



APPROVED 3-25-15

MINUTES
City of Tacoma
Public Utility Board Meeting
March 11, 2015
6:30 p.m.

Mr. Jones called the Public Utility Board meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. at the Public Utilities Administration Building.

Present: Woodrow Jones, David Nelson, Bryan Flint, Monique Trudnowski, Mark Patterson

The meeting was quorate.

Minutes of the Previous Meetings

Mr. Flint moved that the minutes of the previous meetings be adopted; seconded by Mr. Patterson. Voice vote was taken and carried. The minutes were declared adopted and made part of the record.

Recognitions

There were no recognitions.

Comments from the Public

There were no public comments.

Consent Agenda

There were no items on the consent agenda.

Regular Agenda

- D-1 Resolution U-10758 – Award contracts and approve purchases:
1. Award two-year master agreement with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife for hydroelectric project mitigation to fulfill Federal Energy Regulatory Commission license requirements (\$12,000,000);
 2. Award contract to The Natt McDougall Company for the construction of the Cowlitz Falls North Shore Collector (\$32,876,448, plus applicable sales tax);
 3. Increase contracts with Black & Veatch, BioAnalysts, Inc., Cornforth Consultants, Inc., MWH Americas, Inc., and R2 Resource Consultants, Inc., for engineering consultant services required for the construction of the Cowlitz Falls North Shore Collector (\$1,730,000; cumulative contract total \$5,315,000);

4. Increase contract with NAES Power Contractors for continued maintenance services on Tacoma Power's facilities (\$600,000; cumulative contract total \$4,700,000, plus applicable sales tax);
5. Award two-year contract to Pease Construction, Inc., for Facilities general construction requirements to increase safety and security throughout the TPU campus (\$1,060,348, including sales tax);
6. Award contract to Rapid-Span Structures, Ltd., to build and deliver three forest road bridges for the Green River Watershed (\$322,302, plus sales tax).

Mr. Flint moved to adopt the resolution; seconded by Mr. Patterson.

In response to a Board inquiry, Mark LaRiviere, Senior Fisheries Biologist, provided clarification on item number one.

In response to a Board request, Kirk Kessler, Principal Engineer, described the project scope and provided clarification on items two and three.

Greg Volkhardt, Environmental Programs Manager, provided background on the selected contractor.

Voice vote was taken and carried. The resolution was adopted.

- D-2 Resolution U-10759 – Authorize the appropriation of \$168,802.50 for the Youth Building Tacoma job training and pre-apprenticeship program for youth.

Mr. Flint moved to adopt the resolution; seconded by Mr. Patterson.

Mr. Flint moved to enter a substitute resolution reflecting a total of \$166,375; seconded by Mr. Patterson.

A voice vote to enter a substitute resolution was taken and carried.

Christopher Wright, Contract and Program Auditor, summarized the resolution. Youth Building Tacoma is a job training and pre-apprenticeship program for young adults ages 18 – 24 years. The requested funds will be used for a one-year contract with WorkForce Central and the amount is equally matched by General Government. The second year of funding will be competitively bid as recommended by the Youth Building Tacoma Advisory Committee.

Board Members made positive remarks about supporting a program which aims to equip local, underrepresented individuals for work in disciplines required by Tacoma Public Utilities.

Voice vote was taken and carried. The resolution was approved.

- D-3 Resolution U-10760 – Establish a near-term policy direction regarding negotiation of wholesale broadband internet service agreements between Click! Network and the Internet Service Provider companies.

Mr. Flint moved to adopt the resolution; seconded by Mr. Patterson.

Tenzin Gyaltsen, Click! General Manager, summarized the resolution. Prior agreements between Click! Network and the Internet Service Provider companies providing for the wholesale sale of broadband internet service have expired (although continuing month-to-month), and Click! management requests Board policy direction regarding the content of future long-term agreements. Mr. Gyaltsen then outlined the recommended near-term policy directives.

Chuck Prater of Net-Venture and Doug Miller of Advanced Stream made comments on behalf of the Internet Service Providers. Board Members shared their points of view on the resolution.

Voice vote was taken and carried. The resolution was adopted four to one with Mrs. Trudnowski casting a nay vote.

D-4 Resolution U-10761 – Authorize the sale of 2015 Water System Revenue Refunding Bonds and authorize the Director of Utilities, and in the alternative, the Water Superintendent, to conduct and approve the sale of such Bonds in the manner and upon the terms deemed most advantageous to the City.

Mr. Flint moved to adopt the resolution; seconded by Mr. Patterson.

Sean Senescall, Rates and Financial Planning Manager, summarized the resolution. Interest rates for revenue bonds have fallen significantly since 2005, when Tacoma Water issued its 2005 Water System Revenue and Refunding Bonds. This 2015 bond issue will make it possible to refund \$25,070,000 of callable par value of those 2005 bonds at lower market rates. This resolution provides authorization to execute the sale of the bonds for a not to exceed amount of \$30.6M subject to specific limitations.

Mr. Senescall provided clarification upon Board request. Board Members made positive comments about this resolution.

Voice vote was taken and carried. The resolution was adopted.

H. Reports of the Director

There were no reports of the Director.

I. Comments by the Board

Board Members Jones, Patterson, and Trudnowski made positive remarks while describing their attendance at the 2015 service awards and the long-standing service of employees.

Board Member Trudnowski praised employees who worked on a Saturday at the Emergency Food Network to repack food.

Board Member Flint encouraged participation in the IBEW peanut butter drive.

J. Adjournment

There being no further business or comments, the Public Utility Board was adjourned at 7:41 p.m. until Wednesday, March 25, 2015, for a study session beginning at 3:00 p.m., followed by the regular meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Approved:

Woodrow E. Jones, Jr., Chair

Mark Patterson, Secretary