



APPROVED 8/23/23

MINUTES
City of Tacoma
Public Utility Board Meeting
July 26, 2023
6:30 p.m.

Mr. O’Loughlin called the Public Utility Board meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present: William Bridges; Elly Claus-McGahan; John O’Loughlin

Excused: Carlos Watson

Minutes of the Previous Meetings

Mr. Bridges moved that the minutes of the previous meetings be adopted; seconded by Ms. Claus-McGahan. Voice vote was taken and carried. The minutes were declared adopted.

Comments by the Public

There were no comments by the public.

Recognitions

Tacoma Water: Women’s Tapping Team Competition

Tacoma Water: Meter Challenge Competition

Stuart Vaughan, Water Maintenance and Construction Manager, spoke to the accomplishments and performance of these Water employees at the American Water Works Association (AWWA) annual meeting this summer. Videos of the competitions were aired. Carlos Cammacho took first place nationally for the meter challenge. The Women’s Tapping Team (Jessa Messer, Sami Pielak, Sarah DeGidio, and coach Geff Yotter) took second place nationally for their performance. Board Members made positive remarks about these amazing accomplishments.

Regular Agenda

D-1 Resolution U-11397 – Authorize Tacoma Power to enter into an agreement for customer-funded electric utility work for service to a new Mary Bridge Children’s Hospital.

Mr. Bridges moved to adopt the resolution; seconded by Ms. Claus-McGahan.

Chad Edinger, T&D Electrical Services Mgr, summarized the resolution. MultiCare is beginning construction of a new Mary Bridge Children’s Hospital, a medical office building, and two new parking garages in Tacoma. The completion of the utility work through this agreement will allow for the construction of all four buildings and necessary

utility work that includes: reconductoring overhead distribution lines for higher loads, removing a pad-mount switch, removal of existing services to buildings to be demolished, installation of new vaults and wire, and installation of primary meters, a transfer switch, and transformation. This agreement is customer-funded with a total project cost of \$1,560,585 and future work will be required, under a separate installation agreement, that will allow for the construction of additional customer-funded facilities for permanent service.

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

E. Reports of the Director

Strategic Directive Six (SD6, Innovation)

Andrew Braeger, Chief Technology Officer, summarized the traits of Innovation which are novelty/new ideas, useful outcome generating value, and execution beyond exploration of new ideas. The vision for Innovation at TPU was reviewed. Optimization goals: improve employee productivity; enhance employee experience; enhance existing service offerings; realize cost savings; improve existing processes; deliver operational improvements; and improve customer experience. Transformation goals: deliver net new products; deliver net new services; deliver net new programs; pilot new business models; pilot new service offerings; responding to climate change. Innovation culture metrics (creative space, adaptability, and barriers) was discussed. Longer-term metrics include throughput (average time to deliver an innovation use cast); potential (number of new use cases submitted in a period); conversion (new use cases turned into production concepts); financial (total benefit of use cases delivered in a period); recognition (number of use cases receiving industry recognition). Mr. Braeger concluded by outlining examples of Innovation such as the service line grant and loan program, electrification, microgrid, analytics, new rate structure, end electric locomotive vehicles.

F. Comments by the Board

There were no final comments from the Board.

G. Adjournment

There being no further business or comments, the Public Utility Board meeting was adjourned at 7:13 p.m. until Wednesday, August 9, 2023, for a study session at 3:00 p.m., followed by a regular meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Approved:



Carlos Watson, Chair



William Bridges