



APPROVED 5/28/25

MINUTES
City of Tacoma
Public Utility Board Meeting
May 14, 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; Devin Hampton; Anita Gallagher
Excused: William Bridges

Minutes of the Previous Meetings

Ms. Gallagher 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

There was no public comment.

Recognition

Jessica Knickerbocker, Deputy Water Superintendent, shared that Water Superintendent Heather Pennington was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Washington State Department of Health. Ms. Pennington is one of three individuals with this distinction.

Regular Agenda

- D-1 Resolution U-11529 - A resolution to award certain contracts and approve certain purchases:
1. Award three-year contract to Harbor Rail Services Company for federally mandated daily services of freight car inspections, freight car repairs, and terminal and initial intermodal air test procedures (\$1,800,000, plus applicable taxes) [Kari Halliday, Chief Mechanical Officer];
 2. Award contract to Pape & Sons Construction, Inc., for the replacement of polyvinyl chloride and asbestos concrete pipe water mains (\$1,133,631.00, plus a 15 percent contingency for a projected contract total of \$1,303,675.65, plus applicable taxes) [Troy Saghafi, Water Design Engineer];
 3. Increase contract with the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife by three years for various fisheries services to support Tacoma Power's hydroelectric project federal licensing requirements (\$24,140,000. Projected contract total \$46,490,000, plus applicable taxes) [Eric Shoblom, Natural Resources Mgr];
 4. Award three-year contract to Aveva Software LLC for flex credits designated cloud software as a service in support of the Energy Management System refresh within

the Advanced Distribution Management System (\$715,500, plus applicable taxes) [Sally Mohr, Technology Delivery Mgr];

5. Award contract to Open Systems International, Inc., for implementation of the Advanced Distribution Management System program to provide a centralized platform for operators to interface with and manage the distribution system equipment (\$1,790,470, plus applicable taxes) [Sally Mohr, Technology Delivery Mgr];
6. Award three-year contract to Sun-Net, Inc., for Advanced Distribution Management System operations reporting, control, and analysis system (\$1,387,600, plus applicable taxes) [Sally Mohr, Technology Delivery Mgr];
7. Award three-year contract to Media Mosaic, Inc., for organizational change management support to systems operations and training for the Advanced Distribution Management System (\$3,576,480, plus applicable taxes) [Sally Mohr, Technology Delivery Mgr].

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

In response to a Board inquiry on item number one regarding the distinction between in-house and contracted work, Kari Halliday, Chief Mechanical Officer, explained that none of this work is done in house. When trains come into the Port of Tacoma, they're inspected there, and the inspectors reject damages that happened in route, so Tacoma Rail doesn't take responsibility for those. They also address safety issues and outgoing trains go through the Federal Railroad Administration for safety testing. The American Society of Railroads handles billing for car customers. Rail staff investigated bringing the billing in house, but found it isn't prudent to do so. Lastly, there is no footprint at Tacoma Rail for material storage.

There was no public comment.

Voice vote taken and carried. The resolution was adopted.

D-2 Resolution U-11530 – Authorize creation of a special project of limited duration for an Information Technology Analyst for Tacoma Power's Geospatial Information Systems modernization project

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

Andy Simpson, GIS/Technology Mgr, summarized the resolution. Tacoma Power requests Board approval to establish the Tacoma Power Geospatial Information Systems (GIS) Modernization Project as a special project of limited duration through the 2025/2026 biennium for a total of three years, ending in 2028 or at the GIS completion. The Business Integrations and Digital Solutions (BIDS) team within Tacoma Power's Utility Technology Services (UTS) provides critical resourcing and expertise to the GIS Modernization Project, the BIDS team must additionally provide ongoing operational and integration support to the complex, legacy GE Smallworld mapping system until it is fully decommissioned. The implementation and usage of ESRI GIS technology continues to grow rapidly throughout many parts of Tacoma Power organization, increasing resource demand. To avoid project delays and delivery of operational support and business

value, it is necessary to further supplement the GIS Modernization Project and BIDS team with additional temporary resources.

There was no public comment.

Voice vote taken and carried. The resolution was adopted.

D-3 Resolution U-11531 – Approve declaration of surplus for 198 overhead transformers no longer needed for Tacoma Power’s current or future needs and authorize the sale of surplus equipment to the highest responsive bidder

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

Sean Veley, Sr. Power Field Operations Supervisor, summarized the resolution. Tacoma Power originally acquired for public utility purposes 198 overhead transformers. Tacoma Power has determined that the equipment listed is no longer necessary for providing continued public utility service due to age, reliability and damage, and is deemed surplus to Tacoma Power’s needs pursuant to the applicable provisions in RCW 35.94.040 and TMC 1.06.272-278. The equipment has an estimated resale value of \$13,000.

In accordance with RCW 35.94.040, a public hearing was held. There was no public comment.

Voice vote taken and carried. The resolution was adopted.

D. Reports of the Director

There were no Reports of the Director.

E. Final Board Comments

Board Member Claus-McGahan commented that all of the Automated Distribution Management System contracts on the general purchasing resolution were discussed thoroughly in staff meetings and Board study sessions.

F. Adjournment

There being no further business or comments, the Public Utility Board meeting was adjourned at 6:49 p.m. until Wednesday, May 28, 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