

**EUGENE WATER & ELECTRIC BOARD  
UPRIVER PRESENTATIONS**

**May 16, 2023**

**6:00 PM**

**Commissioners Present:** Sonya Carlson, President; John Barofsky, Vice President; Mindy Schlossberg; John Brown; Matt McRae Commissioners.

**Others Present:** Frank Lawson, General Manager; Susan Fricke, Water Resources & Quality Assurance Supervisor; Lisa Krentz, Generation Manager; Nancy Toth, Environmental Specialist; Mark Zinniker, Generation Engineering Supervisor.

President Carlson called the Upriver Presentation to order at 6:00 PM.

**Welcome**

President Carlson welcomed those in attendance and thanked them for being there. EWEB Board members introduced themselves.

**Overview – Meeting Presentations and Post Meeting Table Topics**

Presenter: Frank Lawson, General Manager

Mr. Lawson thanked everyone for coming and introduced the subject matter experts in attendance. He noted there would be table presentations after the meeting and listed a few of the table topics including the following:

- The Holiday Farm Recovery Plan
- Energy Conservation Programs
- Tree Trimming
- Emergency Preparedness

**Utility Overview – McKenzie Valley Topical Trailers**

**Watershed Investments - EWEB and Pure Water Partners Programs for McKenzie Valley Customers**

Presenters: Susan Fricke, Water Resources & Quality Assurance Supervisor and Nancy Toth, Environmental Specialist shared a PowerPoint presentation.

Ms. Fricke noted a few of the large-scale restoration projects that would be taking place in the near future. Ms. Toth described programs available to EWEB customers and Pure Water Partners programs available for those residing in the McKenzie Valley watershed area.

**Leaburg Hydroelectric Project**

Presenters: Lisa Krentz, Generation Manager and Mark Zinniker, Generation Engineering Supervisor shared a PowerPoint presentation.

Ms. Krentz provided information about the status of the Leaburg Hydroelectric Project and the extensive analysis that culminated in the decision to decommission the project. She provided a summary of the recommendations for the Leaburg hydroelectric project which included the following:

1. Permanently discontinue electric generation
2. Remove Leaburg dam
3. Develop southern access
4. Repair canal for stream / storm water conveyance; preserving the option to naturalize to pre-project conditions in the future
5. Mitigation opportunities – water rights, hatcheries
6. Conduct similar assessment at the Walterville project
7. Identify opportunities and requirements for EWEB Board review, guidance, and direction

Ms. Krentz explained what to expect going forward, including the Leaburg Decommissioning Action Plan to be developed in 2023, which would provide a high-level overview of the process. A timeline for decommissioning the project had been developed, which showed that construction would not begin for at least ten years.

Mr. Zinniker described some of the risk reduction measures which would take place in the near term.

He concluded by noting that frequently asked questions have been posted on the EWEB website and added that substantial details would need to be determined before some questions could be answered. EWEB would collaborate with Lane County Public Works, the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), and the Army Corps of Engineers on the matters in their respective jurisdictions.

### **Listening and General Question and Answer Session**

President Carlson opened the floor for public comments; topics included undergrounding electrical wires, decommissioning the Leaburg Hydroelectric Project, impacts to transportation routes due to the removal of Leaburg dam, salmon populations, recreational use of the Leaburg canal walking path, and the McKenzie Valley community's commissioner representation.

### **Conclusion**

President Carlson closed the floor for public comments and adjourned the meeting at 7:39 PM.

*Recorded by Diana Pamir Tisdale*

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Assistant Secretary

President