

**Orcas Power & Light Cooperative**  
**Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Thursday, December 19, 2019**

President Vince Dauciunas called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m. at the OPALCO Friday Harbor conference room. Board members present were Rick Christmas, Brian Silverstein, Jeff Struthers, Peter Garlock and Jerry Whitfield. Staff present were General Manager Foster Hildreth; Manager of Engineering and Operations Russell Guerry; Manager of Finance and Member Services Nancy Loomis; Communications Specialist Krista Bouchey; and Executive Assistant Kelly Koral (serving as recording secretary). Consultant Jay Kimball, Legal Counsel Joel Paisner were also in attendance.

**MEMBERS AND GUESTS**

The following members arrived at the beginning of the Board meeting (~8:30am) to discuss a potential collaboration with Lopez School to obtain and implement a grant to electrify school buses:

Bruce Nyden	Kurt Fuller
Chom Greacen	Brad Buchanan

The following members arrived at ~12:00pm to discuss Resolution 2-2019 related to the Lower Snake River Dams:

Valerie Yates	Caroline Grauman	Norris Palmer
Kim Secunda	Peter Giampietro	Sandie Friel
Karin Roemers-Kleven	John Calogero	Debra Giles
Sheila Goquin	Heather Fold	Sean O'Leary (NWECC)
Bob Friel	Winnie Adams	Chom Greacen
Bruce Nyden	Kurt Fuller	Brad Buchanan

**2019 YOUTH RALLY PRESENTATION – Nourdine Jensen Scholarship**

Scholarship recipients Presley Clark and Annemarie Ryan, both students at Friday Harbor High School, San Juan Island, were in attendance and presented a slide show along with their narrative of their trip to Idaho for the ICUA Youth Rally and their experiences there. Both were very appreciative of OPALCO for providing the opportunity and are encouraging their friends and siblings to apply for the scholarship in the future.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- **Motion** was made and seconded to approve the Consent Agenda, including November 21, 2019 minutes, new members as listed with the Board materials and capital credit payments totaling \$6,179.72. Motion carried by voice vote.

**OPALCO 2020 TARIFFS**

Second read of the 2020 Tariffs. It was requested going forward that a summary be prepared. It was agreed a Dashboard would be created at added to our website.

- **Motion** was made and seconded to approve the 2020 Tariffs as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.

**ELECTRIC SCHOOL BUS CHARGING STATIONS**

Staff has received two requests from members on both Lopez and Orcas to support grant funding for electric school buses in their districts. In keeping with OPALCO's vision of expanding vehicle electrification, staff requested a motion to assist the districts in this endeavor.

- **Motion** was made to assist school bus electrification throughout the County using the concepts articulated by staff. Motion was seconded and approved by voice vote.

Break 9:40 – 9:52

**REPORTS**

**General Manager**

Staff reviewed the General Manager's Report and Rock Island Snapshot

Break 10:55 – 11:50

**THE CHALLENGES BETWEEN DAM REMOVAL AND RELIABLE, SUSTAINABLE AND COST EFFECTIVE POWER**

A discussion was held regarding OPALCO's passing of Resolution 2-2019. Eighteen co-op members participated in an emotionally charged discussion regarding the lower Snake River dams and ocean health. Members also wrote letters to the Board asking them to reconsider the resolution. The Board listened as members shared their

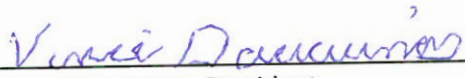
opinions and concerns about ocean health, species survival and the role of the co-op in representing their positions. The Board agreed to revisit Resolution 2-2019 with greater collaboration from the membership.

Hearfelt comments and concerns were voiced by those in attendance including:

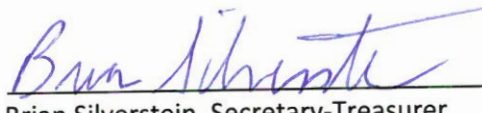
- Co-op principles and democratic control
  - WRECA
  - Member information – policies and decisions
  - Premature decision with the resolution
  - Value of life
  - Source data – irrigation, salmon migrating north, power shortages
  - Power from the dams can be replaced affordably
  - NWEC study. New information/misinterpretation
  - Is dam energy needed?
  - Disappointed with the resolution
  - Decisions on environmental crisis
  - Rescind the resolution
  - Taskforce/legislation
  - Breach the dams
  - Learn
  - Educate youth on complicated issues
  - OPALCO – leader on climate change
  - Protect salmon and orcas
  - Powering the islands – sustainability
  - Scrutiny of BPA
  - Fraser River salmon in decline
  - Formally reconsider with public process
  - How do we replace dam energy?
- **Motion** was made for the Board Chair and General Manager to arrange for a meeting of the Board to revisit the resolution to determine what actions are to be taken and to include the greatest member participation. Motion seconded and approved by voice vote.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.



Vince Dauciuonas, President



Brian Silverstein, Secretary-Treasurer