



APPROVED 4/9/25

MINUTES
City of Tacoma
Public Utility Board Meeting
March 26, 2025
6:30 p.m.

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

Present: John O'Loughlin; Elly Claus-McGahan; Anita Gallagher, William Bridges

Excused: Devin Hampton

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.

Public Comments

Tim O'Brien and Zachary Pratt made comments in opposition of the development of the Segale gravel mine, potential environmental impacts, and Tacoma Water providing the water for the project.

Regular Agenda

C-1 Resolution U-11517 - A resolution to award certain contracts and approve certain purchases:

1. Award contract to Baron USA, LLC, for the purchase of a new heavy-duty transformer oil purifier and transformer dry out trailer unit (\$716,942, plus applicable taxes) [Don Ashmore, Utilities Fleet Manager];
2. Award contract to Tapani, Inc., for planning, validation, a basis of design report, and schematic design of a pump station, large diameter inline valves, standpipe modifications, and associated improvements (\$1,185,839, plus a five percent contingency for a projected contract amount of \$1,245,131, plus applicable taxes. Additional amendments to this contract are anticipated to complete work, including the remainder of the design, early work procurements, and construction of the facility) [Alicia Flatt, Principal Engineer];
3. Increase contract with Absher Construction, Co. for continued work on design of new warehouse/shops facility stemming from the all-hazards vulnerability assessment (\$797,963, plus a ten percent contingency. Cumulative contract total \$1,708,119, plus applicable taxes. Additional amendments to this contract are anticipated to complete the work, including the completion of design, early-work procurements, and construction of the facility) [Carol Powers, Principal Engineer].

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

There was no public comment.

Voice vote taken and carried. The resolution was adopted.

C-2 Resolution U-11518 – A resolution related to the Department of Public Utilities; adopting the City of Tacoma’s Commemorative Flag Policy set forth in City Council Resolution 41642, as may be amended from time to time, for the Tacoma Public Utilities main administration building located at 3628 South 35th Street, Tacoma WA 98409 and authorizing the Director of Public Utilities to implement the same.

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

Engel Lee, Chief Deputy City Attorney, summarized the resolution. The City of Tacoma has recently adopted a Commemorative Flag Policy as set forth in City Council Resolution No. 41642. A commemorative flag is a flag that identifies with a specific event, cause, theme, or group of people the Board chooses to honor, recognize, or commemorate consistent with the City’s official policies, priorities, and sentiments. Commemorative flags do not include advertising media, such as banners and adoption of the City’s Commemorative Flag Policy will reflect alignment with the viewpoint and values of the City as a government and the City Council as a governing body through the selection and display of commemorative flags on TPU’s main administration building.

There were no Board inquiries or public comment.

Voice vote taken and carried. The resolution was adopted.

C-3 Resolution U-11519 – Authorize execution of an interlocal agreement for Tacoma Power with the Department of Commerce in the amount of \$339,500 for a pumped storage feasibility study at Mossyrock Dam.

Mr. O’Loughlin moved to adopt the resolution; seconded by Mr. Bridges.

Mr. O’Loughlin moved to replace the interlocal agreement originally filed with the Clerk of the Board with an updated version received from the Department of Commerce on March 21, 2025 correcting and editing certain provisions on page three of the interlocal agreement; seconded by Mr. Bridges.

Chief Deputy City Attorney, Engel Lee, explained that there is an updated agreement because minor, but not immaterial changes were submitted from the Department of Commerce. The contract remains the same, but it changes titles and a minor edit to process. There was no public comment on entering the updated agreement. Voice vote on the motion to update the attachment was taken and carried.

Aimee Higby, Power Energy Portfolio Analyst, summarized the resolution. The 2024 State of Washington legislative session appropriated \$350,000 from the climate commitment account to Tacoma Power to complete a study to assess the feasibility of pumped storage at Mossyrock Dam. The contract amount will be \$339,500, after the

Department of Commerce's three percent administration fee is assessed. Tacoma Power's 2024 Integrated Resource Plan's (IRP) two-year action plan included conducting the pumped storage feasibility study. Work will be conducted by a third party and is already under way. The Department of Commerce is responsible for contracting with Tacoma Power to disburse the funds that were allocated to Tacoma Power by the budget proviso and from the Climate Commitment Account. Chapter 39.34 RCW Interlocal Cooperation Act requires the authorization of each party's governing body to enter into the agreement, and Tacoma Power is seeking Board approval prior to seeking City Council approval.

There were no Board inquiries or public comment.

Voice vote taken and carried. The resolution with the updated attachment was adopted.

D. Reports of the Director

Tacoma Water Integrated Resource Plan (IRP)

Glen George, Water Resources Manager, summarized the objective of Tacoma Water's 2025 Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) update. The IRP incorporates large system changes into Tacoma Water's planning process; combines water supply and demand into a single analysis; addresses trends and uncertainties; projects the ability of current and future supplies to meet increasing water demands; investigates groundwater systems; aligns with other strategic planning activities; and builds upon the original 2018 IRP. The public advisory committee was formed in early 2024, met five times, and provided valuable input. Mr. George summarized changes in future supplies and demand since the 2018 IRP was completed. Water yield, supply, and demand modeling, resource adequacy standards, facilities included in modeling, analysis of the current supply portfolio, and future supply improvement alternatives were detailed. Mr. George concluded by providing an overview of future action items, which includes formal Board consideration on April 9, 2025, followed by presentations to the Council's Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability committee and City Council.

E. Final Board Comments

There were no final comments by the Board.

F. Adjournment

There being no further business or comments, the Public Utility Board meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m. until Wednesday, April 9, 2025, for a study session at 3:00 p.m. and a regular meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Approved:



John O'Loughlin
Chair



Elly Claus-McGahan
Secretary