

**EUGENE WATER & ELECTRIC BOARD**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**March 4, 2025**  
**5:30 p.m.**

**Commissioners Present:** President, John Barofsky; Vice President, Mindy Schlossberg; and Commissioners Sonya Carlson, John Brown, and Tim Morris

**Commissioners Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Frank Lawson, EWEB General Manager; Deborah Hart, Assistant General Manager/Chief Financial Officer; Brian Booth, Chief Energy Resource Officer; Jennifer Connors, Public Affairs & Communications Manager; Mike Masters, Water Operations Manager; Susan Fricke, Water Resources and Quality Assurance Supervisor; Julie McGaughey, Chief Customer Officer; David Donahue, Environmental Specialist Sr.; Lisa Krentz, Generation Manager (online); Aaron Balmer, Financial Services Manager (online); and Jason Heuser, Public Policy & Government Affairs Program Manager (online)

**REGULAR SESSION**

**Call to Order [00:00:00]**

President John Barofsky called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**Agenda Check [00:00:00]**

There were no changes to the agenda.

**Items from Board Members and General Manager [00:00:21]**

Commissioner Brown spoke favorably of EWEB's swift response to an electric safety concern resulting from a recent vandalism to a local business.

Commissioner Carlson mentioned the upcoming Lane Council of Governments (LCOG) fundraiser for their senior Meals on Wheels program, happening on Friday, March 7, 2025. She brought attention to the risk to federal funding for regional senior and disability services. She relayed a concern she received from a constituent regarding EWEB's timing of issuing late fees.

Vice President Schlossberg reported presenting at the University of Oregon on the topic of Sustainability and the Public Good.

Commissioner Morris commented that he recently received a Home Energy Score at his residence and it was a positive experience.

President Barofsky gave kudos to EWEB staff for their quick follow up to constituent issues. He reported that General Manager Lawson's presentation to the Eugene Chamber of Commerce Local Government Affairs Council was well received.

Responding to Commissioner Carlson's comment, Mr. Lawson stated that the first form of follow-up regarding the timing of late fees would be to, via correspondence, describe the process and follow up with an agenda item, if needed.

### **Correspondence [00:08:05]**

Mr. Lawson brought attention to one item of correspondence: State Legislative Update (Board Policy GP13 and Resolution 2420). He said more than 3,000 bills were introduced in the Oregon State Legislature. EWEB Board members are scheduled to visit legislators at the State Capitol on March 10, 2025 to discuss five bills.

Legislative Representative Jason Hueser explained that in addition to meeting with local legislators, they are also scheduled to meet with the Chair of the House and Senate Energy Committee(s) and the Director of the Oregon Department of Energy.

### **Public Input [00:14:02]**

The following testimony was provided to the EWEB Commissioners: The Board neither endorses or opposes, or is responsible for the accuracy of content, of testimony including any links or references provided.

#### Verbal Testimony:

Misty Bowman, Ward 7, shared comments related to light pollution, including that Eugene has the worst light pollution in Oregon according to the DarkSky Oregon Sky Quality Meter Report. She urged EWEB to conduct a full review of streetlights and change, adjust, or remove lights that do not comply with DarkSky International's five principals of responsible outdoor lighting.

Eric Dziura, Ward 6, spoke positively about the Residential Customer Survey results, the amount of detail and transparency in the rate setting policy, and changes to Executive Session policies. He suggested considering a Board training policy.

Joe Moll, McKenzie River Trust, shared comments related to wetlands mitigation, specifically how important EWEB's investment is. Regarding watershed stewardship, he expressed support for EWEB's expansion to include the coast and middle forks of the Willamette River.

Chris Jones, Ward 3, spoke about fire safety, citing the January 2024 ice storm during which tree branches came into repeated contact with power lines. He urged EWEB to address the problem as it is affecting the safety of property and threatening the lives of residents.

Kim Donahey, Ward 3, shared concerns about fire safety, citing the January 2024 ice storm during which tree branches came into repeated contact with power lines above her home. She said two fires started as a result. While EWEB is currently in litigation over the contract that is limiting tree trimming, she said the legal battle has been going on for over a year. She urged EWEB to take emergency action.

Alan (Alfredo) Gormezano, Ward 1, expressed opposition to Smart Meters and support for efforts to reduce light pollution.

Commissioner Carlson said she welcomes reviewing the Oregon Sky Quality Meter Report. She said the issue of fire safety is concerning and committed to following up.

Mr. Lawson commented that regarding light pollution they will need to clarify roles with EWEB and the City of Eugene. He understands the sense of urgency regarding fire safety and said that EWEB also wants to resolve it.

## **BOARD ACTION ITEMS AND GENERAL BUSINESS ITEMS**

### **Approval of Consent Calendar – A, Minutes and Routine Contracts [00:37:30]**

#### **MINUTES**

1. a. February 4, 2025 Executive Session  
b. February 4, 2025 Regular Session

#### **CONTRACTS**

2. **Virginia Transformer Corp** – for a Load Bank Power Transformer. \$1,719,000 based on Formal Request for Proposals.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Schlossberg moved to adopt Consent Calendar A. **The motion passed unanimously, 5:0; President Barofsky, Vice President Schlossberg, Commissioner Carlson, Commissioner Brown, and Commissioner Morris all voting in favor.**

### **Approval of Consent Calendar – B, Nonroutine Contracts and Other Consent Items [00:37:55]**

#### **CONTRACTS**

3. **Wildish Building Company** – For construction Services at Danebo Substation. \$676,000 based on Formal Invitation to Bid.
4. **EWEB/City of Eugene Joint Initiatives Agenda**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Brown moved to adopt Consent Calendar B. **The motion passed unanimously, 5:0; President Barofsky, Vice President Schlossberg, Commissioner Carlson, Commissioner Brown, and Commissioner Morris all voting in favor.**

### **Residential Customer Survey Results (December 2024) [00:38:26]**

General Manager Lawson and Public Affairs & Communications Manager Jennifer Connors provided information about Residential Customer Survey Results via PowerPoint presentation.

Ms. Connors explained that the random sample digital survey was administered by GreatBlue Research, Inc. to 34,000 customers. There were 56 questions and 1,292 responses.

Mr. Lawson said key takeaways from the survey included, but are not limited to:

- Improved customer trust and satisfaction in recent years

- Increased awareness of EWEB's emergency preparedness
- Affordability concerns remain a significant issue
- Area for improvement regarding outage prevention, response, and communication

Mr. Lawson added that customers value EWEB's environmental and climate actions but expect reliability and affordability to remain the primary focus. He said the next steps include communicating high-level results, continuing data analysis, integrating insights into EWEB work, setting measurable objectives, and tracking progress.

### **Annual Board Policy Review (Recurring, Rescheduled from December) [01:02:40]**

Mr. Lawson and Administrative Services Manager Anne Kah introduced the Annual Board Policy Review via PowerPoint presentation.

Mr. Lawson invited the Board to provide feedback about proposed revisions to Board policies. He said that an annual review of Board policies is standard practice. Of the 52 Board policies, nine include proposed revisions and an additional two are new (GP18 – Organizational Planning and Governance and Water System Development Charges (SDC) Methodology). Policy revisions are scheduled to be finalized in May 2025.

Commissioner Carlson requested more clarity around GP5 – Role of Board President and GP15 – New Commissioner Orientation.

Ms. Kah said she will provide the Board with a clean copy of Board policies in April 2025.

### **Review of Bylaws [01:16:15]**

Mr. Lawson presented information about Review of Bylaws via PowerPoint presentation. He said there is a requirement that the bylaws be reviewed within the first three months of the swearing-in of an elected commissioner. There were two recommended updates: Article VII, Section 2 and Article IX, Section 2. The recommendations will be presented to the Board for approval in April 2025.

### **Prior Year-End Results – Operational and Strategic Goals Report [01:31:03]**

Mr. Lawson introduced Prior Year-End Results – Operational and Strategic Goals Report via PowerPoint presentation. He referenced an 82-page report provided to the Board. He highlighted challenges at the start of 2024, namely an historic ice storm. He cited solid financial performance for water and an unfavorable quarter one for electric. He said that although the financial pressures for electric were significant, EWEB finished the year with a positive contribution to net margin.

Mr. Lawson presented the following charts: Average Electric and Water Utility Costs as Percent of Median Household Income (MHI), Average Monthly Water Bill, and Average Monthly Electricity Bill. He provided information about organizational goals related to electricity and water and highlighted success with EWEB Enterprise Solutions (EES). Mr. Lawson summarized that 90% of subgoals were achieved during 2024. He thanked the Board for their contributions.

## **Watershed Annual Report [02:00:19]**

Water Operations Manager Mike Masters and Water Resources and Quality Assurance Supervisor Susan Fricke presented the Watershed Annual Report via PowerPoint presentation.

Mr. Masters highlighted the Drinking Water Source Protection Goals:

1. Work with partners to maintain source water quality
2. Prioritize benefits to water treatment and electric generation in the McKenzie Watershed
3. Promote public awareness and stewardship

Ms. Fricke provided the 2024 Monitoring Observations:

1. Harmful algae bloom activity minimal across watershed
2. Baseline conditions generally typical across most sites
3. Late spring and fall first flush sampling results were somewhat muted around burn areas, although large storms in early January and late December were not sampled

Ms. Fricke provided the following 2024 Targeted Sampling Results:

- E. coli results in 2024 at select urban stormwater sites were very high (September and October), with one result exceeding 100,000 MPN/100mL
- Unusually high DOC and TKN results in 2023 were not reproduced in 2024
- Microbial source tracking used to identify fecal bacteria sources through genetic biomarkers
  - Preliminary data suggests fecal bacteria sources include human, bird, and dog pathways
  - Additional monitoring planned for 2025 to confirm initial findings and target new sources

Ms. Fricke provided 2024 Highlights:

- Continuous monitoring network
  - USGS Quartz Creek Water Quality/Discharge Station
- Oregon Watershed Emergency Response System
  - Updates/testing coordinated by EWEB staff

Ms. Fricke provided 2024 Spill Response Highlights:

\*EWEB worked with multiple spill response partners from across Oregon

- MWERS drop-in training for hardware review, knots and rigging set up
- Annual MWERS Spill Drill at Finn Rock
- City of Medford's 3-Day Rogue River Spill Response Training
- Oregon Spill Response Workshop hosted by EPA Region-10

Ms. Fricke detailed EWEB's partnership with Pure Water Partners including restoration work (980 native trees and shrubs planted, more natural regeneration occurring, and over 230 signed watershed stewardship agreements) and strategic planning.

Ms. Fricke mentioned floodplain restoration at Quartz Creek. The design plan is 90% complete and implementation is scheduled to begin in May 2025. She said the funding is still available but cited federal funding uncertainty. They will keep the Board posted.

Ms. Fricke briefly highlighted septic system assistance including septic maintenance incentives and septic system grants. Regarding watershed recovery funding, Ms. Fricke explained that EWEB received grant reimbursements to help with the expenses.

In closing, Ms. Fricke said that future plans include working on source water protection efforts for the second source.

Ms. Fricke and Mr. Masters invited questions from the Board.

Regarding the coast and middle forks, Commissioner Morris asked if the Board is going to receive a watershed report.

Ms. Fricke responded that staff are preparing a source water assessment report and have already begun preliminary monitoring.

Vice President Schlossberg asked about the reports revealing human fecal bacteria.

Ms. Fricke confirmed that the reports are showing high levels of human fecal bacteria. She said they are working with a new lab and will need to investigate further to determine what the contributing factor is.

Commissioner Brown asked if the Upper Willamette Soil and Water Conservation District will be taking the lead on financing and/or if participation will be expanded to other agencies.

Ms. Fricke responded that the Upper Willamette Soil and Water Conservation District recently took over a smaller project known as Filbert Monitoring and they are picking up a considerable amount of staffing time for planning for Pure Water Partners.

Commissioner Brown commented on the high reports of toxicity and urged being proactive with partners regarding watershed protection.

In response to Commissioner Brown's concern, Ms. Fricke referenced the Urban Waters Partnerships. She added that EWEB needs to do more investigative monitoring.

Commissioner Brown recommended forming a plan for the ongoing issue.

Ms. Fricke agreed.

President Barofsky expressed support for partnering with the Upper Willamette Soil and Water Conservation District.

Ms. Fricke said that Board-to-Board input would likely be effective.

In closing, President Barofsky brought attention to EWEB partners being affected by federal funding issues. He suggested a possible resolution stating that EWEB supports their partners and the vital work that they do.

Ms. Fricke validated President Barofsky's point.

#### **Future Board Agendas [02:34:23]**

Mr. Lawson mentioned adding city fee discussions to agendas in April and May.

Ms. Carlson requested regular reports about how tariffs could impact the supply chain. She cited a possible impact to US electricity powered by dams in Canada. She recommended potential advocacy on behalf of the EWEB Board.

Vice President Schlossberg responded that she would be hesitant to advocate. She added that putting forth a resolution would be ineffective.

Mr. Lawson added that EWEB is in a good position as a large percentage of EWEB funding does not come from a federal source but is supplemental and has a specific purpose. He mentioned that Bonneville is a federal agency. Mr. Lawson said that EWEB is trying to keep track of the real world, on the ground impacts to the organization. He said if there is a point and purpose for advocacy, staff will make that request of the Board.

#### **Board Wrap Up [02:40:39]**

There were no comments.

#### **Adjourn [02:40:40]**

President Barofsky adjourned the meeting at 8:12 p.m.

*Recorded by Terah Van Dusen, LCOG*

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Assistant Secretary

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President

**EUGENE WATER & ELECTRIC BOARD  
EXECUTIVE SESSION  
4200 ROOSEVELT BOULEVARD, EUGENE  
MARCH 18, 2025**

**Commissioners Present:** John Barofsky, President; Mindy Schlossberg, Vice President; John Brown, Sonya Carlson, Tim Morris, Commissioners

**Others present:** Frank Lawson, General Manager

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Executive Session was called to order at 6:15 p.m.

**Pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(i)**

To review and evaluate the employment-related performance of the General Manager.

Vice President Mindy Schlossberg adjourned the Executive Session meeting at 7:12 p.m.

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Assistant Secretary

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President



**EUGENE WATER & ELECTRIC BOARD**  
**WORK SESSION**  
**March 18, 2025**  
**5:00 p.m.**

**Commissioners Present:** President, John Barofsky; Vice President, Mindy Schlossberg; and Commissioners Sonya Carlson, John Brown, and Tim Morris

**Commissioners Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Frank Lawson, EWEB General Manager; Brian Booth, Chief Energy Resource Officer; Ben Ulrich, Lead Energy Resource Analyst; and Juan Serpa Muñoz, Business Line Manager; Anna Wade, Customer Solutions Manager AIC

**WORK SESSION**

**Call to Order [00:00:00]**

Vice President Mindy Schlossberg called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

**Organizational Goal #3 – Initial Results: Energy Resource Study and Demand Side Potential Assessment [00:00:38]**

Chief Energy Resource Officer Brian Booth, Lead Energy Resource Analyst Ben Ulrich, and Business Line Manager Juan Serpa Muñoz, provided information about Organizational Goal #3 – Initial Results: Energy Resource Study and Demand Side Potential Assessment, including Phase 1 Draft Report and Results.

Mr. Ulrich explained that in 2023, the Eugene Water and Electric Board (EWEB) completed an Integrated Resource Planning (IRP) which included an action item to conduct a study of the potential for conservation and demand response. In 2024, Lighthouse Energy Consulting was hired to conduct demand side studies. Mr. Ulrich referenced draft copies of the conservation potential assessment report and the demand response potential assessment, which was provided in the meeting packet.

Mr. Ulrich elaborated on cost effectiveness, specifically focusing on whether it makes financial sense for EWEB to invest in conservation when compared with buying new wind, solar, or batteries. He referenced a chart titled Cumulative Annual Energy Savings Potential, summarizing that the potential is roughly double EWEB's current measures. He provided a chart titled Estimate of Annual Spending for Under \$45/MWh and a chart detailing Cumulative Peak Savings Potential.

Mr. Serpa Muñoz provided information related to achievable energy and capacity savings potential using an intentional approach to cost-effective energy conservation; specifically focusing on residential sector savings, commercial sector savings, and industrial/utility sector savings.

Mr. Ulrich summarized a chart titled Demand Response and Time of Use Potential, including a key finding that there are about 50 megawatts of peak saving potential through demand

response programs. He added that there is promising demand side potential to offset load growth.

Mr. Booth, Mr. Ulrich, and Mr. Serpa Muñoz invited questions from the Board of Commissioners.

Mr. Brown asked for more information about EWEB's duct sealing program.

Mr. Serpa Muñoz confirmed that EWEB has a duct sealing program, but participation is low.

Regarding demand response and time of use potential, Mr. Brown suggested incentivizing customers like the University of Oregon, City of Eugene, and Lane County to adjust their hours of operation.

President Barofsky brought attention to a discrepancy between EWEB's administrative costs and the industry standard. He also highlighted the stark contrast between the achievable winter demand response potential between residential and commercial. He cautioned against penalizing commercial customers.

Mr. Lawson responded that EWEB's administrative costs are higher because EWEB does energy efficiency conservation not just for return on investment purposes. He added that there is opportunity on the commercial/industrial side, but it is application specific.

Commissioner Carlson asked if some of EWEB's commercial lighting incentives are going away.

Mr. Serpa Muñoz confirmed that Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) is sunsetting some measures, which will likely affect reimbursement. He mentioned the use of a cost effectiveness calculator for further evaluation.

Commissioner Carlson inquired about the level of control customers have over residential conservation measures.

Mr. Booth responded that ultimately customers have a high level of control regarding residential conservation measures.

Mr. Lawson agreed.

Vice President Schlossberg asked how soon EWEB can start the programs.

Mr. Ulrich emphasized that the programs are part of EWEB's long-term vision. He said they will need to hold discussions about implementation.

Vice President Schlossberg suggested possibly conducting a demand response pilot with willing customers.

Mr. Serpa Muñoz responded that EWEB has conducted demand response pilots previously, specifically the use of heat pump water heaters, and encountered some challenges. He

recommended more automation in future pilots. He said they can present past pilot results to inform the process.

**Adjourn [01:01:28]**

Vice President Schlossberg adjourned the meeting at 6:01 p.m.

*Recorded by Terah Van Dusen, LCOG*

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Assistant Secretary

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President

## EWEB Board Consent Calendar Request

*For Contract Awards, Renewals, and Increases*

The Board is being asked to approve a new contract with **Brink Brothers Inc.** for **Field Mowing Services**.

Board Meeting Date:	April 1, 2025	
Project Name/Contract #:	Field Mowing Services / 25-019-S	
Manager:	Tyler Nice	Ext. 7419
Executive Officer:	Karen Kelley	Ext. 7153

### Contract Amount:

Original Contract Amount:	\$500,000
Additional \$ Previously Approved:	\$0
Spend over last approval:	\$0
Amount this Request:	\$500,000
% Increase over last approval:	NA
Resulting Cumulative Total:	<b>\$500,000 (estimated over 5-year period)</b>

### Contracting Method:

Method of Solicitation:	Formal RFP
If applicable, basis for exemption:	NA
Term of Agreement:	Initial term is one (1) year
Option to Renew?	Yes, annually up to five (5) years total
Approval for purchases “as needed”:	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Proposals/Bids Received (Range):	8 (\$93,000 - \$262,800 per year)
Selection Basis:	Highest Ranked Proposer

Narrative:

### Operational Requirement and Alignment with Strategic Plan

EWEB Right-of-Way (ROW) and property field mowing is a requirement for compliance with fire code regulations, as well as an important aesthetic component of property management throughout EWEB’s service territory.

### Contracted Goods or Services

Field Mowing services on EWEB properties, including ROW sites in Eugene/Springfield. Services include tractor mowing and string trimming on an ongoing seasonal basis. Scope of work includes maintaining 78 EWEB owned sites annually from May to September. This contract includes all labor, materials, equipment and administrative reporting. It is estimated that each property is maintained 3-4 times throughout the maintenance period annually.

### Purchasing Process

In February 2025, EWEB issued a formal Request for Proposals (RFP 25-019-S) for field mowing services for EWEB’s Right-of-Way sites and other properties in Eugene/Springfield. This solicitation was advertised on OregonBuys, the state of Oregon procurement site. Eight proposals were received, and six proposals were deemed responsive and responsible. Two proposers did not submit the required paperwork and were deemed non-responsive. Criteria and weighting included: experience and capabilities (40%); equipment (20%); references

(10%); and pricing (30%). Brink Brothers Inc. was selected as the highest ranked, responsive, and responsible proposer. Using lessons learned from previous mowing contracts, an emphasis was made on experience, capabilities to ensure that EWEB's compliance and site standards are met consistently. In past contract cycles multiple change orders and/or need to supply labor to meet contractor gaps resulted in compliance risk, opportunity cost due to use of internal labor when not expected, and quality and control issues. Staff considered pricing strongly due to the wide spread amongst the requirements to ensure that EWEB and the community's needs are met for these EWEB owned sites.

When evaluating a contractor to provide services, especially those that require quality equipment and extensive experience, price is just one of many factors to consider. Staff's intent is to control cost to reduce impact on the rate payer, but putting too much emphasis on the "apparent" price can result in compromising on the expertise, quality, and reliability that are crucial for this work. Experienced contractors with quality equipment complete projects faster and more efficiently. Their expertise allows them to anticipate problems and address them quickly, while high-quality equipment helps avoid delays caused by faulty tools or inadequate resources. While a lower priced contractor might take longer or require more effort, the higher-priced contractor is more likely to finish ahead of schedule, reducing overall costs and disruptions to our operations. In this instance the main driver in cost is around the hourly rate and amount of equipment quoted. The approach for the awarded contractor was evaluated to be the highest efficiency, quality and skillset with cost considered as part of the scoring. Additionally, this contract is a time and materials contract and staff will have the ability to monitor and control cost actively throughout the contract term.

#### Proposals Received

Vendor Name	City, State	Offered Price	Ranking (for RFPs)
AG Yard Care LLC	Eugene, OR	\$93,000	NA
Brink Brothers	Pleasant Hill, OR	\$253,500	1
Graham Landscape & Design	Eugene, OR	\$205,800	6
Green Acres	Salem, OR	\$262,800	2
Living Concepts	Eugene, OR	\$232,500	5
Lucan Landscaping Inc.	Eugene, OR	\$131,154	3
Premier Contracting	Eugene, OR	\$95,000	NA
Thompson Landscape Company	Eugene, OR	\$164,670	4

#### Prior Contract Activities

EWEB Contract	Project Name (Description)	Board Approved	Project Duration (Start to Close)	Original Amount	Approved/Amended Amount to Date (Total)	Reason Code
22-246-1	Small Lot Vegetation Management	2/7/23	1/7/23 - 1/31/28	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	
*21-136	Fuels Management	10/5/21	10/5/21 – 10/26-26	\$1,500,000	\$2,900,000	AW
21-085	Vegetation Removal Services	5/6/21	5/6/21 - 5/5/26	\$175,000	\$175,000	
Reason Code: AM = Additional Materials, AW = Additional Work, EW= Emergency Work, SD = Staff Directed, UC = Unforeseen Conditions, Other						

\* Three contractors were awarded this work. One contract was terminated, and Brink Brothers Inc. was asked to perform additional work.

#### **ACTION REQUESTED:**

Management requests the Board approve a contract with Brink Brothers Inc. for field mowing services. Approximately \$500,000 was planned for these services in the Department 328 Electric Division 2025 budget of

\$5.4 million. Variances will be managed within the budget process and Board policy.

**BUDGET CATEGORY:** Electric O&M, 5880 Misc. exp.

## EWEB Board Consent Calendar Request

### *For Cooperative Contracts*

The Board is being asked to authorize the use of a cooperative contract for the purchase of a **Caterpillar XQ330 - 264kW Generator** from **Peterson Power Systems**.

Board Meeting Date:	April 1, 2025	
Project Name/Contract #:	Caterpillar XQ330 - 264kW Generator / 25-040-G	
Manager:	Mike Masters	Ext. 7549
Executive Officer:	Karen Kelley	Ext. 7153
<b>Expected Spend:</b>	<b>\$234,000 (One-Time)</b>	

#### Narrative:

The Board is being asked to authorize the use of the Sourcewell 092222-CAT cooperative contract for the purchase of one Caterpillar XQ330 - 264kW Generator.

#### Operational Requirement and Alignment with Strategic Plan

EWEB's Water Operations requires portable generators to provide backup emergency power to some of EWEB's water pump stations. The work that is being performed under this contract includes the purchase of one (1) 264kW portable generator which will allow large pumps to be run at some of these stations.

The new portable generator will be replacing an existing portable generator in our water utility that is over 35 years old and has been identified for replacement based on the age and availability of parts. Emergency and standby power systems are an integral part of providing backup power to the Water Utility's pump stations and other critical equipment during a power outage.

EWEB's staff researched different models but chose the same model as our existing newer portable generators in order to promote standardization of our fleet. Standardization is a common fleet practice that is implemented to reduce maintenance costs and establish familiarity in operation and maintenance, crew safety, and a consistent understanding of manufacturer repair and maintenance requirements.

EWEB's staff researched different procurement options and found that this equipment was available through a Sourcewell contract previously awarded through a competitive cooperative procurement process. Procuring this equipment through the Sourcewell contract is an efficient and cost-effective method. If approved, staff will purchase the portable generator at the established contract price.

#### Purchasing Process

Sourcewell, a State of Minnesota local government agency and service cooperative, issued RFP 092222 on August 4, 2022, to establish a national cooperative contract for Electrical Energy Power Generation Equipment with related parts, supplies, and services. This solicitation was published in the Daily Journal of Commerce in Oregon on August 5, 2022. Sourcewell awarded a contract to Caterpillar Inc. on December 6, 2022. This contract expires on November 22, 2026, and may be extended up to one additional one-year period.

#### **ACTION REQUESTED:**

Management requests the Board authorize the use of a cooperative contract for the purchase of one Caterpillar XQ330 Generator from Peterson Power Systems. Approximately \$705,000 was planned for vehicles and power operated equipment in the 2025 Water Capital Budget of \$40.2 million. Variances will be managed within the budget process and Board policy.

**BUDGET CATEGORY:** Water Capital, Type 1, Water Infrastructure – Distribution Facilities