

CLALLAM COUNTY PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT #1

**Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners**

Main Office | 104 Hooker Road | Sequim, WA 98382

**September 14, 2020 at 9:30 AM** – This meeting held remotely via ZOOM

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**Commissioners Present**

Will Purser, President

Jim Waddell, Vice President

Dave Anderson, Secretary

**Staff Present**

Doug Nass, General Manager

John Purvis, Assistant General Manager

Sean Worthington, Finance Manager/Treasurer

Steve Schopfer, IT Manager

Colin Young, Distribution Systems Supervisor

Tyler King, Power Analyst

Mattias Jarvegren, Utility Services Manager

Larry Morris, Safety Manager

Nicole Clark, Communications Manager

Teresa Lyn, Executive Assistant

**Others Present as Identified**

Paula Barnes

Krestine Reed

Fred Mitchell

Marki Lockhart

Janet Marx

The special meeting commenced at 9:30 PM.

**STAFF REPORT**

**In response to public request, staff provided a three-hour presentation of the District's Strategic Plan objectives related to/including:**

- A detailed analysis of renewable energy power supply options including a solar (with or without battery backup and storage) micro grid, long-term storage of hydrogen gas, and small nuclear reactors;
- A detailed analysis of the impact of Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA) obligations (carbon neutral by 2030 and carbon-free by 2045), financial challenges to the District's operations, and alternative compliance plans;
- A detailed analysis of current BPA power supply cost and sources (typically 85% hydro, 10% nuclear, and < 5% carbon and unspecified sources);
- A detailed analysis of large solar farm opportunities and challenges;
- A detailed analysis of small nuclear reactor opportunities and challenges;
- A detailed analysis of rate stabilization opportunities and challenges;

- A detailed analysis of CETA Section 12 (relating to low income/vulnerable populations) opportunities and challenges in the form of direct bill assistance, conservation, community solar, and weatherization;
- An overview of the District's current and recent research/development projects and/or implementation of/involvement in emergent technologies including:
  - Working with PNNL, APPA and the Department of Commerce to develop the Sequim micro grid concept and project;
  - Partnering with Landis & Gyr to initiate the highest benefit to cost AMI conversion of any regional utility with comparable terrain and vegetation;
  - Development and implementation of the region's first successful Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) and line monitoring Voltage Optimization Program;
  - Participation with Energy Northwest and 5 PUDs in an attempt to develop an 80 MW wind farm at Radar Ridge in Pacific County in the development of a wind farm (unsuccessful due to environmental impact);
  - Partnering with the City of Sequim to develop a level 2 charging station on District property;
  - Planning with Energy Northwest and the Department of Commerce to establish a level three electric vehicle charging corridor for Hwy 101;
  - Participation in the Sea Breeze Pacific Juan de Fuca HVDC Cable Project and the British Columbia based Finavera Renewables, Neah Bay Wave Energy project (both canceled due to permitting and environmental issues);
  - Participation in the Energy Northwest & Energetics Renewables Christmas Valley OR Solar Project;
  - Detailed analysis and periodic evaluation of the progress of distribution scale battery technology; and
  - Discussion and analysis of proposed PNNL Marine Renewable Energy (MRE) project for 3 X 5kW tidal generators in Sequim Bay (currently scoping).

2021 Strategic Plan changes under consideration were outlined as well.

**Staff subject-matter expert presenters were:**

- John Purvis PE, Assistant General Manager;
- Sean Worthington, Finance Manager/Treasurer;
- Colin Young PE, Distribution Systems Supervisor;
- Tyler King, Power Analyst; and
- Mattias Jarvegren, Utility Services Manager.

**An audio recording of this special meeting is accessible at <https://clallampud.net/commission-meetings/>.**

**View and download the presentations at:**

- [9/14/2020 Strategic Planning Workshop: Future Power Supply Options and CETA](#)
- [9/14/2020 Clean Energy Transformation Act \(CETA\) Analysis](#)

**In closing,** General Manager Doug Nass advised the Commissioners that the District will be talking more about the distribution battery and options that staff is recommending. He hoped that the staff's presentations addressed any misconceptions, and demonstrated that the District regularly and thoroughly investigates emerging technologies, has implemented several of them over the past twelve years, and would continue to do so when there is a demonstrated benefit to the utility and its ratepayers. Additionally the District is well ahead of most other utilities regarding CETA and will continue to develop a compliance plan.

The Commissioners thanked the staff for their excellent work and thorough presentation.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Staff received a public comment (submitted via chat) inquiring about the difference of capital and operating costs of solar farms between California and Washington.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 12:38 PM.

September 14, 2020