



APPROVED 4-24-19

MINUTES
City of Tacoma
Public Utility Board Study Session
March 27, 2019
3:00 p.m.

Mr. Jones called the Public Utility Board study session to order at 3:04 p.m. at the Public Utilities Administration Building.

Present: Woodrow E. Jones, Jr., Christine Cooley (arrived 3:24), Mark Patterson, Bryan Flint

Excused: Karen Larkin

Board Workshop Follow-Up: Development of Equity and inclusion Strategic Directive

At the January Board workshop, there was agreement on developing strategic directives, one of which is on Equity and Inclusion (E/I). The Board conducted a brainstorming session on the content of an E/I policy. Discussed was the formation of a vision, value statement, defining equity, and what performance measures would be put in place to measure success. Board Member Cooley volunteered to draft a working version of the Board's E/I strategic directive and bring it to the next study session for further discussion.

Tacoma Power: Hydro Power Natural Resources Update

Keith Underwood, Natural Resources Manager, began by providing an overview of the Power Natural Resources mission, which is to mitigate and enhance the environment, create recreational opportunities, manage our lands, and manage our waste in cooperation with our regulators and stakeholders due to impacts from our facilities and operations. Mr. Underwood then summarized Natural Resources' responsibilities as they relate to Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) license management and environmental compliance. Costs for operations, maintenance, full-time employees, and stated-contracted employees were then reviewed. Mr. Underwood then detailed the following for the Cushman Hydroelectric Project: fisheries programs; FERC license fish passage requirement; FERC fish production requirements; fish hatcheries; fish trap and haul; hatchery production (sockeye, coho, steelhead) juvenile fish collection, adult fish collection, and capital costs). The following were then detailed for the Cowlitz Hydroelectric Project: FERC license fish mandate; hatchery production; hatchery

improvements; juvenile fish collection; angling successes; and restoration/recovery program.

TPU Website Upgrade Update

Rebekah Anderson, Communication and Media Services Manager, reviewed the summary of research findings on the current TPU website and the plan for upgrades. Stakeholder involvement, in the form of a cross-functional project team made up of a steering committee, advisory committee, and subject matter experts, was then described. The communication plan for both external and internal channels, for the new website launch was then shared. The new website is expected to launch on April 10. Board Member Cooley requested staff to see if there is an international symbol for ‘translate’ in case anyone is unable to access the new translation capabilities because they’re unable to read the word in English. Board Member Patterson asked staff to make sure pictures on the website were representative of the community TPU serves.

Adjournment

The study session was adjourned 5:42 p.m. until the next regularly scheduled study session on Wednesday, April 24, 2019 at 3:00 p.m.

Approved:

Approved:

Woodrow E. Jones, Jr., Chair

Bryan Flint, Secretary