



APPROVED 5-13-26

MINUTES
City of Tacoma
Public Utility Board Meeting
April 22, 2026
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; William Bridges

Excused: Devin Hampton; Anita Gallagher

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 public comments.

Recognition

Dan Wonderly ,Crew Lead and Instructor, shared that Line Worker Appreciation Day was first established by Congress in 2013 following Hurricane Sandy to recognize the dangerous nature of electrical line work. This year's apprentice class: Malakai Ventura, Nate Yahn, Chris Hicks, Wyatt Gill, David Calhoun, and Gabe Long.

Regular Agenda

D-1 Resolution U-11597- A resolution to award certain contracts and approve certain purchases:

1. Increase and extend contract with United Site Services of Nevada, Inc., for portable toilet rental, servicing, septic and vault pumping services (\$1,550,000, plus applicable taxes. Projected contract total \$2,500,000, plus applicable taxes. Contract extension through May 31, 2027) [Patsy Best, Procurement and Payables Division Mgr];
2. Extend contract with Access Information Management Corporation for secure storage and destruction of City records (extend for an additional two-year period with the option to renew for three additional one-year terms extending the contract through June 30, 2031. Contract amount is \$600,000; total spending to date is \$318,241) [Patsy Best, Procurement and Payables Division Mgr];
3. Award five-year contract to the Skokomish Indian Tribe for professional fisheries assistance at the Cushman Hydro Project (\$3,732,440, plus applicable taxes) [Andrew Ollenburg, Cushman Fish Facilities Natural Resources Mgr];

4. Award two-year contract to Liberty Electric, Inc., for the installation of new railroad crossing signals and associated work (\$2,895,203.20, plus applicable taxes) [Kyle Kellem, Roadmaster].

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

In response to a Board inquiry on item number one about a local presence of the vendor, Tad Carlson, Asst. Procurement and Payables Mgr, shared that the parent company is in Nevada, but the local Tacoma branch bid on the contract with local employees.

Voice vote taken and carried. The resolution was adopted.

- D-2 Resolution U-11598 – A resolution authorizing the Clerk of the Board to make non-substantive language updates to the Board-Director Linkage policies without additional Board action, provided all such changes are reviewed by the Board Chair prior to implementation.

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

Chair O'Loughlin summarized the resolution. The Board/Director Linkages clarify how the Board expects the Director to carry out the work of TPU. These policies were originally adopted January 2020. This resolution will authorize the Clerk of the Board to make non-substantive language changes. Changes to these Board-Director linkage policies were discussed in public study sessions.

Voice vote taken and carried. The resolution was adopted.

- D-3 Resolution U-11599 – A resolution adopting certain changes to the Public Utility Board Rules of Procedure as shown in the attachments on file with the Clerk of the Board.

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

Chair O'Loughlin summarized the resolution. The Board Rules of Procedure (Rules) are principles for how the Board will govern itself. These were originally adopted January 2020 and modified in 2023 to allow for hybrid meeting participation. Changes to these rules were discussed in public study sessions. There are 11 rules. There are no proposed changes to rules three, six, and nine, except for the administrative title change. There are non-substantive language updates to rules two, five, and ten. Rules one, four, seven, eight, and eleven have both substantive changes and minor clean-up language. Rule one reflects the change in the Board payment stipend per Council Substitute Ordinance 29078. Rule four deletes the Board secretary duties as these are conducted by the Clerk of the Board. Rule seven adds language confirming the Board Chair's latitude in adjusting public comment time when necessary. Rule eight aligns the order of business to current practices. Rule eleven will allow edits to Board rules at either regular or special meetings.

Board Member Bridges moved to hold this item over for a second reading and final vote on May 13, 2026; seconded by Board Member Claus-McGahan. Voice vote taken and carried.

Tacoma Power

D-4 Resolution U-11600 – Approve declaration of surplus for 142 overhead and pad-mount transformers no longer needed for Tacoma Power’s current or future needs and authorize the sale of this equipment to the highest responsive bidder

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

Sean Velej, Power Field Operations Sr. Supervisor, summarized the resolution. Tacoma Power originally acquired for public utility purposes, 142 overhead and pad mount transformers, listed on the declaration of surplus property. Tacoma Power has determined that the equipment is no longer necessary for providing continued public utility service due to age, reliability and damage, and is deemed surplus pursuant to the applicable provisions in RCW 35.94.040 and TMC 1.06.272-278. The equipment has an estimated resale value of \$55,000.

Per RCW 35.94.040, a public hearing on the sale of surplus equipment was held. There was no public comment.

Voice vote taken and carried. The resolution was adopted.

D-5 Resolution U-11601 – Authorize execution of a utility installation agreement with Tacoma Power and the Bethel School District for customer-funded design, relocation, and installation of electric service facilities for the Cedarcrest Middle School remodel

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

Aba Frimpong, Power Systems Engineer, summarized the resolution. Tacoma Power is requesting to enter into a Utility Installation Agreement with the Bethel School District which sets forth the terms and conditions under which electric services facilities will be designed and installed for the Cedarcrest Middle School remodel, located in Spanaway, WA. The District is undertaking a significant remodel of Cedarcrest Middle School to update facilities, improve safety, and support the growing student population and as part of the remodel project, the District has requested removal of the existing primary meter and the installation of new underground power to support the upgraded infrastructure and ensure adequate electrical capacity for modernized classrooms, technology, and building systems. The District’s request includes all on-site infrastructure plus relocating the distribution system to accommodate road improvements. This project is customer-funded, and the District will pay up front Tacoma Power’s estimated project costs of approximately \$656,805.28, and actual costs will be tried up upon project completion with a final invoice sent to the District should the project costs exceed the prepaid amount, or a refund to the District should the prepaid estimate exceed actual project costs.

Voice vote taken and carried. The resolution was adopted.

D. Final Board Comments

Chair O'Loughlin made comments about the State Auditor's Office's audit/management letter to Tacoma Power and reiterated that all at TPU are accountable and should be good stewards of public trust.

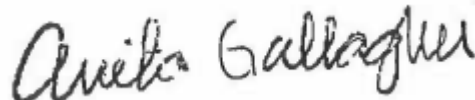
E. Adjournment

There being no further business or comments, the Public Utility Board meeting was adjourned at 6:51 p.m. until Wednesday, May 13, 2026 for a 3:00 p.m. study session followed by a 6:30 p.m. regular meeting.

Approved:



John O'Loughlin, Chair



Anita Gallagher, Secretary