

EWEB Board Consent Calendar Request

For Contract Awards, Renewals, and Increases

The Board is being asked to approve additional funds to the Intergovernmental Agreement with **Springfield Utility Board (SUB)** for the **Indefeasible Right of Use (IRU) Agreement for Dark Fiber Service**.

Board Meeting Date: April 7, 2026
Project Name/Contract #: IRU for Dark Fiber Services / IGA 11416
Manager: Scott Milovich Ext. 7408
Executive Officer: Karen Kelley Ext. 7153

Contract Amount:

Original Contract Amount: \$37,407 (Approved 4/7/06 - Years 2006-2011)
Additional \$ Previously Approved: \$687,593 (Multiple approvals - Years 2011-2025)
Spend over last approval: NA
Amount this Request: \$375,000
% Increase over last approval: 51.7%
Resulting Cumulative Total: **\$1,100,000 (Years 2026-2029)**

Contracting Method:

Method of Solicitation: Direct Negotiation
If applicable, basis for exemption: EWEB Rule 6-0190
Term of Agreement: April 1, 2006 – December 31, 2029
Option to Renew? Yes
Approval for purchases “as needed”: Yes No
Proposals/Bids Received (Range): NA
Selection Basis: Direct Negotiation - IGA

Narrative:

Operational Requirement and Alignment with Strategic Plan

This Board Consent requests authorization to add funding to the existing Indefeasible Right of Use (IRU) agreement between Eugene Water & Electric Board (EWEB) and Springfield Utility Board (SUB) for dark fiber services.

The original IRU was executed in 2006 to lease SUB-owned fiber to support critical electric and water operations. The fiber network provided communications connectivity to essential facilities including Hayden Bridge Filtration Plant, Hayden Bridge Substation and Switch Stations, Thurston Substation, and the Leaburg and Walterville Power Plants. These circuits support mission-critical services including internet connectivity, voice communications, SCADA, and electric system relay protection.

Since execution of the original IRU, EWEB’s operational requirements have expanded. In 2022, EWEB established a backup communication center at Hayden Bridge, providing redundancies for the Information Services communication system and strengthening overall resiliency. Additional fiber services have been extended to support the Holden Creek Substation and substations at International Paper (IP), serving one of EWEB’s major customers.

The dark fiber network is foundational to EWEB's electric and water utility operations. It enables:

- Reliable relay protection and SCADA communications
- Secure voice and data connectivity
- Redundant communications pathways for system resiliency
- Support for critical generation, transmission, substations, and water treatment facilities

EWEB's current utilization under the agreement is 130.57 pair-miles at a rate of \$68.21 per pair-mile per month for an annual cost of \$106,874.

Maintaining and extending the IRU ensures uninterrupted communications for mission-critical infrastructure and supports public safety and system reliability.

This request provides funding to cover additional service years under the amended IRU and ensures continued operational continuity of this critical communications backbone.

Contracted Goods or Services

Lease of Dark Fiber to provide fiber connectivity for EWEB's ethernet network to several electric and generation facilities.

Purchasing Process

Direct negotiated Intergovernmental Agreement

ACTION REQUESTED:

Management requests the Board approve an increase to the IGA with Springfield Utility Board (SUB) for the Indefeasible Right of Use (IRU) Agreement for Dark Fiber Service. Approximately \$96,000 was planned for these dark fiber services in the Support Services O&M 2026 budget of \$2.7 million. Variances will be managed within the budget process and Board policy.

BUDGET CATEGORY: Support Services O&M, Services, Fiber