

EMERALD PEOPLE'S UTILITY DISTRICT

Board of Directors' Meeting

September 8, 2009

Minutes

Convene	President Jordan convened the meeting at 5:32 pm at the Emerald offices, 33733 Seavey Loop Road in Eugene.
Attendance and Introductions	Directors: Patti Chappel, Penny Jordan, Bruce Pilling, Katherine Schacht, and Bill Tanner. Staff: Pamela Hewitt, Coy Kratz, Frank Lambe, Bill Wilson, and Beth Matthews. Guests: Cathy Wilson, NWPPA.
Statements From the Public	None.
Agenda Timeline	There were no deletions from or additions to the agenda.
Deferred Items	None.
NWPPA	<p>Jordan introduced Cathy Wilson. Wilson gave a little background on her career, indicating that she lives in The Dalles, and has retired from Wasco Electric Cooperative where she was General Manager. Wilson said that she now works part-time for NWPPA as Member Relations Manager. Wilson distributed three handouts—the 2009-2010 Education and Conference Schedule; the 2009-2010 Northwest Electric Utility Directory; and a hard copy of a power point presentation.</p> <p>Wilson noted that NWPPA was formed in 1941 in Tacoma, Washington and is now located in Vancouver. She said that training and education is their main focus, and that government relations has also become high in importance. Wilson said NWPPA's webinars are popular and the number offered will be increased. NWPPA publishes a monthly newsletter, provides weekly emails, and a monthly labor relations report. They also host a website for members to gain information and hold an annual meeting each October. Wilson said the annual meeting will be held in Leavenworth, Washington next month and in Sacramento, California next year.</p> <p>Wilson noted that NWPPA is affiliated with People Power. They have 158 system utility members, 270 associate members, a 38 member Board of Trustees, and 13 ½ staff members. The Board of Directors is the governing body. She talked about the dues received and the programs and services which are provided with the money from dues. Wilson said NWPPA expects a small profit in 2009 although they are a non-profit organization. Utilities may receive lower training rates based on the type of membership they have.</p> <p>Wilson said that NWPPA stays uninvolved in state politics although, as a regional organization, they do get involved with discussions on climate change and other big issues which affect the region.</p>

Short Mountain Renewable Energy Park Discussion	<p>Lambe discussed the packet of information related to the Short Mountain Renewable Energy Park which was included with the agenda packet. He said that Emerald staff has been in discussions with Lane County on this. He said that staff from both operations got together to travel back east to see some facilities there. Four staff traveled from Lane County and one from Emerald. While back east they visited five plants. Lambe reviewed the photos included in the information packet, several of which were of a hydroponic greenhouse, which is one example of what could be done at the site. An incubator greenhouse was another example given. Lambe said that solar generation is also a possibility and a 2 MW array was shown in the pictures. Other possibilities include an anaerobic digester and leachate evaporation.</p> <p>Lambe indicated that Lane County staff have been talking with the Lane County Commissioners to determine if they have interest in pursuing this project. Lambe distributed a proposed Memo of Understanding (MOU) between Emerald and Lane County to develop an establishment of a Renewable Energy Park. Schacht spoke about the pending change in County Commissioners and how that may affect this potential project. Lambe gave more information on the project and a potential way to take advantage of tax breaks. He said this would need to be done by October 2010. Lambe noted that staff has not completed their part of the study, though. He said that if the Emerald Board is willing to meet with Lane County, the Memo of Understanding would be presented as a starting point. Signatures on the MOU would occur after a projected meeting on September 15, the date which is tentatively being set for a meeting. Lambe said he will move toward setting that meeting up and will apprise the Board is that date changes.</p>
<i>Motion</i>	Schacht/Chappel moved to approve the Memo of Understanding and allow the General Manager to sign the agreement.
<i>Vote</i>	Unanimously approved.
Decoupling Discussion	The Decoupling discussion was deferred to a future Board meeting.
General Manager Evaluation Discussion	Jordan talked about the goals from previous General Manager evaluations. Pilling suggested doing the items as needed after the General Manager has assessed the relevance at any given time. Schacht suggested that Lambe do a self-evaluation. Continuation of this discussion will occur at the end of tonight's meeting.
Finance / Treasurer Report	Chappel led a discussion on the check registers for the period from August 20-September 2, 2009. Staff clarified several questions on expenditures for the Board.
General Manager's Report	Lambe distributed his General Manager's Report for review and discussion. He gave the Board an update on the customer survey. He distributed the project status report on the survey which included a timeline for completion. He said that staff is trying to be thorough with the analysis. The majority of the Board continued to support continuation of the analysis.

Kratz addressed the topic of vehicle response to emergencies. He said that Emerald staff have no authority to break traffic laws and it doesn't matter what the emergency is or what the circumstances are in a public safety incident. He also said that Emerald does not pay traffic violation citations for employees.

Lambe attached a Public Power Daily to his report on Roseburg Forest Products. He also gave an update on the Sixth Power Plan along with a PNUCC update which he attached to his General Manager's report. Two additional articles were also attached to his report, noted Lambe. Lambe discussed an e-mail from Robert Thompson, although he did not distribute any printed information. This was in regard to questions raised by Thompson about the Dorena Dam hydro project. Lambe said that he will develop a response to Thompson to share with the Board.

Consent Agenda

Motion

Schacht/Pilling moved to approve the Consent Agenda.

Unanimously approved.

Vote

Review of Motions

The motions made during the meeting were reviewed for accuracy.

Statements From the Public

None.

Suggested Items for Future Board Meetings

Chappel noted that national power use is down and that she would like to talk about this in relation to the high water mark. Pilling talked about wind in the northwest—specifically, he had a question about Emerald's wind generation and whether we are maintaining operational efficiency.

The Decoupling discussion will be moved to a future meeting.

Upcoming Meetings and Events

There was no in-depth review of upcoming meetings, but rather a cursory review was done.

The next evening Board meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, September 22 beginning at 5:30 pm in the District offices.

Directors' Concluding Comments

Pilling asked about a summation report on the OPUDA annual meeting. Schacht responded that Peter DeFazio will not be attending the annual meeting as he will be in session in Washington, DC. However, Schacht said that he will be doing a video talk instead. Schacht said that each Board Director will introduce someone at the meeting and that they will get information on this ahead of time. Schacht said that registrations are down—per Jean at the OPUDA office—although they are picking up. Schacht indicated that three Republicans and three Democrats are scheduled to receive plaques, but only two will attend the meeting. Chappel said that she is making two gift baskets for presentation. Lambe and staff will lead

discussion on the panel. Schacht said that she will e-mail the Board with additional details as those become available.

Pilling said he was glad that Cathy Wilson attended the Board meeting. He felt she did a good job. He said that NWPPA is a great organization from a regional standpoint. Pilling said he found the Short Mountain report to be very interesting.

Tanner said he appreciated the visitation from NWPPA. He said he would also like to push ahead and have someone from a different organization attend each Board meeting.

Chappel thought that it was a great meeting with good discussion. She said it was good to have Cathy Wilson at the meeting. The Short Mountain presentation was interesting as well.

Schacht said that the new telephone directory came out today and she found it interesting that none of the airlines list their phone numbers in the directory. She said she can see why airline travel is down and that it's all about customer service. Schacht said we're losing how to serve the customer and is going to continue to speak to the issues of good customer service—that's where she's coming from. Schacht said that Cathy Wilson did an excellent job. She said that the Board and Lambe are continuing to get better.

Jordan said she echoed most of the previous comments.

Adjournment

The regular Board meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm. At this time the Board reconvened to discuss the General Manager's evaluation

Minutes prepared by Beth Matthews, Board Secretary.

Beth Matthews