

## **CLALLAM COUNTY PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT #1**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners

Main Office | 104 Hooker Road | Sequim, WA 98382

**APRIL 12, 2021 – This meeting was held remotely via ZOOM**

---

### **Commissioners Present**

Will Purser, President

Rick Paschall, Vice President

Jim Waddell, Secretary

### **Staff Present**

Doug Nass, General Manager

John Purvis, Assistant General Manager

Sean Worthington, Finance Manager/Treasurer

Terry Lind, Operations Superintendent

Ben Phillips, Engineer

Mike Hill, Engineering Manager

Tom Martin, Water/Wastewater Manager

Colin Young, Distribution System Supervisor

Nicole Hartman, Communications Manager

Lori Carter, Controller/Auditing Officer

Ruth Kuch, Financial Analyst

Jamie Spence, HR Manager

Rebecca Turner, Sr. Accountant

Tyler King, Power Analyst

Larry Morris, Safety Manager

Shawn Delplain, Broadband Manager

Steve Schopfer, IT Manager

Teresa Lyn, Executive Assistant

### **PNNL**

Melanie Roberts, Director, State and Regional Affairs

Genevra Harker-Klimes, Division Director, Coastal Sciences

Jan Alam, Project Manager and Senior Engineer

Carl Imhoff, Manager, Electricity Infrastructure Sector and Grid Modernization.

### **Others Present as Identified**

Patti Morris

Krestine Reed

Paula Simpson-Barnes

Rob Cavagnaro

Rob Ollikainan

The meeting commenced at 1:30 PM.

### **CONSENT AGENDA 1:15**

Upon recommendation of staff, and upon motion of Commissioner Paschall seconded by Commissioner Waddell and carried, the Commissioners approved the following consent agenda items:

- a. Minutes of the March 22, 2021 regular meeting;
- b. Claim vouchers for March 22 through April 5, 2021 for a total of \$4,697,218.64;
- c. Payroll vouchers for the period of March 1 through March 15, 2021;
- d. Removal of delinquent accounts from the April 2021 active accounts receivable totaling \$7088.98 including a 30% collection fee; and
- e. Invoices to be removed from active miscellaneous accounts receivable totaling \$6264.01 including a 30% collection fee.

### **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There was no public comment.

### **BUSINESS ITEMS 3:36**

Upon recommendation of staff, and upon motion of Commissioner Paschall, seconded by Commissioner Waddell and carried, the Board authorized Bid Award Recommendation Memo for Bid No. 210801 for the rebuild of transmission lines from Airport Road to Cherry Street in Port Angeles to Titan Electric Contracting, Inc., dba FB Titan. FB Titan from Casper, Wyoming is the lowest responsible bidder on the District's Prequalified Vendor List for work on high-voltage electric, with a total base bid of \$418,531.84 (not including WSST). There was discussion regarding the disparity in submitted quotes; which was determined to be due to the bidders themselves, as comprehensive and detailed scope of work and related information was provided to them.

Upon recommendation of staff, and upon motion of Commissioner Waddell, seconded by Commissioner Paschall and carried, the Board authorized staff to solicit quotations for Bid Number No. 210802 for a Sherman Reilly diesel engine trailer-mounted underground cable puller DDXA-75. The new puller will replace a smaller one and will have the capability to do longer pulls which we are doing more frequently. The current puller will continue to be utilized for smaller jobs.

### **CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS 21:56**

Distribution Systems Manager Colin Young reported on the District's new renewable energy partnership with Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL), with the goal of the District serving as an advisor to PNNL to assist with the development of controls and protocols for utilizing their campus as a grid asset and integrating new energy technologies onto the grid. This partnership is expected to facilitate collaboration between the District, PNNL, and other utilities on the following: testing new ways of interacting with the grid; sharing research knowledge; input on a potential Clean Energy Fund (CEF) Microgrid grant proposal; determining future demand response; Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA); and Smart Energy Provider (SEP).

PNNL presenters included Melanie Roberts, Director of State and Regional Affairs. Ms. Roberts thanked the District for its letter of interest in continuing a partnership with PNNL, and its support of PNNL's efforts in innovating and testing out new grid technologies and getting them into practice. The District's partnership will enable PNNL compete more favorably for sources of funding which will assist in the upgrade and expansion of their local facility. PNNL is one of seventeen U.S. Department of Energy National Laboratories. They contract with Battelle Laboratories, a global R&D non-profit who manages the PNNL lab.

Genevra Harker-Klimes, PNNL's Division Director of Coastal Sciences spoke on the recent connection of PNNL's Marine and Coastal facility to Sequim sewer and water facilitated PNNL's recent local expansion. This connection will enable the local PNNL facility to further expand, upgrade their facilities, and move to an electrified campus that utilizes multiple local clean generation, one of which will be the utilization of Sequim area tides and turbines to generate energy. The goal is to ultimately combine tidal-generated energy with solar and integrate/apply/deploy those energies onshore to create vessel and car charging stations in coastal communities. They are also looking into extracting hydrogen from sea water for use in hydrogen fuel cells and potential applications.

Jan Alam, PNNL Project Manager and Senior Engineer spoke about building collaboration opportunities and leveraging and sharing knowledge between PNNL and the District in regards to developing clean energy storage units and utilizing tidal energy and the possibility of hosting an intern in the future.

The presentation ended with Carl Imhoff, Manager, PNNL Electricity Infrastructure Sector and Grid Modernization, who provided a brief high-level overview of PNNL's collaborations with a consortium of 200 partners including public utilities, coops, and military bases. Collaborative projects/studies include transmission advance oscillation sensors, developing microgrids and grid modernization, forecasting demand response, and market mechanisms that assist with energy storage. PNNL is one of the larger providers of energy storage activities. It also shares cyber-risk information with public utilities. PNNL serves as a bridge between public utilities and co-ops and the federal government's agenda in terms of grid modernization.

#### **COMMISSIONER REPORTS 45:02**

Commissioner Paschall attended Washington Public Utility District Association (WPUDA) meetings. Topic was the BPA rate case. He submitted a motion for staff to present to the Board on how we are complying with vegetation management and protective equipment (relays) maintenance and testing to assure that the District is adhering to state and national standard and doing everything we can in terms of risk management. Commissioner Waddell seconded the motion and it passed.

Commissioner Waddell attended WPUDA's Day on the Hill meeting and a Western Public Agency Groups (WPAG) meeting regarding BPA rate case study and contract processes. He suggested the District look into our 20 year contract with BPA in light of future potential resource adequacy surpluses.

Commissioner Purser attended Energy Northwest (ENW) meetings. Topics of discussion were recruiting efforts for a new CEO and resource adequacy in terms of small nuclear modular reactors.

#### **STAFF REPORTS**

There were no staff reports.

#### **BOARD'S ACTION ITEMS FOR STAFF 1:04.21**

- a. Staff is to provide/clarify an explanation of a delinquent account item in the amount of \$2400.
- b. Staff is to advise the Commissioners on the District's vegetation management efforts as they pertain to wildfire mitigation; specifically in regards to protective equipment maintenance and testing and adherence to national standards.

#### **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There was no public comment.

#### **ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 2:34 PM.