



Orcas Power & Light Cooperative
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, March 20, 2025

Streaming through Zoom attendees were Board members Vince Dauciunas, Mark Madsen, Tom Osterman, Jerry Whitfield, Chuks Onwuneme and Wendy Hiester. Staff present were General Manager Foster Hildreth; Manager of Engineering and Operations Russell Guerry; Manager of Finance Travis Neal; Communications Manager Krista Bouchey; Communications Specialist Johanna Lange and Special Projects Office Coordinator Beth Stanford (serving as recording secretary). Also present were Legal Counsel Joel Paisner, and consultant Jay Kimball.

Members in attendance: Chom & Christopher Greacen from Lopez Island and Martin Vowels from Eastsound.

Meeting commenced at 8:37 AM

Member Comment Period: Chom and Chris Greacen complimented OPALCO and staff on their contributions to the COMPASS report submitted by the Madrona Institute. Chris added that he is happy to see that OPALCO is working with E3.

ACTION ITEMS

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION was made by Madsen, to accept the consent agenda, seconded by Whitfield and passed unanimously by voice vote.

RESOLUTION 1-2025 RUS SIGNING AUTHORITY

MOTION was made by Whitfield, to approve the updated RUS Signing Authority, seconded by Madsen and passed unanimously by voice vote.

ORCAS CENTER SWITCH IT UP REQUEST

BY CONSENSUS, the Board approved the Orcas Center Switch It Up funding request.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

County Council Meetings:

OPALCO Staff reported that the General Manager and some Board Members met with County Council members to discuss the urgent need for reliable electricity in San Juan County, emphasizing the growing demand and challenges posed by limited supply. The Council provided valuable feedback, and OPALCO urged prioritization of its docket requests to ensure permitting certainty, leverage grant funding, and secure a resilient energy future for the islands. Discussion ensued.



2024 Unaudited Financial

Staff reviewed notable economics of the year-end financial report including revenue, expense and energy charge adjustment metrics.

2024 Year in Review

The highlights from 2024 were once again included in the board packet for viewing only.

REPORTS

Staff reviewed reports, dashboards, grant and budget tracking, ongoing cooperative-wide safety measures and training, and projects.

Regular Session ended: 10:23 AM

Break: 10:23 – 10:40 AM

Executive Session: 11:40 – 1:08 PM

Meeting Closed: 1:08 PM

Vince Dauciunas

Vince Dauciunas, President

Tom Osterman

Tom Osterman, Secretary-Treasurer

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