



APPROVED 1-9-19

MINUTES
City of Tacoma
Public Utility Board Study Session
December 12, 2018
3:00 p.m.

Mr. Jones called the Public Utility Board study session to order at 3:00 p.m. at the Public Utilities Administration Building.

Present: Woodrow E. Jones, Jr., Bryan Flint, Christine Cooley (via phone), Mark Patterson, Karen Larkin (arrived 3:12)

Tacoma Power: Dam Safety Program

Toby Brewer, Chief Dam Safety Engineer, began by providing an overview of Tacoma Power's four hydroelectric projects and then reviewed the benefits of hydro power. Benefits include clean, renewable electricity that provides 49 percent of customer load for Tacoma Power. Other benefits are fishing, wildlife lands protection, recreation, and habitat restoration. Mortal, property, environmental, and economic risks of hydropower were then summarized. Regulatory authority was then addressed. The Federal Power Act, volume 18, part 12 contains dam safety regulations. Mr. Brewer detailed each of the owners dam safety program components: 1) People (Chief Dam Safety Engineer, Public Utility Board, Management, Project Staff); 2) Plans (Emergency Action Plans, Security Plans, Dam Safety Surveillance Monitoring Plans, Public Safety Plans; 3) Studies (Probably Maximum Flood Studies; Dam Break Studies, Stress and Stability Studies, Geology and Geography Studies; 4) Inspections and Audits (Internal Inspections, Annual FERC Inspections, Part 12D Independent Consultant Inspections, External Audits; 5) Documents (Potential Failure Mode Analyses, Dam Safety Surveillance Monitoring Reports; 6) Drawings (Exhibit Drawings, Project Drawings, Inundation Maps). A summary of recent dam safety projects was then provided. This includes Alder Dam post tensioning, Cushman Dam No. 1 spill core wall, Seismic resilience for the Mossyrock Dam spillway system, Mayfield Dam tendons, and Barrier Dam apron scour repairs.

Board Members expressed the desire for a dam safety update every 18 months. Board Members also discussed being included in safety tours and potentially having a study session at one of the hydroelectric projects. In response to a Board inquiry, Mr. Brewer summarized how downstream communities are engaged. The City of Toledo

government is a participant in functional exercises. The reverse 911 systems and siren alert testing was also discussed.

Tacoma Power: Special Technology Projects of Limited Duration

Tony Landrith, Assistant Power Section Manager, outlined three Utility Technology Services projects of limited duration that will require project staffing. The resolutions for consideration will be brought forth at a future Board meeting for consideration. The projects requiring staffing are the Workforce Connect project; 2019/2020 Project Portfolio; and the Automated Metering Infrastructure (AMI) Project. This staffing approach leverages existing bench contracts, allows flexibility for non-permanent resourcing demands for longer duration initiatives, and reduces resource costs by creating temporary project positions. During capital planning and budgeting, UTS met with all impacted divisions identified as project participants. The outcome was a detailed resource plan with agreed upon mitigations for resource constraints, which included identified project FTEs. The Workforce Connect Project replaces the existing field mobile system. The expected completion timeline is the end of 2020. Requested are one senior project manager, one project lead, one test manager, one office assistant, one management analyst, and one field technician. The Portfolio Project includes multiple projects such as network and security operations center, TV Tacoma upgrade, and upgrading conference room technology. Requested are one telecom engineer, one project lead, and two management analysts. The AMI project was previously approved to support planning and procurement in 2018. The new resolution with project resources needed to support systems integration and deployment phases through the end of 2021. Requested are ten meter readers, seven management analysts, one senior principal engineer, one communications engineer, one MDMS systems lead, two service workers, two utility workers, one meter repair, and one lead meter technician. Per Board request, staff will provide additional information on the employee organizational structure highlighting current positions and the structure once the projects are complete.

Miscellaneous

Mia Navarro, the new Office of Equity and Human Rights Manager for TPU was introduced.

Executive Session

Board Member Patterson moved to convene an executive session at 4:55 for 30 minutes for the purpose of discussing pending or potential litigation per RCW 42.30.110(1)(i); seconded by Board Member Flint. The executive session was extended at 4:25 for ten minutes. The executive session was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Adjournment

The study session was adjourned at 5:35 p.m. until the next regularly scheduled study session on Wednesday, January 9, 2019 at 3:00 p.m.

Approved:

Approved:

Woodrow E. Jones, Jr., Chair

Bryan Flint, Secretary