

**EUGENE WATER & ELECTRIC BOARD
REGULAR SESSION
JULY 9, 2024
5:30 pm**

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

Others Present: Frank Lawson, EWEB General Manager; Rodney Price, Assistant General Manager; Deborah Hart, Assistant General Manager/Chief Financial Officer; Karen Kelley, Chief Operations Officer; Lisa Krentz, Generation Manager; Brian Booth, Chief Energy Resources Officer; Megan Capper, Energy Resources Manager; Ben Ulrich, Lead Energy Resource Analyst; Aaron Yale-Bush, Senior Energy Resource Analyst; Jeannine Parisi, Resiliency Program Manager; Tyler Nice, Electric Operations Manager; Scott Milovich, Support Services Operations Manager; Juan Serpa Munoz, Business Line Manager; Anna Wade, Customer Solutions Manager AIC; John Marshall, Facilities Maintenance Supervisor

REGULAR SESSION

Call to Order

President McRae called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

Agenda Check

No changes to the agenda

Items from Board Members and General Manager [0:1:27]

Commissioner Carlson said she met with the City Council at their new building.

Commissioner Brown also visited the new city hall building and they had done an incredible job renovating it.

Mr. Lawson said he appreciated the City of Eugene's gift to EWEB and he wanted to pass along the thanks of the City to staff for having a good relationship with the City.

Vice President Barofsky said he attended the McKenzie Watershed Council meeting.

President McRae attended the last meeting remotely and appreciated the new technology in the meeting room.

Correspondence [0:4:47]

Mr. Lawson explained there were two pieces of correspondence, one was the annual Enterprise Risk Management Update, and the other was a Lead and Copper Rule Revisions Compliance update.

Public Input [0:8:00]

The following testimony was provided to the EWEB Commissioners: The Board neither endorses nor opposes or is responsible for the accuracy of the content of testimony, including any links or references provided.

Kathy Ging of Eugene, OR spoke in opposition to smart meters, specifically stating she did not trust the technology being forced upon them and believed it was unreliable, she demanded a genuine opt-out option.

Carla Hervert of Eugene, OR spoke in opposition to smart meters, specifically stating she and her husband were RF sensitive, their power had been disconnected and they received a threatening letter.

Joshua Korn of Eugene, OR spoke in opposition to smart meters, specifically stating there were false accusations made against him, he added that they needed a proper opt-out policy and requested they put his meter in a non-transmitting mode.

Danny Noonan of Eugene, OR is a climate and energy strategist with Bridge Collective, he explained on July 2nd he sent EWEB a letter requesting it expand its low-income energy program and had some ideas to improve community outreach and engagement.

Mark Robinowitz of Eugene, OR gave comment on smart meters, specifically stating that the Facebook page utilized by the opposition group engaged in commentary on various health conspiracies, not just those pertaining to smart meters. He explained there was a future of constrained energy which meant they needed to reduce demand and said smart meters could help with rolling brownouts during high demand intervals.

Dennis Hoerner of Eugene, OR spoke in opposition to smart meters, specifically stating that customers should be able to refuse the installation of a smart meter. He read from a letter to the editor he had written to the Eugene Weekly and gave a handout to the Board of Commissioners.

Dylan Plummer of Eugene, OR gave comment on the role of EWEB in reversing climate change, specifically stating there was a need in the community for a progressive rate design.

Samuel Tepe of Eugene, OR spoke in opposition to smart meters, specifically stating that the conflict between the Board and the community was unreasonable and he disagreed with the Board's actions.

Alan Gormezano of Eugene, OR spoke in opposition to smart meters, specifically stating that the technology and science used every day was built off the immoral actions of humans and he requested they interact with technology and science with more awareness of the effect on the community.

Zack Mulholland of Eugene, OR gave comment on the gaps in the EWEB rebates for the community, specifically giving examples of where they could make improvements for low-income and natural gas customers.

Vice President Barosky thanked the community for coming out, but he believed it was inappropriate for Mr. Gormezano to make comparisons between the Board and Nazi Germany.

Commissioner Brown thanked the community he invited Ms. Hervert to give her written testimony to the board, he thanked Mr. Robinowitz for his testimony and Mr. Mulholland for his efforts.

President McRae thanked the community; he said rate design was on their agenda for next month.

Mr. Lawson noted items from the letter sent by Mr. Noonan were already on future board agendas.

Approval of Consent Calendar – A (Minutes and Routine Contracts) [0:45:38]

MINUTES

1. a. May 7, 2024 Executive Session (Amended)
- b. June 4, 2024 Executive Session #1
- c. June 4, 2024 Executive Session #2
- d. June 4, 2024 Regular Session

CONTRACTS

2. **Atwell, BKI Engineering, and David Evans and Associates, Inc.** - for As-needed Electric Distribution Design Services \$750,000 (over five years split between 3 contracts) based on Formal Request for Proposals (RFP)/Qualification Based Selection (QBS).
3. **DOWL, LLC** - for the Leaburg Transportation Alternatives Analysis \$300,000 based on Formal Request for Proposals (RFP).
4. **H & J Construction, Inc.** - for the E 40th Ave Water Main Replacement from Patterson St. to Mill St. \$750,000 based on a Formal Invitation to Bid.

MOTION: Commissioner Brown Moved, to approve consent calendar A. The Motion passed unanimously 5:0.

Approval of Consent Calendar – B (Nonroutine Contracts and Other Consent Items)
[0:45:49]

CONTRACTS

5. **Forth Mobility** - for an Electric Vehicle Sharing Program \$375,000 (over three years) based on a Formal Request for Proposals (RFP).
6. **General Pacific Inc.** – for additional funds for the Sale of Discounted Heat Pump Water Heaters (HPWH) to EWEB Customers \$250,000 (Resulting Cumulative Total \$950,000 over six years) based on Direct Negotiation.
7. **Global Rental Company, Inc. (Altec Industries)** – for the use of a cooperative contract for the Purchase of Three (3) Small Service Bucket Trucks \$562,000.
8. **Mazzetti** - for Design and Construction Support for the Bertelsen Property Development \$505,000 based on Formal Request for Proposals (RFP).
9. **NASPO ValuePoint Cooperative Contracts** – for purchase of Cloud Solutions - Software as a Service (SaaS), Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS), and Platform as a Service (PaaS) \$2,000,000 over five years (Resulting Accumulative Expected Spend \$3,000,000 over five years).
10. **Trane US Inc.** - for Maintenance and As-Needed Repair of Chillers at ROC \$205,000 (over five years) based on direct negotiation.
11. **Wildish Building Company** - for Habitat Installation in the Trail Bridge and Smith Reservoirs \$190,000 (Resulting Cumulative Total \$1,013,000) based on Construction Manager/General Contractor (CM/GC) Guaranteed Maximum Price.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT

12. Lane Council of Governments (LCOG) – for access to G12 Communications (G12) Broadband Phone Services \$480,000 (over five years).

**MOTION: Commissioner Carlson moved to approve Consent Calendar B minus items 5, 8 and 11.
The motion passed unanimously 5:0.**

Items Removed from Consent Calendar [0:47:40]

Commissioner Brown pulled items 5, 8 and 11 for discussion.

Commissioner Brown requested someone help him measure the success of item number 5, Forth Mobility. He wanted to know how they knew it was working.

Mr. Serpa Munoz, Ms. Wade and Mr. Lawson answered questions from the Board on item 5. They explained the project was funded by Clean Fuel Credits, and how they expected the program to continue to benefit the community.

Ms. Kelley, Mr. Milovich and Mr. Marshall answered questions from the Board on item 8, Mazzetti. They explained the cost and why they were doing the project in phases.

Ms. Krentz answered questions from the Board on item 11, Wildish Building Company. She explained the change of scope came from FERC Dam Safety, she described the sequence of events, and stated they were working on a short timeline to complete construction this year in order to meet the compliance deadline under the FERC license.

MOTION: Commissioner Brown moved to approved contracts 5, 8 and 11. The motion passed unanimously 5:0.

2025 Integrated Capital and Financial Plans [1:10:40]

Frank Lawson, General Manager; Deborah Hart, Assistant General Manager/Chief Financial Officer; and Karen Kelley Chief Operations Officer; gave a presentation on the Integrated Capital Improvement Plan and Long-Term Financial Planning via PowerPoint. They answered questions from the board and sought commissioners' feedback around the strategic and operational guidance presented including Water, Electric, and Shared organizational investment priorities, Customer Care funding, and customer rate increases, as well as business and economic forecast assumptions.

Wildfire Season and Mitigation Plan Update [2:37:02]

Jeannine Parisi, Resiliency Program Manager and Tyler Nice, Electric Operations Manager, gave a presentation on the Wildfire Season and Mitigation Plan Update via PowerPoint and answered questions from the board.

2025 Energy Resource Study: BPA Product Choice Overview [3:04:23]

Brian Booth, Chief Energy Resources Officer; Megan Capper, Energy Resources Manager; Ben Ulrich, Lead Energy Resource Analyst; and Aaron Yale-Bush, Senior Energy Resource Analyst gave a presentation on the 2025 Energy Resource Study: BPA Product Choice Overview via PowerPoint and answered questions from the Board.

Ms. Capper gave an overview of the presentation and the timeline.

Mr. Yale-Bush spoke on the five BPA product options.

Mr. Booth spoke on the Executive Steering Committee, Business Model Context, Quantitative and Qualitative Inputs.

The Board agreed they needed more time to consider and requested work sessions where they could have more time for free-flowing discussion.

Annual Strategic Plan Review – Commissioner Perspectives

Moved to next meeting

Future Board Agendas [3:49:42]

Mr. Lawson said there were several items for future agendas, he explained they would order them in terms of priorities, and he would go through it with the executive team to ensure they were all addressed in a timely manner.

Board Wrap Up [4:0:10]

President McRae appreciated the AV improvements to the meeting room. Alluding to the consent calendar item for Wildish, he suggested they might consider doing an urgent procurement policy where they had a pre-funded spending limit in the case of something time sensitive. He apologized to the board and the staff for the interruption in public comment tonight and explained if someone uses that language and attacks our staff in that way again that person would be dismissed.

Adjournment

The Meeting adjourned at 9:33 pm

Recorded by Lydia Harvey, LCOG

Assistant Secretary

President