

**EUGENE WATER & ELECTRIC BOARD**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**January 6, 2026**  
**5:30 p.m.**

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

**Commissioners Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Frank Lawson, General Manager; Deborah Hart, Assistant General Manager/Chief Financial Officer; Diedre Williams, Chief People Officer; Lisa Krentz, Generation Manager; Mark Zinniker, Generation Engineering Supervisor; and Jeremy Somogye, Engineering Planner IV.

**REGULAR MEETING**

**Call to Order**

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

**Agenda Check [00:01:17]**

There were no changes to the agenda.

**Items from Board Members and General Manager [00:01:31]**

John Brown raised the topic of wait times related to call volume and offered a recommendation.

Mindy Schlossberg shared a recent interaction with Eugene Water and Electric Board (EWEB) customer service and spoke highly of the experience.

John Barofsky relayed gratitude for staff and fellow commissioners during his time serving as EWEB Board President in 2025.

General Manager Lawson mentioned that EWEB is conducting a soft launch for interval data; he explained that customers can now view their water and electric usage in greater detail via EWEB's online portal.

**Correspondence [00:05:50]**

Highlights from the following correspondence items were displayed via PowerPoint presentation:

1. Annual Board Policy Review including policies changed within one year and newly proposed changes
2. Resource Adequacy and Local Customer Opportunities
3. Willamette Treatment Plant Progress Report

Concerning Item 1, John Barofsky suggested that Lookout Eugene-Springfield be included on the list of approved media.

**General Public Input: In-person or by Telephone [00:08:30]**

Andrew Simrin (online) of Ward 7, shared comments related to General Manager recruitment, emphasizing the importance of hiring a manager who values climate resiliency, affordability, and water stewardship.

Vicki Curry, attorney, shared testimony on behalf of a client related to the client's request to deny the installation of a smart meter. She read a statement, and referred to a letter which was previously sent to the Board.

Mark Robinowitz shared comments related to climate and resource depletion in the Pacific Northwest. He provided a document from [www.peakchoice.org](http://www.peakchoice.org).

**BOARD ACTION AND GENERAL BUSINESS ITEMS****Approval of Consent Calendar A – Minutes and Routine Contracts [00:20:00]****MINUTES**

1. a. December 2, 2025 Executive Session
- b. December 2, 2025 Regular Session
- c. December 9, 2025 Executive Session

**MOTION:** John Brown moved to approve Consent Calendar A. Sonya Carlson seconded. The motion passed unanimously; 5:0:0; John Barofsky, Mindy Schlossberg, Sonya Carlson, John Brown, and Tim Morris all voting in favor of the motion.

**Approval of Consent Calendar B – Nonroutine Contracts and Other Consent Items [00:20:15]****CONTRACTS**

2. Oldham Crane Service for On-call Crane Services – for additional funds for the contract. \$75,000 based on Formal Request for Proposals – Services (Original Contract Amount \$150,000, Resulting Cumulative Total \$225,000 over 5-years)

**OTHER**

3. Ratification of Board Appointed Consultants

**RESOLUTIONS**

4. Resolution No. 2601 – Annual Appointment of Supplemental Retirement Plan Committee

**MOTION:** John Brown moved to approve Consent Calendar B. Sonya Carlson seconded. The motion passed unanimously; 5:0:0; John Barofsky, Mindy Schlossberg, Sonya Carlson, John Brown, and Tim Morris all voting in favor of the motion.

**Items Removed from Consent Calendar [00:20:39]**

There were none.

**2026 Election of Officers [00:20:40]**

The Board engaged in electing EWEB President and Vice President for 2026.

**MOTION:** Mindy Schlossberg moved to nominate John Brown as President and Sonya Carlson as Vice President of the Eugene Water and Electric Board (EWEB). Seconded by Tim Morris. The motion passed unanimously; 5:0:0; John Barofsky, Mindy Schlossberg, Sonya Carlson, John Brown, and Tim Morris all voting in favor of the motion.

**2026 Appointment of Board Liaison Assignments and Committees [00:23:00]**

The Board engaged in Board liaison assignments and committees and determined the following for 2026:

**Lane Council of Governments (LCOG)** – Commissioner Morris/Vice President Carlson (alternate)

**McKenzie Watershed Council** – Commissioner Barofsky/President Brown (alternate)

**McKenzie Watershed Alliance (MWA) Executive Board** – Designated EWEB staff/ no designated commissioner as alternate

**Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB)** – President Brown/no designated commissioner as alternate

**Springfield Utility Board (SUB)** – Commissioner Schlossberg/no designated commissioner as alternate

**Lane Electric Cooperative** – President Brown/no designated commissioner as alternate

**City of Eugene** – President Brown/Vice President Carlson

**City of Springfield** – President Brown/Commissioner Morris (alternate)

Mr. Lawson directed Administrative Assistant Holly Shugart to put a placeholder for Northwest Public Power Association (NWPPA) ahead of next year's liaison assignments.

**General Manager Transition: Recruitment Process and Standards [00:35:17]**

Chief People Officer Diedre Williams provided an update related to the General Manager recruitment process and standards via PowerPoint presentation. She provided an updated timeline, highlighting short list interviews occurring January 12 through 13, 2026.

The following steps have been completed:

- Process and standards discussion
- Requirements discussion with vendor

- Candidate search and screening
- Short list selection

The following steps are in progress:

- Short list interviews/finalists selection (Jan 12–13)
- Finalist interviews (as needed) (Jan 27–30)
- Candidate selection (Feb 3)
- Employment negotiations (Feb 3–16)
- Offer of employment to new GM (Feb 17)
- Notice period/new GM start (Feb–May)

Ms. Williams outlined the process for final candidate selection, including the following requirements:

ORS 192.660 (6) requires the process used for the General Manager recruitment to be discussed and determined in a public session.

Requirements:

- The deliberations and final selection of the successful General Manager candidate must take place in a public session.
- The selection (aka the vote) must be completed through a clear and transparent method, where each Commissioner's vote is publicly recorded in the minutes.
- A majority decision is required for the new General Manager selection (EWEB bylaws, article VIII, Section 2).
- The Board will also need to approve the successful candidate's compensation package in a public session.

Recommended process:

- A Commissioner will make a motion to hire a specific candidate for the General Manager role, subject to successful contract negotiation.
- That motion will go through the typical Seconding and Discussion format typical to motions.
- The Board President will call for the vote, and each Commissioner will publicly state their vote as Yes, No, or Abstain. These votes will be publicly recorded in the minutes.
- For the vote to succeed, a majority of Commissioners (3) will need to vote Yes.
- Once a final candidate has been selected, a motion to direct the Recruiter to commence contract negotiation should be made.

Discussion ensued regarding Robert's Rules of Order as it relates to the candidate selection/voting process.

There was Board consensus in favor of the final candidate selection process as outlined by Ms. Williams.

#### **Watershed Bill of Rights – Lane County Measure 20-373 [01:00:24]**

Commissioner Barofsky introduced Watershed Bill of Rights – Lane County Measure 20-373, a

PowerPoint slide was used to display the topic of the discussion. He said the Board may take a stand (for, against, or neutral) regarding the ballot measure. A memorandum detailing the measure's implications on EWEB was previously provided to Board members.

Commissioner Barofsky shared his perspective that given EWEB's longstanding history protecting the watershed, he personally does not believe the ballot measure would advance their mission, but rather it might impede it. As a result, he crafted a resolution for the Board's review. The resolution could be vetted by the Board's council ahead of a proposed adoption at the next meeting.

Vice President Carlson expressed favor of Commissioner Barofsky's drafted resolution. She recommended additional language for clarity.

Commissioner Morris also expressed favor of Commissioner Barofsky's drafted resolution. He recommended a minor language adjustment.

President Brown expressed favor of Commissioner Barofsky's drafted resolution.

Commissioner Barofsky committed to incorporating commissioner feedback ahead of adoption of the proposed resolution at a future Board meeting.

### **Leaburg Decommissioning Action Plan (LDAP) Update [01:11:07]**

Generation Manager Lisa Krentz, Generation Engineering Supervisor Mark Zinniker, and Engineering Planner IV Jeremy Somogye provided an update on the Leaburg Decommissioning Action Plan (LDAP), specifically Leaburg near term risk reduction measures, a Wauterville update, and a Leaburg Decommissioning Program update, via PowerPoint presentation.

Mr. Zinniker outlined Leaburg canal near term risk/tributary creek challenges:

- Tributary inflows could exceed normal operational canal flow during extreme weather.
- Dam safety hazards remain even with the canal out of service for power generation.

He presented photographs of Cogswell Creek and Johnson Creek during low precipitation versus high precipitation.

Mr. Zinniker outlined near-term risk reduction, specifically Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) directives:

- Decrease water level so that a canal breach would not pose a threat to downstream lives and property.
- Provide additional discharge capacity to maintain a low water level.

He provided an overview map of the Leaburg Canal, highlighting two low level stormwater outlets.

Mr. Zinniker described their approach and goals for near term risk reduction, adding that where feasible, they would develop design configurations that align with the ultimate decommissioned condition.

- Implement risk reduction measures in advance of decommissioning

1. Leaburg unit 1 runner removal at power plant (completed)
2. Leaburg forebay concrete pier structural repairs (nearly complete)
3. Improvements at Cogswell and Johnson creeks (ongoing and upcoming)
4. Two opportunistic property purchases at the confluence of Cogswell Creek (completed)

He provided a Walterville update:

*\*Including one photograph and a design related to Walterville forebay repairs*

- Forebay liner repair design nearly complete
- Updated Probably Maximum Flood analysis complete
- Seismic stability analyses concluding in January 2026
- Strategic evaluation to kickoff early in 2026

Mr. Somogye shared a Leaburg Decommissioning Program update, as follows:

2025 highlights:

- Program Management Plan
- Baseline hydraulic and hydrologic models
- Conceptual design phase kick off
- Routine meetings, workshops and field visits

2026 lookahead:

- Informal regulatory engagement
  - Q1 FERC meeting
- Develop and assess alternatives for the future disposition of key elements of the Leaburg Development
- Budget refinement
  - Review and refine initial capital (CIP) and operational and maintenance (O&M) cost range and assumptions

He presented transportation triple bottom line analysis:

- The analysis, performed in coordination with Lane County, was completed in 2025.
- Six alternatives were identified – four alternatives fully evaluated through the social, environmental, and economic lenses
- Share with EWEB Board in January 2026 and continue to discuss TBL review and results with Lane County

Mr. Somogye provided a detailed Leaburg Project Decommissioning timeline (through 2033) and an outreach summary (17 public outreach efforts/events).

Ms. Krentz outlined ongoing Board oversight/key decision points – staff will seek Board input on issues including, but not limited to:

- Final version of the Proposed Action
- Walterville disposition at license expiration (relicense or surrender)
- Acceptance of FERC order

- Discretionary or voluntary measures that are not required as part of the FERC or regulatory processes
- Changes in key baseline assumptions
- Any unexpected, high-impact events
- High-level visions for the process

Ms. Krentz, Mr. Zinniker, and Mr. Somogye responded to questions from the Board.

### **Proposed 2026 Strategic Goals/Organizational Performance Measures [01:57:07]**

Mr. Lawson outlined annual strategic goals, the annual organizational goal-setting cycle, and business priorities (maintain/improve business operations, optimize energy, and improve resiliency) via PowerPoint presentation.

He introduced 5-year themes (pathways to achieving business priorities):

*\*Each point was elaborated on in the presentation*

1. EBMS
2. Customer Feedback
3. Systems and Strategic Use of Data
4. Power Supply Resources
5. Customer Products/Programs
6. Drinking Water Vulnerability
7. Resiliency

Mr. Lawson presented proposed 2026 Strategic Goals/Organizational Performance Measures:

*\*Each goal was elaborated on and supports the progress of one or several 5-year themes*

1. Mature EWEB's Business Management System
2. Limited Income/Energy Efficiency Program Enhancements
3. Disruption Response and Communications
4. Scalable Data Warehouse
5. Asset Management
6. Electric Comprehensive Plan
7. Prepare for BPA Contract Implementation
8. Large Customer Peak Mitigation
9. Labor Relations
10. Leadership Development
11. Willamette Treatment Plant
12. McKenzie Valley Territory Transfer

**MOTION:** Commissioner Schlossberg moved to adopt the 2026 Annual Organizational Goals as presented and discussed. Vice President Carlson seconded. The motion passed unanimously; 5:0:0; President Brown, Vice President Carlson, Commissioner Schlossberg, Commissioner Barofsky, and Commissioner Morris all voting in favor of the motion.

### **Future Board Agendas [02:25:59]**

Mr. Lawson recommended shifting the February discussion on resource adequacy.

**Board Wrap Up [02:27:53]**

Commissioner Schlossberg mentioned the importance of scheduling a Board retreat dinner. She thanked Commissioner Barofsky for his leadership in 2025.

Vice President Carlson echoed thanks for Commissioner Barofsky.

Commissioner Barofsky suggested reporting commissioner mileage and cost reimbursements.

There was some discussion around mechanisms and opportunities for staff to engage with the Board.

**Adjourn [02:40:18]**

President Brown adjourned the regular meeting at 8:10 p.m.

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Assistant Secretary

President

*Recorded by Terah Van Dusen, LCOG*