

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

**Okanogan PUD Auditorium
1331 2nd Avenue North, Okanogan, WA
March 4, 2008
12:30 PM**

Present: Board: David Womack, Ernest Bolz, Trish Butler
Staff: John Grubich, Doug Adams, Don Coppock, Ron Gadeberg,
Derek Miller, Bill Ingram, Mark Pritchard, Glenn Huber, Steve
Brown, Debra Peters, Tina DeLap Dan Boettger (2:45), Jeff
Deason (2:45)
Attorney: Michael Howe
Public: Sheila Corson – The Chronicle
Steve Jones - Marten Law Group
Steve Hendrickson, Daryn Klinginsmith & Sarah Delozier –
Chelan County PUD Lineman Rodeo Committee

Summary Agenda

- I. Call to Order
- II. Conservation Workshop - 12:30 p.m.
- III. Business Meeting – 1:30 p.m.
 - 1. Approval of Agenda
 - 2. Approval of Consent Agenda
 - a) Minutes of 2-19-08
 - b) Vouchers
 - c) Work Orders
 - d) Transfer of Accounts
 - 3. Public Comment
 - 4. Unfinished Business
 - 5. New Business
 - a) Employee Service Awards
 - b) Chelan County PUD - Lineman Rodeo Committee
 - c) Bonneville Power Administration – Interim Payments
 - d) Resolution No. 1454 – Creating Exceptions to Established DS-
1 (T1) Rates
 - e) Electronic Bill Payment Agreements
 - f) Scheduling of Future Board Meetings
 - 6. Manager’s Report
 - 7. Other Business
 - 8. Future Planning
 - 9. Meetings
- IV. Executive Session
- V. Adjournment

I. Call to Order:

President Bolz called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.

II. Conservation Workshop

The Workshop period commenced at 12:30 p.m. with a Conservation Update. Energy Service Coordinators Steve Brown and Debra Peters briefed the Board on an array of topics, including conservation as a resource, renewable energy, laws affecting electric utilities, Bonneville’s Conservation Rate Credit program, compact fluorescent light (CFL) bulbs, weatherization loans and appliance rebates.

III. Business Meeting

Commissioner Bolz called the Business Meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

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 February 19, 2008 regular meeting were submitted for approval.

b) Vouchers:

Vouchers in the amount of \$2,778,101.50 were submitted for approval.

c) Work Orders:

Work Orders in the amount of \$149,081.00 were submitted for approval. Telecom Work Orders in the amount of \$12,319.43 were submitted for approval.

d) Transfer of Accounts

Transfers of accounts in the amount of \$4,127.04 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:

No Public Comments were offered.

4. Unfinished Business:

No Unfinished Business items were presented.

5. New Business:

a) Employee Service Awards

Northern Area Manager Glenn Huber was introduced by Manager John Grubich. Glenn has been with the District for ten years, and was commended for his dedication to his community and the District.

b) Chelan County PUD - Lineman Rodeo Committee

This year's annual Lineman Rodeo will take place Saturday, June 21, 2008 at the Walla Walla Point Park in Wenatchee. Rodeo Committee members Steve Hendrickson, Daryn Klinginsmith and Sarah Delozier thanked the District for their participation in last year's rodeo, and presented information on events for this year's rodeo. In an effort to increase attendance, this event will be held in conjunction with IBEW's Annual Picnic, open to all Local 77 members in the tri-state area.

c) **Bonneville Power Administration – Interim Payments**

Manager John Grubich presented a draft interim payment plan for monies owed to the District by Bonneville Power Administration (BPA). Acceptance of the agreement would allow the District to hold funds in a segregated account earning a more favorable interest rate until the rate case is settled. The District is owed nearly \$2 million by BPA.

Commissioner Butler moved to approve staff’s recommendation to authorize the Manager to enter into an interim payment agreement for the Residential Exchange Program with Bonneville Power Administration. Commissioner Womack seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

d) **Resolution No. 1454–Creating Exceptions to Established DS-1 (T1)**

Rates

Manager John Grubich presented Resolution No. 1454, creating exceptions to established DS1 T1 Telecom Rates. This resolution allows the District to honor outstanding contracts at the rates in effect prior to the passing of Resolution No. 1452.

Commissioner Womack moved to approve Resolution No. 1454. Commissioner Butler seconded the motion. Upon the vote, the motion passed unanimously.

e) **Electronic Bill Payment Agreements**

Director of Finance / Auditor Don Coppock presented information on companies who provide electronic bill payment services compatible with the new NISC Customer Information System. These companies would process electronic funds transfers, debit/credit card payments and electronic checks for the District.

Commissioner Womack moved to authorize the Manager to enter into agreements for outside vendors to provide electronic payment services to the District. Commissioner Butler seconded the motion, which carried with unanimous approval.

f) **Scheduling of Future Board Meetings**

Future Board meetings have been scheduled for April 1st, 15th and 29th; May 6th; June 3rd and 17th; July 1st and 15th; August 5th and 26th, 2008.

6. **Manager’s Report:**

The NWPPA Annual Meeting will be held in Anchorage May 18 – 22, 2008.

NoaNet’s research into acquisition of a redundant fiber route provider has been tabled, as the targeted assets are no longer available. District staff continues to research redundancy options for our fiber optic network.

An open Distribution Engineer position approved in the 2008 budget has been posted. This position has been vacant since George Howe relocated from the Central area to Brewster as Southern Area Manager.

Douglas PUD contacted the District regarding potential interest in funding a series of lectures by Dr. Pat Moore, ex-founding member of Greenpeace Canada. Lectures would tentatively be scheduled in the Wenatchee and Ephrata/Moses Lake areas. Commissioners felt meeting locations and program content would not benefit the District sufficiently to warrant the expense.

Director of Finance / Auditor Don Coppock reported the new NISC Customer Information System is online beginning this week. Progress is favorable; however customers may experience a slight delay in receiving their billing statements.

Chief Engineer Derek Miller reported independent contractors providing GPS system inventory work now carry photo identification badges and letters from staff identifying them as independent contractors of the District. Orange safety vests with the Okanogan PUD logo have also been ordered. The crews use four wheel ATV's to locate and identify meters, poles and other system equipment.

7. Other Business:

No Other Business Items were presented.

8. Future Planning:

No Future Planning Items were presented.

9. Meetings:

Commissioner Bolz met with Manager Grubich for an inspection of the Enloe Dam and Shanker's Bend projects on Friday, February 21, 2008.

The next regularly scheduled Board Meeting is to be held at 1:30 p.m. March 18, 2008 in Okanogan.

III. Executive Session:

The regular meeting was recessed at 2:50 p.m. and reconvened into executive session 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). It was expected the executive session would last approximately 20 minutes, with no action anticipated.

The executive session was recessed at 3:10 p.m. and immediately reconvened for an additional 10 minutes.

At 3:20 p.m. the executive session was recessed with no public announcement.

IV. Adjournment:

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Ernest J. Bolz, President

Trish Butler, Vice-President

ATTEST:

David Womack, Secretary