



The following questions have been posed by Commissioners prior to the scheduled Board Meeting on June 3, 2025. Staff responses are included below and are sorted by Agenda topic.

Consent Calendar

CONTRACTS

Trout Mountain Forestry – for additional funds for the Long-Term Management of the 965-acre Leaburg Forest and High Banks Carbon Forest Planting Project. (KELLEY/MASTERS/KRENTZ) I am curious as to why we are spending money on forest management /timber harvest, etc. on a forest (Leaburg) that doesn't appear to be serving its intended use anymore. Why don't we just sell it, as in the past we have had strong interest from adjacent forestland owners to acquire it.

RESPONSE: *The Leaburg Forest (LBF) is being managed to its intended use. The Vision Statement for the LBF is: The EWEB-owned forest in the McKenzie Watershed is a professionally managed, healthy ecosystem with diverse forest structures, productive habitat for all native species, and protective of water quality.*

The Goals and Objectives for the LBF are:

- *Demonstrate conservation-based practices for protecting the excellent water quality of the McKenzie River.*
- *Conduct sustainable timber harvests, with proceeds going back into management of the forest and supporting other related source protection efforts in the watershed.*
- *Comply with current and forthcoming FERC license requirements, including aligning actions in this plan with the FERC mandated Carmen-Smith Resource Management Plans.*
- *Provide public education opportunities for research, cultural resources, and recreation.*
- *Monitor and address safety concerns around slope stability, tree hazards, and wildfire risk.*
- *Avoid negative impacts to EWEB's Leaburg Hydroelectric Project.*

Although the Leaburg Canal is out of service, the LBF needs to be prudently managed to mitigate landslide hazards until decommissioning work is complete. It is important to properly manage the lands and forests upslope of the LB Canal while there is still potential slope instability risk. Our consultant is onsite this week taking readings from the landslide instrumentation we have installed upslope of the canal in various slide areas above LB Canal. Although the slide monitoring is not happening in the same area as the LBF, we do have active slides in proximity to the LBF and excessive logging or lack of control of that land could create some challenges for LB before we decommission and are released from FERC dam safety license obligations.

Management of a portion of the LBF is a requirement of the Terrestrial Habitat Management Plan for the Carmen-Smith FERC license and is included in the Cogswell Creek Management Area in the LBF. Ultimately, there are likely other parcels or options for meeting that requirement. However, any change must go through a FERC license amendment process, in coordination with federal and state environmental agencies before any such change is made.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENTS

EWEB Education Grant Program – for new Inter-Governmental Agreements (IGAs) with Eugene 4J, Bethel, Springfield, and McKenzie School Districts for Education Grant Funding for the 2025-2027 School Years. (MCGAUGHEY) Can we please see a chart \$/student and \$/participant? I'm curious how many students are actually served in each school district.

RESPONSE: The below table shows the cost per participating student related to EWEB education grants. Participating students are those directly involved in an EWEB-sponsored program. Additional students are reached through equipment rentals at district-wide STEM media libraries and through curricula made available online.

It's important to note that the cost per student does not account for several variables that can vary significantly by district, such as:

- **Economies of scale:** Larger districts can distribute fixed costs over many more students, reducing the per-student cost.
- **Materials and equipment costs:** Equipment and materials shared over large districts increases cost efficiency.
- **New program development:** Developing new programming to address emergent topics can incur a greater upfront cost than continuation of core programming.

School	Students Reached	Annual Grant Amount	Cost per Student
Eugene 4J	15,500	\$317,750	\$20.50
Bethel	4,832	\$87,750	\$18.16
Springfield	1,900	\$49,000	\$25.78
McKenzie	200	\$27,000	\$135
Total	22,432	\$481,500	\$21.46

RESOLUTIONS

Update to Customer Fees, Rates, and Charges – for proposed price changes including annual adjustments to Joint Use/Pole Attachments, Dark Fiber, and other Customer charges and fees as necessary. (HART/RUE)

How was the Downtown Fiber rate created?

RESPONSE: The Dark Fiber Lease Rates were updated based on CPI increase applied to prior COSA analysis. The last COSA was completed in 2023 and generally calculates the cost of serving fiber capacity to lease to public and for-profit institutions based on a strand mile basis.

The Downtown Network connection fee was established in 2020 to equitably share the cost of infrastructure for customers connecting to the network. Customers connecting to the network are charged on a per kilowatt basis for installed capacity. The cost of that capacity is generally based on labor and component costs and those have gone up over time. There are a limited number of customers connecting to the downtown network.

When do the new fees take effect? It appears they immediately go into effect. When we vote on new rate increases don't we normally have some time in between when they are voted and when they take effect so we can communicate the changes?

RESPONSE: These associated rates and fees are intended to go into effect on 7/1/2025. The resolutions have been updated to clarify that. Historically the fee updates have been effective the month following board approval to allow for standard internal implementation. Key stakeholders across the utility such as Building and Renovations, Distribution Engineering, and Key Accounts have processes in place for monitoring, implementing, and communicating fee changes. For fees that may generate a lot of public interest, such as the Manual Metering Reading fee, the communications team is engaged early in the process. System Development Charges follow statutory noticing requirements that include stakeholder engagement.