



Approved 1-25-23

MINUTES
City of Tacoma
Public Utility Board Study Session
January 11, 2023
3:00 p.m.

Chair Watson called the Public Utility Board study session to order at 3:00 p.m. at the auditorium of the Public Utilities Administration Building.

Present: Carlos Watson, John O’Loughlin, William Bridges, Elly Claus-McGahan, Holland Cohen

Board Discussion on Board Policies, Board Work Plan, Director’s Work Plan

Director Flowers made introductory remarks and provided an overview of the Board’s governing policies: Government Processes (GPs), Strategic Directives (SDs), and Board-Director Linkages (BLs). The GPs are principles of how the Board will govern itself. The BLs clarify how the Board expects the Director of Utilities to carry out the work of TPU. The SDs capture priorities and the performance for which the Board will hold TPU accountable on behalf of its ratepayers. The Director reviewed the forecast of upcoming presentations to the Board. The Director outlined the process used by the former Board to develop the SDs.

Discussion about the SDs, GPs, and BLs ensued. The Board expressed interest in having additional discussion about editing the BLs. Called out were aligning the purchasing limits with the current code and further discussion about the delegations relating to the water supply forum, PSE interconnection, and the USGS funding agreement. The Board also expressed its desire to have additional discussion about the GPs. The Board will continue its SD discussion at the February 22 study session. Staff will have prepared in advance recommendations on which SDs should be examined first, the first step towards the Board prioritizing the SDs and setting the focus.

Executive Session

At 4:00 p.m., Chair Watson moved to convene an Executive Session to Consider Matters Affecting National Security and Agency Security [RCW 42.30.110(1)(a)] and Executive Session to Review the Performance of a Public Employee [RCW 42.30.110(1)(g)] for approximately 120 minutes; seconded by Board Member Bridges. Voice vote taken and carried.

Chair Watson announced that after the executive session has ended, the Board will not take any action and he would return to adjourn the study session.

Adjournment

At 5:58 p.m., Chair Watson returned to the dais and adjourned the study session.

Approved:



Carlos Watson, Chair



Holland Cohen, Secretary