

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Okanogan County  
Public Utility District Board of Commissioners**

**Okanogan PUD Auditorium  
1331 2nd Avenue North, Okanogan, WA  
May 9, 2006  
Executive Session 12:30 PM  
Regular Session 1:30 PM**

**Present:**

**Board:** Donald Johnson, Ernest Bolz, David Womack

**Staff:** Chuck Berrie, Doug Adams, Don Coppock, Larry Felton, Debra Peters, Steve Brown, Julie Pyper

**Attorney:** Michael Howe

**Public:** Chris Thew - Chronicle  
Richard Thomason - Gebbers Farms  
Michael Mathis - Energy Industries  
Trish Butler

**Summary Agenda**

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of Agenda
- III. Consent Agenda Items
  - Minutes
  - Vouchers
  - Transfer of Accounts
- IV. Public Comment
- V. Action Agenda
  - A. Old Business
    - 1. Conservation Rebate Policy Revision
    - 2. Commercial Lighting Project
    - 3. SCADA System Professional Services Agreement
  - B. New Business
    - 1. Manager's Report
    - 2. Power Report
    - 3. Meetings
- VI. Public Comment
- VII. Adjournment

**I. Call to Order:**

President Johnson called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. and recessed the

Commission into executive session for approximately 15 minutes to discuss litigation issues, with no action anticipated.

President Johnson reconvened the Commission into regular session at 1:30 p.m.

## **II. Approval of Agenda:**

Manager Berrie added to the agenda discussions on the \$25,000 conservation rebate limit and the SCADA system contract approval.

Commissioner Bolz moved, seconded by Commissioner Womack, to approve the agenda as amended. The motion unanimously carried.

## **III. Consent Agenda Items:**

The Minutes of the April 25, 2006 regular meeting were submitted for approval.

The following vouchers were submitted for approval:

Voucher numbers 91698 through 91721 in the amount of \$202,795.39, vouchers 91722 through 91819 in the amount of \$955,699.98, vouchers 91820 through 91919 in the amount of \$278,643.95, and voucher 91920 in the amount of \$88,590.34.

The following accounts/invoices were submitted for write-off/collection due to nonpayment: Sonrise Electric Invoice #3937 \$185.54

Also submitted was the transfer of Scott Thorndike's closing bill balance of \$180.53 from his irrigation account #9225-4 to his residential account #10416-6.

Commissioner Bolz moved, seconded by Commissioner Womack, to approve the consent agenda. The motion unanimously carried.

## **IV. Public Comment:**

No public comment was offered.

## **V. Action Agenda:**

### **A. Old Business**

#### **1. Conservation Rebate Policy Revision:**

As a participant in Bonneville Power Administration's Conservation Rate Credit program, the District offers rebates to participating commercial and industrial customers that choose to upgrade existing lighting to energy efficient technologies. The District's existing policy requires Board approval on projects with rebates over \$25,000. Staff has recommended revising the policy to remove the \$25,000 maximum payment cap on conservation project rebates, with the understanding that all projects offering rebates in excess of \$25,000 would be presented to the Board for consideration.

Commissioner Bolz moved, seconded by Commissioner Womack, to remove the existing \$25,000 maximum payment cap on conservation project rebates, providing that all projects over this amount will still require prior Board approval. The motion unanimously carried.

## **2. Commercial Lighting Project:**

Gebbers Farms presented the District with a proposal to upgrade existing lighting in its facilities to newer energy efficient technology. The anticipated reduction in energy consumption is 1,561,485 kilowatt-hours per year. The estimated rebate of \$119,982 is based on the number of fixtures changed out and a total project cost of \$369,620.29.

Commissioner Womack moved, seconded by Commissioner Bolz, to authorize staff to initiate a lighting retrofit project with Gebbers Farms based on the submitted proposal. The motion unanimously carried.

## **3. SCADA System Professional Services Agreement:**

The 2006 budget includes \$300,000 to initiate development of an estimated \$600,000 System Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) project, which will give the District the ability to remotely control the electrical system as well as the ability to obtain and archive real time system conditions. After reviewing the vendors that responded to a Request for Proposals, staff recommended awarding a Professional Services Agreement on an estimated bid of \$480,000 to Open Systems International. Actual costs will not be known until the design, project scope and a timetable are established.

Commissioner Bolz moved, seconded by Commissioner Womack, to award the Professional Services Agreement for the development of the District's System Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system to Open Systems International in an amount not to exceed \$300,000 for the 2006 budget year. The motion unanimously carried.

## **B. New Business:**

### **1. Manager's Report:**

The following information was presented:

- The District plans to expand the options customers have for paying their utility bills. Additional payment options under consideration include credit cards, debit cards, and electronic funds transfers.
- The Forest Service has budgeted \$50,000 towards fuel reduction efforts along the Loup Loup transmission line right-of-way. This amount is in addition to the \$30,000 the District has already committed to this project.
- Testing of the wireless tower on Eder Mountain near Oroville is expected to be completed this week.
- The Energy Authority will acquire the assets of Power Resource Managers, LLP from the PUDs of Benton, Grays Harbor and Franklin. Although Okanogan PUD has agreements with PRM, the change in ownership is not expected to impact the District.
- The District chose not to commit to BPA's Customer Pre-Pay proposal as discussed at the April 25, 2006 meeting, although enough participants have expressed interest that the proposal may still occur.
- The State has allocated \$200 million for water storage projects. Additional information will be obtained to determine the District's level of interest in studying the area above Enloe Dam.

## 2. Power Report:

Professional Services Agreements are being developed under the approved budget and scope of work for the Enloe Dam Hydroelectric Project. Submitted for review was an Agreement with MaxDepth Aquatics, Inc. in the amount of \$27,469 to conduct a hydro acoustic analysis of the Similkameen River.

Commissioner Bolz moved, seconded by Commissioner Womack, to authorize the Manager to enter into a Professional Services Agreement with MaxDepth Aquatics, Inc. in a maximum amount not to exceed \$27,469. The motion unanimously carried.

## 3. Meetings:

Commissioner Bolz submitted a first quarter 2006 report from the April 12, 2006 Northwest Open Access Network board meeting. The net loss for 1Q 2006 has been reduced by 60% over 1Q2005.

Commissioner Bolz and Manager Berrie will be attending meetings of the Washington PUD Association in Port Hadlock on May 17-19, 2006.

The next Okanogan PUD Board meeting is scheduled for May 30, 2006 with executive session at 5:00 p.m. followed by regular session at 6:00 p.m.

**VI. Public Comment:**

No public comment was offered.

**VII. Adjournment:**

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 2:42 p.m.

Donald W. Johnson, President

ATTEST:

Ernest J. Bolz, Vice-President

David A. Womack, Secretary