



APPROVED 6/26/24

MINUTES
City of Tacoma
Public Utility Board Meeting
May 22, 2024
6:30 p.m.

Chair Watson called the Public Utility Board meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Carlos Watson; Anita Gallagher; William Bridges; John O’Loughlin; Elly Claus-McGahan

Minutes of the Previous Meetings

Mr. O’Loughlin moved that the minutes of the previous meetings be adopted; seconded by Mr. Bridges. Voice vote was taken and carried. The minutes were declared adopted.

Comments by the Public

Larry Pryor made comments concerning fish returns and the Cowlitz trout remodel.

Regular Agenda

- C-1 Resolution U-11459 - A resolution to award certain contracts and approve certain purchases:
1. Award four-year contract to McMillen, Inc., for architectural/engineering consultant services for the eight-year program of projects for the Cowlitz Trout Hatchery remodel (\$6,200,000, plus applicable taxes with option to renew for two, two-year extensions for a projected contract amount of \$15,000,000, plus applicable taxes) [Maryanne Zukowski, PE Senior Engineering Project Mgr.]
 2. Increase and extend contract to Contour Engineering, LLC, for additional land surveying services supporting ongoing and future projects (\$1,000,000, plus applicable taxes. Cumulative total \$1,500,000, plus applicable taxes) [Paul Lennemann, Chief Dam Safety Manager];
 3. Award a one-time purchase order to S&C Electric Company for the purchase of 30 Interrupter Pulseclosers and required accessories (\$1,160,389, plus applicable taxes) [Joe Wilson, T&D Section Mgr].

Mr. O’Loughlin moved to adopt the resolution; seconded by Mr. Bridges.

In response to a Board inquiry regarding the application of sustainability criteria in the vendor selection for item number one, Maryanne Zukowski, Senior Engineering Project Manager, shared that the questions in this case were geared towards construction projects and sustainability wasn’t a stand-alone scoring item because this was a project approach, which already included sustainability criteria and measures.

Voice vote was taken and carried. The resolution was adopted.

C-2 Motion 24-06 - That in accordance with Tacoma City Charter Article IV Section 4.21, the Board confirms the Director of Utilities' selection of Heather Pennington as Interim Water Superintendent

Mr. O'Loughlin moved to approve the motion; seconded by Mr. Bridges.

Director Flowers explained that Superintendent Dewhirst is leaving TPU and Ms. Pennington has dedicated 30 years to Tacoma Water, has managed many sections, and is an established senior leader. As current Deputy Superintendent, she is involved in many critical projects, including budget and rates proposals. Transition of leadership is critical, and Ms. Pennington is uniquely qualified. Board Members made positive comments about Ms. Pennington's service over the years.

Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was approved.

Chair Watson moved to suspend the rules to hear walk-on Commendatory Resolution U-11460 recognizing Scott Dewhirst for his outstanding service as Water Superintendent; seconded by Mr. O'Loughlin. Voice vote to suspend the rules taken and carried. Chair Watson moved to adopt Resolution U-11460; seconded by Mr. Bridges. The commendatory resolution was read in its entirety by the Clerk of the Board. There were no comments from the public. Voice vote to adopt the resolution taken and carried. A video highlighting Mr. Dewhirst's service was shown. Board Members and the Director made positive remarks about Superintendent Dewhirst's dedication to TPU and expressed appreciation for his service.

D. Reports of the Director

There were no reports of the Director.

E. Board Comments

Chair Watson announced that the Board study session and regular meeting on Wednesday, June 12 are cancelled. Proper legal notice will be posted.

F. Adjournment

There being no further business or comments, the Public Utility Board meeting was adjourned at 7:06 p.m. until Wednesday, June 26, 2024, for a study session at 3:00 p.m., followed by a regular meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Approved:



Carlos Watson, Chair



William Bridges