



APPROVED 2-26-20

MINUTES
City of Tacoma
Public Utility Board Meeting
February 12, 2020
6:30 p.m.

Chair Larkin called the Public Utility Board meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium at Tacoma Public Utilities.

Present: Bryan Flint, Christine Cooley, Carlos Watson, Karen Larkin, 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.

Recognitions

There were no recognitions.

Public comment

There were no comments by the public.

Regular Agenda

D-1 Resolution U-11138– Award contracts and approve purchases:

1. Increase contract to Morris & Willner Partners, Inc., for IT project management temporary staffing services to assist with the implementation and replacement of technology solutions for projects and organizational initiatives (\$5,211,992, plus applicable taxes. Cumulative total \$10,111,418, plus applicable taxes) [Tony Landrith, Assistant Section Manager].
2. Increase contract to KRE Consulting, LLC for IT management temporary staffing services to assist with the implementation and replacement of technology solutions projects (\$2,440,444, plus applicable taxes. Cumulative total \$5,324,724, plus applicable taxes) [Tony Landrith, Assistant Section Manager].
3. Award contract to Toba Consulting, LLC, for Energy Imbalance Market program management (\$975,000, plus applicable taxes) [Clay Norris, Power Manager].

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

Board Member Flint moved to remove items one and two from the general purchasing resolution to allow time for additional staff work and to discuss at the next study session;

seconded by Mr. Patterson. Voice vote to remove items number one and two taken and carried.

Voice vote for the remaining item on the agenda was taken and carried. The resolution was adopted.

D-2 Resolution U-11139 – Authorize execution of a letter of agreement as negotiated with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 483, Water Division Unit, regarding accretion of the classification of Water Supply Supervisor into the bargaining unit. [Dylan Carlson, Sr. Labor Relations Manager].

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

Dylan Carlson, Sr. Labor Relations Manager, summarized the resolution. The resolution recommends the accretion of the classification of Water Supply Supervisor into the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 483, Water Unit. It establishes a one-time pay rate of \$47.80 per hour effective January 1, 2020. Future wage increases shall be governed by the 2019-2021 collective bargaining agreement between parties. The current incumbent shall receive a wage increase retroactive to January 1, 2020 of three percent and will be eligible to receive longevity pay. After the wage increase has been applied, the incumbent's wage rate shall be frozen until such time as the established wage for the classification exceeds the frozen rate. This classification will be added to the list as eligible for reimbursement costs for the Water Distribution Manager certification. This resolution is scheduled for Council consideration on February 18, 2020.

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

D-3 Resolution U-11140 – Authorize execution of the adoption of a collective bargaining agreement as negotiated with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 483, Click! Unit. [Dylan Carlson, Sr. Labor Relations Manager].

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

Dylan Carlson, Sr. Labor Relations Manager, summarized the resolution. This resolution covers approximately 21 FTE positions within TPU. The agreement is for one year and provides for a wage increase of three percent for four classifications in the bargaining unit. Pursuant to Council Resolution 40468 adopted on November 5, 2019, the Council has authorized execution of the Click! business transaction agreement. It is expected that the City will cease to be the operator of the Click! Network during the calendar year 2020. The City and the Union agree that if at any time the number of employees working in classifications represented by the union is fewer than two employees, and expected to remain at fewer than two employees, the parties will mutually petition PERC to dissolve the bargaining unit. This resolution is scheduled for Council consideration on February 18, 2020.

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

D-4 Resolution U-11141 – Authorize execution of a letter of agreement as negotiated with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 483, Click! Unit, regarding classifications impacted by the transition plan for the Click! Business Transition Agreement. [Dylan Carlson, Sr. Labor Relations Manager].

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

Dylan Carlson, Sr. Labor Relations Manager, summarized the resolution. The letter of agreement sets forth compensation and work rules for the employees in the classifications of telecom network construction tech, telecom network technician, and telecom utility worker. Employees in these impacted classifications will receive a one-time, lump-sum payment of \$700.00 on March 31, 2020. Effective April 1, 2020 wages for these classifications will increase by 2.25 percent. The letter of agreement provides for the consolidation of these classifications into a single classification of Network Construction Technician effective April 1, 2020 and the placement of the incumbents in the consolidated classification. IBEW 483 Click! will cease to be the authorized bargaining representative for these classifications and this responsibility will be moved under IBEW Local 483, Tacoma Power Unit. This resolution is scheduled for Council consideration on February 18, 2020.

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

D-5 Resolution U-11142 – Authorize a supplemental environmental project for Tacoma Power and Emerald Services, Inc., to provide funding for the creation of an electric vehicle charging station fund. [Cam LeHouillier, Assistant Power Section Manager].

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

Cam LeHouillier, Assistant Power Section Manager, presented background information on this resolution. Emerald Services, Inc. is an oil recycler operating on Alexander Avenue in Tacoma. The Puget Sound Clean Air Agency (PSCAA) has found Emerald Services in violation of air quality regulations and as an alternative form of restitution, Emerald Services has agreed to participate in a supplementary environmental project agreements. PSCAA has decided that Tacoma Power is a suitable manager of the project funds with experience in developing electric vehicle charging projects. Projects funded by the electric vehicle station fund are limited to municipal boundaries of Tacoma. The agreement can be amended by Tacoma Power if there is a need to alter the program. The agreement terminates December 31, 2021 and any remaining balance in the fund will be remitted to PSCAA. Emerald Services, Inc. is the sole contributor to the fund for \$825,750 and Tacoma Power will administer the fund and report quarterly on projects and payments made from the fund.

H. Reports of the Director

Dale King, Rail Superintendent summarized Rail's study session presentation. The update was on the Northwest Seaport Alliance (NWSA), which is a consortium of the Ports of Tacoma and Seattle, and the competitive pressures in the Panamax environment. Panamax is defined as whether or not ships can pass through the Panama Canal. Ships are getting bigger and the Port's competitive environment is getting

tougher. NWSA is positioning itself to compete in this new environment and Tacoma Rail is there to maximize its competitive advantage.

Jim Sant, Deputy Director for Administration, summarized the other study session presentations which were a review of the Director goals and review instrument and continued discussion on Board policies on reliability/resiliency, telecom, and economic development.

Todd Lloyd, Assistant Power Section Manager, provided an update on Tacoma Power hydro conditions. Since mid-December, a nearly constant series of storms has hit Washington State. The most recent and largest of these storms occurred last Thursday and resulted in flooding on 13 rivers, including major flooding on the Snoqualmie River, the Cedar River, and the upper Cowlitz River, and moderate flooding on the Nisqually River upstream of Alder Lake. The Nisqually Project has been generating at maximum capacity since the first of the year. In addition, in an effort to preserve storage space in the Alder Lake reservoir, the project began to spill excess water on January 23 with total discharge running between about 5,000 and 6,000 cubic feet per second (cfs). Last week, in anticipation of major flood flows into the project, discharge from the Nisqually Project was increased - first to 12,000 cfs on February 5 with a subsequent increase to 15,000 cfs on February 6. On the early morning of February 8, inflows into Alder Lake peaked at 20,000 cfs, over 10 times greater than normal. The Nisqually Project was able to reduce downstream flooding by 5,000 cfs. During this event downstream flows on the Nisqually River at McKenna reached approximately 20,000 cfs, which, based on Thurston County Emergency Management is categorized as minor flooding. Without the storage provided by Alder Lake, downstream flows would have been 5,000 cfs higher, and would have been very near the threshold of major flooding. Before, during, and after the event, Tacoma Power staff closely monitored the situation and was in regular contact with state, federal and tribal emergency management agencies. While the Nisqually Project is not a flood control facility, the team worked tirelessly to reduce downstream flooding and conditions would have been much worse without their efforts. The Nisqually Project is not a flood control facility, because the size of Alder Lake is insufficient to prevent downstream flooding. While this is the highest discharge in the past 20 years, it is much lower than the peak flood of record, which occurred in February 1996 when discharge reached 40,000 cfs. As we experienced in 1996, the Nisqually Project is unable to significantly reduce downstream flooding during a flood of this magnitude.

Joe Wilson, T&D Manager, provided an update on recent outages. Tacoma Community College (TCC) experienced outages. TCC is not part of Tacoma Power's system; Tacoma Power serves it, but TCC owns its own high-voltage, private system. TCC experienced faults and hired a private electrical contractor and Tacoma Power staff worked collaboratively to help them solve their issues. Mr. Wilson summarized another outage on February 7 at 6:30 p.m. brought on by a wind event of 48 mph gusts. Several circuits in University Place and north of Fredrickson were damaged and 5,400 customers were affected. Six crews were dispatched and the majority of customers were returned to service by 10:20 p.m. and all by 3:00 a.m. Chair Larkin made positive remarks about these restorations.

Clark Mather, Community and Government Relations Manager reported on developments related to the Green River, the main source of drinking water for Tacoma Water and the Howard Hansen Dam. Last week, the entire Washington State delegation and ten house members from Washington signed funding support for fish passage at

Howard Hansen Dam. The Army Corp of Engineers allocated \$3M to begin design upgrade work for this fiscal year. Mr. Mather outlined the importance of how this will help restore fish runs and aid in orca recovery. This has been a long-time effort; the additional water storage project was authorized by President Clinton in 1999. Board Members made positive remarks about this development.

I. Comments by the Board

There were no additional comments by the Board.

J. Adjournment

There being no further business or comments, the Public Utility Board was adjourned at 7:22 p.m. until Wednesday, February 26 for a study session is at 3:00 p.m. at Tacoma Public Utilities, followed by the regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. at Tacoma Public Utilities.

Approved:

Karen Larkin, Chair

Mark Patterson, Secretary