



APPROVED 4-30-14

MINUTES  
 City of Tacoma  
 Public Utility Board Study Session  
 April 16, 2014  
 3:00 p.m.

Mr. Nelson called the Public Utility Board study session to order at 3:04 p.m. at the Public Utilities Administration Building.

Present: Dave Nelson, Mark Patterson, Woody Jones, Bryan Flint, Monique Trudnowski (arrived 5:22)

**My Account and Property Manager Website Update**

John Hoffman, Customer Service Operations Manager, made introductory remarks. Chris Gleason, Community and Media Services Manager, provided an overview of the marketing and communication efforts used to promote the MyAccount campaign. The website launched in October and 32.1 percent of TPU customers have registered. Sue Daulton, Management Analyst, reviewed the customer usage statistics. Mr. Hoffman stated the property manager portal went on line on March 12, 2014. Property managers are now able to stop and start service for power and water for their tenants. Mr. Hoffman described the other functionality this portal will offer. Louis Delicino, Lead Customer Service Representative shared illustrations of property management web pages. Customer feedback has been very positive. Ms. Gleason then outlined the communication strategy that will be aimed at property management firms.

**Simpson Tacoma Kraft/RockTenn Assignments for Power and Water**

Bill Gaines, Director of Utilities/CEO, provided introductory remarks. Simpson Tacoma Kraft is selling the company to RockTenn CP LLC. TPU has four contracts with Simpson that need to be assigned to the new company. Bill Fosbre, Chief Deputy City Attorney, provided legal background on the assignment requirements. Sean Senescall, Rates and Financial Planning Manager, summarized the water supply contract. Cam LeHouillier, Energy Risk Management, conducted the credit analysis of the new company and briefed the Board on the outcome of that analysis. Rick Applegate, Utilities Economist, summarized the connection and operating agreement and the power interconnection contract. Jayne McCartney, Management Analyst, summarized the master pole attachment agreement contract.

**2015-2016 Biennium Budget Planning for TPU and Rail**

Bill Gaines Director of Utilities/CEO, made introductory remarks. Jim Sant, Deputy Director for Administration, provided an overview of the 2015-2016 budget process and timelines. Director Gaines outlined the underlying principles that drive planning and key considerations for the next biennium.

Dale King, Rail Superintendent, provided the state of the Rail utility by detailing revenue from intermodal, commercial, and railcar volumes. Revenue and expenses and top customers in 2013 were summarized. Superintendent King outlined Rail's strategic priorities, primary budget drivers, and budget/rate impacts in planning the 2015-2016 biennium.

**Tacoma Power: Cushman Fish Hatchery Update**

Pat McCarty, Generation Manager, shared a map of hatchery locations and then outlined the settlement agreement and license requirements as they relate to fish hatcheries. Keith Underwood, Natural Resources Manager, detailed hatchery production. The hatchery plan process, key hatchery components, and cost and schedule were summarized. Bids for the new hatchery have been received. The contract with the recommended vendor will come to the Board at the next meeting for approval.

**Adjournment**

The study session was adjourned at 5:30 p.m. until the next regularly scheduled study session on Wednesday, April 30, 2014 at 3:00 p.m.

Approved:

  
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David S. Nelson, Chair

Approved:

  
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Bryan Flint, Secretary