

**EUGENE WATER & ELECTRIC BOARD
REGULAR SESSION
500 E 4th AVENUE
May 5, 2020
6:00 P.M.**

Commissioners may pose questions to staff prior to the scheduled board meeting. To view Commissioners' pre-meeting questions and staff responses, visit <http://www.eweb.org/about-us/board-of-commissioners/2020board-agendas-and-minutes>.

Commissioners Present: Steve Mital, President; Mindy Schlossberg, Vice President; John Brown, Sonya Carlson, Dick Helgeson, Commissioners

Others Present: Frank Lawson, General Manager, Rene Gonzalez, Customer Solutions Manager; Julie McGaughey, Chief Customer Officer; Anna Wade, Business Line Manager; Rod Price, Chief Engineering & Operations Officer

President Mital called the Regular Session to order at 6:00 p.m.

Agenda Check

There were no changes or additions to the agenda.

Items from Commissioners and General Manager

Commissioner Carlson announced she had attended two virtual meetings with Lane Council of Governments (LCOG) recently. She also mentioned—as far as the Census was concerned—Lane County had a 60% return rate, and that number was above average for the state.

Commissioner Helgeson expressed appreciation to EWEB staff, and the community at large for working to keep everyone safe during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Commissioner Brown said that he and General Manager Lawson had been meeting with the leadership of the Springfield Utility Board (SUB) concerning real estate matters.

Mr. Lawson thanked EWEB staff for their hard work and dedication during the pandemic, and also their swift work to restore power after a wind storm that swept through the Valley a few days prior. He said that many EWEB projects were continuing, including the Resource Adequacy work, the Columbia River System operation and the Environmental Impact Statement with Bonneville, and EWEB's Electrification Study.

Public Input

There was no Public Input.

Approval of Consent Calendar

MINUTES

1. April 7, 2020 Regular Session

CONTRACTS

- 2. Altec Industries** - for the purchase of a bucket truck. \$257,000.
- 3. Bay Valve Engineering Services** - for annual pump and motor rebuild and repair for Hayden Bridge. \$375,000.
- 4. Mythics Inc.** - for the use of a cooperative contract for Oracle software and services. \$1,380,000 (over three years).
- 5. Portland General Electric (PGE)** - authorize the General Manager to approve a contract for transmission equipment services at the Stone Creek project. Estimated cost \$50,000 per year for ten years (\$500,000).
- 6. The Saunders Company** - for south Willamette River 42-inch transmission main and transmission bore. \$3,000,000.
- 7. Whitlock Consulting Group** - for consulting services for the Customer Experience Improvement (CEI) project Phase 2 implementation support. \$302,000, plus travel (Resulting cumulative total \$691,100 plus travel costs).

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENTS

- 8. Energy Northwest** - for operation and maintenance of the Stone Creek hydroelectric project. \$2,000,000 (over five years).

RESOLUTIONS

- 9. Resolution No. 2017** - Annual Price Adjustment for Joint Use Fees.
- 10. Resolution No. 2018** - Approval of new Board Policy Dam Safety.

Vice President Schlossberg moved to approve the Consent Calendar minus items 5 and 8. The motion passed unanimously 5:0.

Items removed from the Consent Calendar

Commissioner Helgeson pulled item number 8. He opined this project was one of the better hydro projects EWEB had been involved with in past years.

Mr. Lawson clarified there were two separate contracts because there were two separate pieces of infrastructure which needed support.

President Mital asked if there were anything in the aforementioned contracts which would make it more difficult for EWEB to sell the components.

Mr. Lawson said no.

Commissioner Carlson said that her questions concerning the item she pulled—item 5—had largely been answered in the above discussion of item 8.

Commissioner Carlson moved to approve Consent Calendar items 5 and 8. The motion passed unanimously 5:0.

General Manager's Annual Performance Evaluation and Merit Discussion for Year 2019

All EWEB Commissioners praised Mr. Lawson for his performance as EWEB General Manager.

President Mital said, considering the circumstances brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, that now was not the time to consider a merit increase, although he, and to his knowledge, the other Commissioners, agreed a merit increase was appropriate.

Commissioner Helgeson asked, and was supported by his fellow Commissioners, for a backgrounder document to help the Board get up to speed on General Manager salary reference points.

COVID-19 Customer Assistance Update

Ms. McGaughey, Mr. Gonzalez, and Ms. Wade offered the Board an update and PowerPoint presentation on customer assistance during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Commissioner Brown asked if there would be outreach for the particular assistance program for the bill deferment for commercial customers.

Ms. Wade replied yes.

Commissioner Carlson wondered if there was any way to know how many applications for assistance past the 1,000-application limit there were.

Ms. Wade said there was not.

Break

President Mital called for a break at 7:12 p.m. He reconvened the meeting at 7:17.

COVID-19 Pandemic Proposed Recovery

Mr. Lawson offered the Board a report and PowerPoint presentation on EWEB's COVID-19 response/recovery framework.

Commissioner Brown asked if Mr. Lawson and EWEB staff were keeping the City of Eugene apprised of EWEB's COVID-19 response/recovery framework.

Mr. Lawson said they were. He offered he had discussed it with the Eugene City Manager, but he had not yet gone into specifics.

Quarterly Strategic & Operational Report for Q1 2020

Mr. Lawson and Mr. Price offered the Board a report and PowerPoint presentation on the FY2020 Q1 strategies and operations.

Commissioner Carlson asked for an informational update on the utility's debt refinancing.

Mr. Lawson said EWEB took a short pause in bond refinancing, but efforts were ramping up again. He said continuous work would begin again on said refinancing in approximately one month.

Correspondence & Board Agendas

Mr. Lawson offered the Board a report on correspondence and Board agendas.

Board Wrap Up

Vice President Schlossberg thanked EWEB's IT department for facilitating these virtual meetings. Her colleagues agreed.

Commissioner Helgeson suggested that the EWEB Board of Commissioners consider holding two Board meetings in the month of June.

Commissioner Brown said he would be happy to hold two meetings next month, to give the Board a chance to digest, and catch up with all the new information, and all the changes brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Adjourn

President Mital adjourned the Regular Session at 8:12 p.m.

Assistant Secretary

President