



# Public Utility District No. 1 of Klickitat County

79 Years of Service \* 1938-2017

## GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT TO THE BOARD

For the March 28, 2017 Meeting

### AGENDA ITEMS

- A. PRE-QUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS – Staff is requesting Board approval to add Sturgeon Electric Company Inc. of Troutdale, Oregon to KPUD's Large Works Roster for the 2017 calendar year, as they have met our qualification requirements.
- B. BID AWARD: Pole Test & Treat – ~~Staff will be making a bid award recommendation at the meeting on Tuesday, as bids are still under review at this time.~~ Next Meeting
- C. CALL FOR BID: Bingen Substation – Staff is asking for the Board's approval to advertise a call for bids for the Bingen Substation Relay Panel, with a bid opening date of April 19, 2017 at 2:00pm pacific time.
- D. RESOLUTION No. 1734 – I am presenting Resolution No. 1734 for consideration of adoption by the Board. This resolution rescinds Resolution No. 1719 which gave Craig Lohrey business credit card authority during his employment with the District.

### NON-AGENDA ITEMS

1. GM Meeting Attendance:  
March 15 – Kiwanis  
March 21 – White Salmon/Bingen Rotary  
March 22 – Klickitat Community
2. Strategic Planning – Our planning session is set for this Thursday, March 30<sup>th</sup> with Therese Hampton as our facilitator. The session will start at 9:00am, and is being held at the Maryhill Museum of Art's M.J. Murdock Education Center. That is the new addition around the south side of the Museum. This will be the first of two sessions, with the second one scheduled for Friday, April 14<sup>th</sup>.
3. Wishram School Board Meeting – I am scheduled to attend the Wishram School Board Meeting following our meeting on Tuesday to obtain formal approval for the sale of a parcel of school property for the pipeline to connect the new well to the existing system. That meeting starts at 5:00pm. Therefore I will need to leave our Board meeting around 4:15.
4. Kathy Loveland's Retirement – Kathy is planning to retire the end of May this year. This week we completed the formal posting and selection process and I selected Luann Mata as her replacement. Luann started with the PUD in July of 2003 as the Engineering Support Clerk. She then was promoted to the Engineering Administrative Support Assistant in 2007 and still holds that position. Luann worked directly for me in that capacity until I moved to the General Manager position in 2009. I am very pleased to have her move to this new role

and she brings a wealth of knowledge about the day-to-day operations of the utility, as well as experience in administration and in implementing and monitoring program initiatives. Her formal start date isn't until April to allow us time to transition her current position.

5. Benton REA – As mentioned last meeting, a portion of Benton REA was sold to Yakama Power. According to an article in the *Yakima Herald*, Benton REA's members overwhelmingly approved the \$24 million sale of the utility's facilities on the Yakama Nation Reservation to Yakama Power. The vote was 3,458 in favor to 384 opposed with more than a third of the member-owned members voting. Yakama Power took over about 574 miles of power lines with about 2,000 accounts, adding to their existing 700 accounts and 132 miles of power lines. The article further states that the sale was ultimately in the best interest of both utilities. Benton REA continues to serve about 14,000 accounts outside the reservation.
6. Storm Recovery Costs – On March 15<sup>th</sup> Governor Jay Inslee proclaimed a state of emergency for 28 counties recovering from the impacts of recent severe winter weather, which includes Klickitat County. On March 20<sup>th</sup>, the Governor also signed an emergency proclamation to free up state resources in the event of flooding or other weather-related damage in anticipation of extremely wet weather, of which Klickitat County is included.