

Change the Tuesday, April 23, 2023 Regular Meeting Date

Commissioner McCall requested that the Tuesday, April 23, 2024 regular meeting date be changed to accommodate travel for an Energy Northwest Board of Directors meeting. After discussion of changing the date, the Board decided to conduct the regular meeting earlier in the day.

MOTION by Commissioner Judy Ridge and seconded by Commissioner Greg McCall to approve changing the Tuesday, April 23, 2024 regular meeting start time from 5:30 pm to 11:00 am. The question was called for on the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Capital Improvement Activity – The operations crew has completed the Libby Street Main Replacement Project from 13th to 15th Streets. The next main project is the replacement of 680 feet of steel water main on Sycamore Street from 5th to 3rd Streets. 1,000-meter reading MXU units were received.

Administrative Activity – The 2023 draft Financial Statements were completed and submitted to the state. The State Auditor's Office has scheduled the 2023 Audit to begin Friday, April 26 with a pre-audit meeting to be held tomorrow. Director Sischo recently attended an Energy Insurance Mutual meeting with Public Utility Risk Management System Administrator Dick Rodruck. During the meetings, they learned that coverage for wild fires, that was scheduled to be terminated in 2025, will continue indefinitely.

Development Activity – Final design plans were received for the proposed Sammy Apartment complex located on the former Fuch's site on Chestnut. The new water main for the Folsom subdivision is complete and has been tied into the PUD system. Craig Heimgartner earned the Washington State Water Distribution Manager 3 Certification.

City Sewer System Activity – The Washington Cities Insurance Authority infrared thermography and inspection Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) revealed a couple of issues that were immediately resolved. All auto air valves and probes are now operational and a vendor onsite evaluation and training will be scheduled soon. A draft analysis of the sewer main replacement between 6th and 7th Streets, from Libby to Park Streets, has been received. A meeting to discuss the analysis will be held next week.

City Sewer System Main Replacement Project – The contractor has replaced over 2,000 feet of the 2,600 feet of sewer main on McCarroll Street as part of the 2023 Sewer System Main Replacement Project. They will be completing this project next week and want to begin work on the Cured-In Place Piping Project in the alley between 5th and 6th Streets from Chestnut to Elm Streets. A preconstruction meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, April 9 to discuss the work. Once the construction process is identified, a meeting will be held to discuss the construction with affected businesses.

City Sewer System Transfer – Commissioner McCall, Director Sischo, Director Riehle and the manager met with Northwest Municipal Advisors, Foster Garvey and D.A. Davidson, on Thursday, April 4, for an introductory meeting and to discuss the schedule of events for obtaining bond financing. A schedule of events for the credit rating and bond financing process should be available soon. The US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) stated that their legal counsel has reviewed the request to transfer the WWTP easement to the PUD and stated that it can be transferred at-will and their official authorization is not needed. Upon notification of the official title transfer, USACE will draft an amendment to the easement noting the change.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner McCall virtually attended a Washington PUD Association (WPUDA) Water Committee meeting Thursday, March 28. He reported that the Public Works Board and the Department of Commerce discussed funding and the scope of the utility relocation fish barrier removal projects. The Department of Health discussed the state's process for assessing the need for a state-wide low-income assistance program and their perspective on troubled and failing water systems in the state. The roundtable discussion was regarding the receivership of failing water systems.

Commissioner McCall reported that he and executive management attended an introductory meeting with NWMA the selected bond refinancing agency, D.A. Davidson to discuss the credit rating and bond financing process and the schedule of events. He stated that the representative from D.A. Davidson was positive about the PUD receiving a favorable credit rating based on our strong financial statements.

Commissioner Ridge virtually attended a Public Power Council (PPC) meeting Thursday, April 4. She reported that the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) Post-2028 issues and concerns were discussed. PPC will seek mechanisms to protect utilities Post-2028. It was reported that BPA has signed the Provider of Choice Record of Decision. The Residential Exchange Program was discussed and PPC is seeking to work with Investor-Owned Utilities to ensure a united stance on a negotiation settlement with BPA. The Columbia River System Operations litigation was discussed and PPC stated that they will join a second lawsuit submitted against BPA by the Idaho Conservation League. Western Markets and the Southwest Power Pool were discussed along with the Columbia River Treaty between the United States and Canada. PPC staff stated there is an imbalance that favors Canada in the amount of \$300 million annually and there are issues regarding flood risk management.

Commissioner Ridge and Commissioner McCall will attend the WPUDA Annual Conference in Stevenson, Washington April 16 through April 19.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.