



# Public Utility District No. 1 of Klickitat County

80 Years of Service \* 1938-2018

## GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT TO THE BOARD

For the **April 24, 2018** Meeting

### AGENDA ITEMS

- A. RESOLUTION NO. 1758- Authorizing Issuance and /or Rescinding of Business Credit Cards: Staff is requesting that Commissioners Rescind Julius Robison's Business Credit card authorized under Resolution 1551, upon his retirement and issue a Business Credit card to William Rogers for business use.
- B. RNG Update- Kevin and Mike will be available to discuss the RNG project status and current budget figures.
- C. SET HEARING DATE-2018 Water and Wastewater Rates: Staff is requesting that the board set the Water and Wastewater Rate hearing for May 22, 2018 at 3:00 pm, and authorize staff to advertise for this public rate hearing. Staff is in the process of meeting with the communities and discussing the 2018 proposed rates with them. So far, we have not been able to establish contact with Roosevelt and Lyle Community Councils. We did meet with the Lyle Lions club and apparently they have re-established a community council.
- D. CUSTOMER CONSERVATION LOAN- For Board Authorization: Staff is requesting that the board authorize issuance of a Conservation Loan to Fred and Nancy Loring in the amount of \$7,709.17 to be applied toward the installation of new windows for their home.

### NON-AGENDA ITEMS

- 1. Industrial Rate Considerations – after the discussion with the Ross family regarding bit-coin mining and their specific issues at the last Board meeting, we reviewed that specific load and we reviewed the history of our Industrial Rate. It is our recommendation that nothing be changed on the rate due to that specific customer request.

However, in doing our review we discussed that a change to the requirements for that rate class that must be met, might be a good idea. The rate currently says that in order to qualify for the Industrial Rate, the load must exceed 1 average MW AND 2.5 peak MWs. Given typical load shapes there is a “normal” load shape with most loads that mirrors those numbers. However, given capacity constraints, we are looking for ways to

flatten our load shape, and hence reduce our wholesale demand costs. This load requirement does not help with that goal.

I think that we should consider changing the rate requirements to 2 average MWs OR 2.5 peak MWs. This more closely mirrors load shapes that benefit our system and I believe in the future, more and more customers will be looking to “flatten” their load shapes and this would reflect that goal. This would give a larger load that is flat, but does not quite reach 2.5 MW peak the ability to receive a lower negotiated rate. Given the benefits to our system and our costs, I believe this could provide mutual benefits to existing as well as new customers. The previous rate also considered loads served at primary voltage as part of the requirement and I think we should discuss this as well, although I have not thought that part through thoroughly yet.

2. Staffing Plan Update – We posted the first two positions to start on our process and I anticipate that the major portion of the open positions will be posted in the next 3 weeks.
3. Employee Meetings with the General Manager – I am more than half way through my regular meetings with individual departments. Even with the small groups, discussions have been running about an hour and a half. It feels to me like the meetings have been very beneficial for our staff to be able to talk openly about the utility, issues that our customers bring up with them and other issues they would like to understand. Really valuable to me as well.
4. JDPS Meeting Update – Miland Walling and Dana Peck are continuing to work on the State “support” meeting scheduled for May 15<sup>th</sup>. Attached is the latest attendees list. Commissioner Knowles is planning to attend as am I. At this time, I think we are just playing our facilitator’s support role.
5. Public Power Council – Kevin and I toured Scott Corwin, Michael Deen and Lauren Tenney through our LFG facility this week. It was part of their visits with their customers. I didn’t have a lot of issues that I haven’t already been through with them and it seemed a better use of time than another meeting. They were very impressed with the generation facility and the RNG project.
6. Representative McCabe Energy Round Table – I participated in what the Representative called an energy round table this past week. City Council members from White Salmon and Bingen, along with the Goldendale Mayor, County economic development staff and Dana Peck were involved. The biggest take away from the meeting is that there is potential for funding available for integration of renewable energy, that may assist us with rebuilds of our LFG generation.

7. Carbon Tax Voters Initiative – Commissioner Miller brought this up last meeting and we will be doing a pretty good review of the initiative and bring those thoughts back to you at a future meeting. I think you all will be asked for input from WPUDA so we should be prepared for that.