

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

**Okanogan PUD Auditorium  
1331 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue North, Okanogan, WA  
June 23, 2009  
1:30 PM**

**Present:** Board: Trish Butler, David Womack, Ernest Bolz  
Staff: John Grubich, Doug Adams, Don Coppock,  
Ron Gadeberg, Derek Miller, Jeff Deason,  
Nick Christoph, Dan Boettger, Tina DeLap  
Legal: Michael Howe  
Public: Sheila Corson - The Chronicle  
Marcy Stamper – Methow Valley News  
Jeremy Pratt – Entrix  
Ken Sletten, Bill Vaux, Tory Wulff

**Summary Agenda**

- I. Call to Order, 1:30 p.m.
- II. Business Meeting
  - 1. Approval of Agenda
  - 2. Approval of Consent Agenda
    - a) Minutes of 6-9-09
    - b) Vouchers
    - c) Transfer of Accounts
  - 3. Public Comment
  - 4. Unfinished Business
  - 5. New Business
    - a) Staff Recommendation – Pateros to Twisp Transmission Line
  - 6. Manager’s Report
  - 7. Treasurer’s Report
  - 8. Other Business
  - 9. Future Planning
  - 10. Meetings
- III. Executive Session
- IV. Adjournment

**I. Call to Order**

The regular meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Commission President Trish Butler. Meeting participants recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

**1. Approval of Agenda:**

Commissioner Butler noted a one hour Executive Session would be held for the purpose of discussing potential litigation, with no action anticipated.

Commissioner Womack moved to approve the Agenda as presented. Commissioner Bolz seconded the motion. Upon the vote, the motion received unanimous approval.

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

**a) Minutes**

Minutes of the June 9, 2009 regular meeting were submitted for approval.

b) Vouchers

Vouchers in the amount of \$1,143,689.97 were submitted for approval.

c) Transfers of Accounts

Transfers of accounts in the amount of \$2,717.50 were submitted for approval.

Commissioner Bolz moved to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner Womack seconded the motion, which carried with unanimous approval.

3. Public Comment:

Ken Sletten spoke in support of the Pateros to Twisp Transmission line and noted the Loup route was never viable due to its inability to provide redundancy. Sletten noted individuals and organizations such as the Methow Valley Citizens Council and PACE have shown a willful disregard for the health and safety of Methow Valley residents with their unwarranted opposition. Sletten commended the Commissioners for their steadfastness and the District staff for their professionalism.

4. Unfinished Business:

No unfinished business items were presented.

5. New Business:

a) Staff Recommendation - Pateros to Twisp Transmission Line

Commission President Trish Butler noted further correspondence was received from attorneys representing Gebbers and Kelpman. Butler also read a letter from Twisp customers requesting that the District approve the Twisp – Pateros route without delay and that they not consider the Loup route due to the danger and cost involved.

Chief Engineer Derek Miller reviewed his written recommendation to the Board regarding the Methow Transmission Project. Staff has been unable to meet with Christine Davis to view survey markers on her property. To the extent that is feasible, reroutes have already been done. Staff recommended proceeding with eminent domain actions while pursuing easements from remaining landowners.

Commissioner Womack moved to accept the written staff report and recommended action of Chief Engineer Derek Miller presented June 23, 2009 and direct staff to prepare an appropriate resolution authorizing eminent domain actions for consideration at its July 28, 2009 meeting and further direct staff to mail and publish notice in advance as required by law. Commissioner Bolz seconded the motion. Upon the vote, the motion passed with unanimous approval.

6. Manager’s Report:

Manager of Operations Doug Adams updated the Board on the AMI metering project. Aclara will be at the District installing software and troubleshooting the week of July 20, 2009. Staff will research a presentation on AMI metering for a future workshop.

Manager John Grubich reported the DOE work crew hired for brush clearing under the Tonasket to Oroville 115 kv line finished the project within three weeks. The crew will be re-deployed to other areas to continue brush clearing efforts.

A contract with NCW Land Surveying was signed to adjust the Pine Creek Substation boundary lines.

A contract was executed with Blodgett Construction for the District’s headquarters facility.

Bill Bargaen has been hired to represent District interests and oversee construction of the new headquarters building. An official groundbreaking ceremony will be scheduled to take place within the next week.

Ron Gadeberg reported the fiber outage on June 15<sup>th</sup> was caused by a dump truck driver cutting fiber cables. All fiber to the northern end of the county was affected.

**7      Treasurer’s Report:**

Director of Finance/Auditor Don Coppock reported on the District’s financial status for the month of May, 2009. A decrease in cash reserves can be attributed to reduced wholesale and retail power sales, lower interest rates earned on investments, poor power market prices and costs associated with budgeted capital projects.

**8.      Other Business:**

No other business items were presented.

**9.      Future Planning:**

A workshop to discuss the Shanker’s Bend project will be held at 12:00 p.m. immediately preceding the Board Meeting on July 14, 2009.

**10.     Meetings:**

Commissioner Bolz reported on a NoaNet Meeting he attended June 10, 2009 in Seattle.

**III.    Executive Session:**

The regular meeting was recessed at 2:15 p.m. and reconvened into executive session at 2:20 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). It was expected the executive session would last approximately one hour, with possible action anticipated.

At 3:20 p.m. the executive session was recessed and the regular session resumed with no action taken.

**IV.    Adjournment:**

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

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Trish Butler, President

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David Womack, Vice-President

ATTEST:

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Ernest Bolz, Secretary