



APPROVED 7-9-25

MINUTES
City of Tacoma
Public Utility Board Meeting
June 25, 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, William Bridges

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

There were no comments by the public.

Recognition

Kyle Coen, Rail Safety Manager, presented the Board with the 2024 Jake Award, which is given to railroads with above average industry on-the-job injuries. Board Members made positive remarks about this award.

Regular Agenda

- D-1 Resolution U-11536 - A resolution to award certain contracts and approve certain purchases:
1. Award contract to Unifin International for the purchase of six direct-replacement air coolers for the LaGrande Unit 5 Generator (\$800,000, plus applicable taxes) [Dave Collins, Nisqually Hydro Project Sr. Mgr];
 2. Award five-year contracts to Cramer Fish Sciences and Four Peaks Environmental for fish habitat program management and support services (\$833,333.33 each. Includes option to renew through mutually agreed upon amendment for a projected contract amount of \$2,500,000, plus applicable taxes) [David Cogswell, Natural Resources Analyst];
 3. Increase contract to Power Costs, Inc., for development, deployment, and support of three software modules within the energy trading and risk management software suite (\$520,000, plus applicable taxes. Cumulative total \$8,660,000, plus applicable taxes) [Rick Applegate, Principal Data Analyst].
 4. Award five-year contract to Nokia of America Corporation for hardware warranty, software upgrades, and technical support for TPU's multiprotocol label switching wide area network (\$619,678.91, plus applicable taxes. Includes option to renew

for additional one-year periods for a projected contract total of \$739,678.91, plus applicable taxes) [Thomas Stedman, Sr. Telecom Engineer].

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

In response to a Board inquiry on item number four regarding the contract timeframe, Thomas Stedman, Sr. Telecom Engineer, shared that the one-year optional extension will be used as a buffer for contract negotiations and allows for continued maintenance and service of the five-year contract.

In response to a Board inquiry about the mechanics of the equipment, Dave Collins, Nisqually Sr. Hydro Project Mgr, explained that the equipment is designed as an integrated unit. The water-cooling system is still widely used today in these applications due to their reliability and effectiveness. The thermal performance is well understood for this unit to cool the windings in the generator. Any change would take engineering support and has associated risks.

There was no public comment.

Voice vote taken and carried. The resolution was adopted.

D-2 Resolution U-11537 – Authorize execution of a successor collective bargaining agreement as negotiated with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 483, Tacoma Power Unit, effective retroactive from April 1, 2024, through March 31, 2028 [Dylan Carlson, Labor Relations Division Mgr].

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

The City of Tacoma and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), Local 483, Power Division Unit, have negotiated a proposed collective bargaining agreement. The CBA covers approximately 342.84 FTE budgeted positions for a three-year period retroactive from April 1, 2024, through March 31, 2028, and outlines wages for the covered period. The CBA provides for a general wage increase retroactive to April 1, 2024, of 2.75 percent and also includes market-based wage adjustments between 2.25 percent and 16.9 percent, as provided in the table below: a general wage increase for all classifications effective April 1, 2025, of 2.75 percent and a market adjustment of .85 percent; and a general wage increase effective April 1, 2026 and 2027, to be based on an amount equal to one hundred percent of the increase of the Seattle/Tacoma/Bellevue CPI-W (Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers), June Index, as published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, with a minimum of 3 percent, and a maximum of 6 percent. Other changes in the CBA were outlined, including changes to discipline, overtime designations, classifications, daily rates, clothing allowances, safety footwear, and application of rate.

There was no public comment.

Voice vote taken and carried. The resolution was adopted.

Chair O'Loughlin moved to suspend the rules of order to allow a motion to express support for and a request that the City Council pass an ordinance that will address the wage compression issue for certain supervisors and managers; seconded by Mr. Bridges. There was no Board discussion or public comment. Voice vote taken and carried. The motion to suspend the rules was approved.

Chair O'Loughlin moved that the Board express support for and requests that the City Council pass a compensation ordinance that incorporates the temporary solution reached between the City's HR department and TPU to address wage compression issues for certain supervisors and managers that are exacerbated by the new labor contract reached and approved by this Board under Resolution U-11537; seconded by Mr. Bridges. There was no Board discussion or public comment. Voice vote taken and carried. The motion, later assigned 25-05, was approved.

Chair O'Loughlin moved to suspend the rules of order to hear walk-on commendatory Resolution U-11538 for Water Superintendent Heather Pennington; seconded by Mr. Bridges. There was no Board discussion or public comment. Voice vote taken and carried. The motion to suspend the rules was approved.

Chair O'Loughlin moved to adopt commendatory Resolution U-11538; seconded by Mr. Bridges. The Clerk read the commendatory resolution in its entirety. Board Members made positive remarks about the dedication, service, and contributions of Ms. Pennington to TPU and the community it serves. There was no public comment. Voice vote taken and carried. Resolution U-11538 was adopted.

E. Final Board Comments

There were no final comments by the Board.

Executive Session

At 7:10 p.m., Chair O'Loughlin moved to convene an executive session for up to 45 minutes to discuss potential/pending litigation per RCW 42.10.110(1)(i); seconded by Mr. Bridges. Voice vote taken and carried.

Chair O'Loughlin announced that the Board would take no further action after the executive session, and he would return to adjourn the meeting. The executive session was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

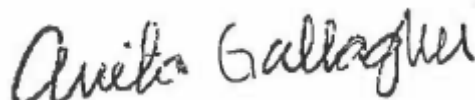
F. Adjournment

There being no further business or comments, the Public Utility Board meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m. until Wednesday, July 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



Anita Gallagher, Secretary