Approval of Consent Agenda
 - a) Minutes of 3-4-08
 - b) Vouchers
 - c) Work Orders
 - d) Transfer of Accounts
 - 3. Public Comment
 - 4. Unfinished Business
 - 5. New Business
 - a) Employee Service Awards
 - b) Bid No. 344-08 – Pole Testing, Inspection & Treatment
 - c) Bid No. 345-08 – Wood Pole Fire Guard Treatment
 - d) Bid No. 346-08 – Purchase of Wood Power Poles
 - e) Bid No. 340-08 – Purchase of Foreman Truck Beds
 - f) Resolution No. 1455 – Authorizing the Power Resource Manager to Execute NERC WECC Reliability Reports and Mitigation Plans
 - 6. Manager’s Report
 - 7. Other Business
 - 8. Future Planning
 - 9. Meetings
- III. Executive Session
- IV. Adjournment

I. Call to Order

President Bolz called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Manager of Operations Doug Adams.

II. Business Meeting

1. Approval of Agenda:

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

2. **Approval of Consent Agenda Items:**

a) **Minutes:**

The Minutes of the March 4, 2008 regular meeting were submitted for approval.

b) **Vouchers:**

Vouchers in the amount of \$859,930.20 were submitted for approval.

c) **Work Orders:**

Work Orders in the amount of \$64,562.00 were submitted for approval.

d) **Transfer of Accounts**

Transfers of accounts in the amount of \$1,547.04 were submitted for approval.

Commissioner Butler entered a motion, seconded by Commissioner Womack, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

3. **Public Comment:**

Darrel Bunch questioned whether easements and right of ways should be addressed in Okanogan County's Comprehensive Planning Program, and if the utility had specific language to be used for this purpose. Staff will research this issue further and respond to Mr. Bunch.

4. **Unfinished Business:**

No Unfinished Business items were presented.

5. **New Business:**

a) **Employee Service Awards**

Tina Howe was introduced by Manager of Operations Doug Adams. Tina began her career with the District in 1993 as a Customer Service Representative in the Oroville office, transferring to her current position in Tonasket six months later. Larry Attridge was hired in 1978 as a Warehouseman and later worked as a Lineman in Okanogan and Brewster prior to taking the Okanogan Serviceman job six years ago. Both employees were commended for their years of service to the District.

b) **Bid No. 344-08 – Pole Testing, Inspection & Treatment**

Manager of Operations Doug Adams presented Bid No. 344-08 for Pole Testing, Inspection and Treatment in 2008, the fourth year of a ten-year inspection cycle established by the District.

Commissioner Womack moved to award bid No. 344-08 to Osmose for 2008 pole testing, inspection & treatment in an amount not to exceed \$350,000.00. Commissioner Butler seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

c) **Bid No. 345-08 – Wood Pole Fire Guard Treatment**

Manager of Operations Doug Adams presented Bid No. 345-08 for Wood Pole Fire Guard treatment, to complete the project which began in 2006.

Commissioner Butler moved to approve awarding Bid Number 345-08 to Osmose for Wood Pole Fire Guard Treatment in an amount not to exceed \$127,000. Commissioner Womack seconded the motion, which received unanimous approval.

d) Bid No. 346-08 – Purchase of Wood Power Poles

Manager of Operations Doug Adams presented Bid No. 346-08 to the Board for the purchase of cedar power poles. Stella-Jones had the lowest bid of all respondents.

Commissioner Butler moved to award Bid No. 346-08 for the purchase of wood power poles to Stella-Jones in an amount not to exceed \$267,334. Commissioner Womack seconded the motion, which received unanimous approval.

e) Bid No. 340-08 – Purchase of Foreman Truck Beds

Construction Superintendent Mark Pritchard presented Bid No. 340-08 for the purchase of two foreman truck beds. Extreme variances in quality and materials led the District to previously reject all bids. District staff rewrote specifications, included a detailed drawing and sent new bid packets out. Valley Truck in Sunnyside was the sole respondent to meet specifications. Commissioner Butler moved to award Bid No. 340-08 to Valley Truck for \$64,975.00 plus tax. Commissioner Womack seconded the motion. Upon the vote, the motion carried unanimously.

f) Resolution No. 1455 – Authorizing the Power Resource Manager to Execute NERC WECC Reliability Reports and Mitigation Plans

Manager of Operations Doug Adams presented Resolution No. 1455 to the Board, authorizing the Power Resource Manager to execute North American Electrical Reliability Corporation (NERC) Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC) Reliability Reports and Mitigation Plans on behalf of the District.

Commissioner Womack moved to approve Resolution No. 1455 authorizing the Power Resource Manager to execute NERC WECC reliability reports and mitigation plans on behalf of the District. Commissioner Butler seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

6. Manager’s Report:

Power Resource Manager Ron Gadeberg presented a summary of wholesale and retail power trends for January and February, noting overall power sales are above budgeted forecasts for this two-month period.

7. Other Business:

Director of Finance / Auditor Don Coppock advised the Board on the status of negotiations with CTEC regarding the Tribal Tax Refund issue.

Commissioners noted the financial importance of conservation to the District and its customers, especially during times of high usage. The District experienced record peak usage in January.

Legal Counsel Mick Howe noted recent public discussions perpetrated the misconception that rate increases are the cause of recent higher utility bills. The District has not raised rates since 2001. Higher utility bills can primarily be attributed to longer sustained periods of cold weather and decreased conservation efforts by individuals.

8. Future Planning:

No Future Planning Items were presented.

9. Meetings:

Commissioner Bolz attended a NoaNet meeting in Seattle on March 12, 2008.

Commissioners Butler and Womack will travel to Olympia on March 18, 2008 for WPUDA meetings March 19 – 21, 2008.

Commissioner Bolz will travel to Olympia on March 19, 2008 for WPUDA meetings March 19-21, 2008.

Commissioner Bolz will attend the NWPPA Public Power and Water Tour with congressional delegates in Leavenworth March 25 – 27, 2008.

Commissioner Butler will attend the NWPPA Public Power and Water Tour with congressional delegates in Leavenworth March 25 – 26, 2008.

The next regularly scheduled Board Meeting will take place April 1, 2008 at 1:30 p.m. in Okanogan.

III. Executive Session

There were no items presented for Executive Session.

IV. Adjournment:

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 2:38 p.m.

Ernest J. Bolz, President

Trish Butler, Vice-President

ATTEST:

David Womack, Secretary