

EUGENE WATER & ELECTRIC BOARD
WORK SESSION
July 27, 2022
5:30 P.M.

Commissioners Present: John Brown, President; John Barofsky, Mindy Schlossberg, Matt McRae Commissioners

Commissioners Absent: Sonya Carlson, Vice President

Others Present: Frank Lawson, General Manager; Megan Capper, Energy Resources Manager; Aaron Bush, Energy Resource Analyst; Jonathan Hart, Interim Power Planning Supervisor; Ben Ulrich, Senior Energy Resource Analyst

President Brown called the Work Session to order at 5:30 p.m.

Welcome and Introduction

Ms. Capper welcomed everyone to the Work Session and introduced members of the Power Planning Team.

IRP Portfolio Exercise & Discussion

Mr. Hart introduced and led those present in an Integrated Resource Planning (IRP) portfolio exercise. The exercise consisted of three rounds, in which each team would work together to fill in resource gaps by coming up with specific resource mixes, and is meant to simulate the resource planning process.

Ms. Parisi wondered why the rules of the game used a constraint of 25 average mW of energy efficiency if it included demand management.

Mr. Hart said that was a choice staff made to improve gameplay, but in reality, energy efficiency was a resource, he commented that some energy efficiency is cost effective while other forms of energy efficiency are more expensive.

Mr. Ulrich added that the same was true for demand response.

Commissioner McRae wondered when calculating the final cost of electricity, is carbon cost incorporated as a part of the price.

Mr. Hart said carbon was included in the total cost of the portfolio.

Commissioner Barofsky said the hardest part of the exercise for him, was trying to figure out what his customers were willing and able to afford – both environmentally and economically. He was concerned that some offerings might be too expensive to implement.

Commissioner Schlossberg said she was surprised that cost was not as limiting of a factor in the exercise as she thought it would be.

President Brown asked if the costs were burdened; he said he was hesitant to adopt a portfolio that was a benefit in the present, but which became financially burdensome in the future.

Mr. Hart replied the game required players to employ a levelized cost assumption for each of the resources, adding that the hydro cost assumption in the game was based on legacy costs rather than future projections.

Mr. Ulrich clarified that the numbers in the game were “play” numbers, and he and his team would be back on August 2 for the regular session of the EWEB Board of Commissioners, at which they would go into more specifics regarding EWEB’s new resource options using actual numbers.

Commissioner Barofsky asked if the utility was looking at past IRPs as a metric for this work.

Mr. Lawson said they would look at past IRPs as part of the guidance and decision process.

President Brown adjourned the Work Session at 7:04 p.m.

Recorded by Rodney Cimburke

Assistant Secretary

President