

Orcas Power & Light Cooperative
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, December 20, 2018

President Vince Dauciunas called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m. in the Friday Harbor OPALCO Conference Room. Board members present were Rick Christmas, Brian Silverstein, Mark Madsen, Jeff Struthers and Jerry Whitfield. Board member Peter Garlock attended via Zoom. Staff present were General Manager Foster Hildreth; Manager of Engineering and Operations Russell Guerry; Manager of Finance and Member Services Nancy Loomis, Head Accountant Travis Neal, Rock Island Acting Executive Vice President Alan Smith, and Public Relations Administrator Suzanne Olson (serving as recording secretary). Consultant Jay Kimball, and members Gay Wilmerding and Darren Olshefsky were in attendance as well as OPALCO Nourdine Jensen Scholars Arlo Harold, Aida Must and Natalie Meenan.

CONSENT AGENDA

- **Motion** was made and seconded to approve the Consent Agenda, including November 15, 2018 minutes, new members as listed with the Board materials, capital credit payments totaling \$3,659.87 and RUS 219s totaling \$2,932,718.20. Motion carried by voice vote.

2019 BOARD MEETINGS

The 2019 schedule of board meetings was reviewed and approved.

- **Motion** was made to approve the 2019 schedule of board meetings as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.

POLICY 17: MEMBER CONDUCT AT OPALCO MEETINGS

Revisions to Policy 17 proposed at the November board meeting were reviewed and approved.

- **Motion** was made to approve the revisions to Policy 17 as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.

ENERGY ASSIST

Staff presented scenarios for increasing the Energy Assist amount available for low-income households. The Board reviewed, discussed and approved Option #3: a \$5/month increase in Energy Assist awards to offset the 2019 increase in the Service Access Charge.

- **Motion** was made to approve Option #3: increase Energy Assist by \$5/month. Motion carried by voice vote.

NOURDINE JENSEN COOPERATIVE YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM: SCHOLAR PRESENTATION

2018 Scholars Arlo Harold, Aida Must and Natalie Meenan gave a short presentation to the Board on their Youth Rally experience and thanked the Board for the opportunity. Discussion ensued.

RESOLUTION 5: REVIEW OF ISLAND NETWORK, LLC BUSINESS PLAN

The Board reviewed the business plan for Island Network, LLC (dba Rock Island Communications) as was previously presented. Financial targets were discussed.

- **Motion** was made to approve Resolution 5 as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.

OPALCO STRATEGIC DIRECTIVES

The Board reviewed a revision to OPALCO's Strategic Directive #11: Rock Island Communications.

- **Motion** was made to approve the revision the Strategic Directives as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.

RESOLUTION 4: AUTHORIZATION AMENDMENT TO GUARANTEE

Staff presented an amendment to OPALCO's parent company loan guarantee for Island Network, LLC. Discussion ensued.

- **Motion** was made to approve Resolution 4 as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT (CBA) RATIFICATION

At 9:45 am, the Board adjourned to Executive Session to review the detail changes to the CBA for January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2023. Returning to regular session at 10:30 am, the Board ratified the CBA.

- **Motion** was made to ratify the CBA as presented in Executive Session. Motion carried by voice vote.

DECATUR LAND ACQUISITION: USE OF FUNDS

Staff requested that the Board memorialize for the minutes their approval for the use of restricted funds to purchase the Decatur property as discussed during Executive Session on Friday, August 10, 2018.

- **Motion** was made to approve the use of restricted funds to purchase the Decatur property as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.

MEMBER ADDRESS

Co-op member Gay Wilmerding addressed the Board on the subject of fence issue located on her property in Friday Harbor. Wilmerding stated her appreciation for staffs willingness to aid in resolving this matter. Member Darren Olsefsky addressed the Board on the subject of a fiber connection for his business. Staff will follow up.

2019 BUDGET

Staff presented the final budget proposal incorporating revisions discussed in November, including scenarios for different revenue increase amounts. Discussion ensued.

- **Motion** was made and seconded to approve the 2019 Budget (Scenario #3). Motion carried by voice vote.

TARIFFS: SECOND READ

Board reviewed the 2019 tariffs for a second time. Note, the EAP Tariff was adjusted for the increase in EAP awards by \$5 as previously discussed.

- **Motion** was made and seconded to approve the 2019 Tariffs with the adjusted EAP awards increased by \$5 and the collection amount of 0.00068 \$/kWh. Motion carried by voice vote.

NWPPA NOMINATIONS

Hildreth informed the Board of an open position for a co-op director on the NWPPA Board and discussion ensued. The Board discussed the appreciation for the entity and their contribution to industry training to our organization and the region. There were no volunteers to fill the NWPPA Board position as this time.

REPORTS

General Manager


The Board reviewed the GM report and discussion ensued.


RIC Snapshot

The Board reviewed the monthly snapshot.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 am.


Vince Dauciunas, President


Brian Silverstein, Secretary-Treasurer