President Gonser called the Regular Session to order at 5:30 p.m.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 5:31 p.m. President Gonser recessed the Regular Session to convene into Executive Session as authorized by ORS 192.660 (2) (g) to consider preliminary negotiations involving matters of trade or commerce in which the governing body is in competition with governing bodies in other states or nations and ORS 192.660 (2) (f) to consider information or records that are exempt by law from public inspection.

Those present for the Executive Session included the Board of Directors, General Manager Roger Kline; Assistant General Manager/Director of Power Resources Kurt Conger; Executive Assistant Kathy McBride; Director of Utility Operations Kevin McCarthy; Operations Supervisor Pat Morehart; Chief Financial Officer/Director of Finance & Enterprise Risk Harvey Hall; and Richard Lorenz and Tom Grim from Cable Huston Law Group.

At 6:15 p.m. the Board adjourned from Executive Session to return to Regular Session.

The following individuals were present during the Regular Session:

**NWCPUD Staff:** General Manager Roger Kline; Assistant General Manager/Director of Power Resources Kurt Conger; Director of Corporate Services Cyndi Gentry; Executive Assistant Kathy McBride; Operations Supervisor Patrick Morehart; Director of Utility Operations Kevin McCarthy; Asset/Program Manager Steve Horzynek; Energy Management Specialist Lance Kublick; and Chief Financial Officer/Director of Finance & Enterprise Risk Harvey Hall.

**Visitors:** Richard Lorenz and Tom Grim, Cable Huston Law Group
Director Williams moved to authorize the District’s General Manager to execute the following four Agreements:

- Amendment to Design and Engineering Agreement between Bonneville Power Administration and Northern Wasco County People’s Utility District.
- Transmission Credits Agreement between Bonneville Power Administration and Northern Wasco County People’s Utility District.
- Cost Allocation Agreement between Northern Wasco County People’s Utility District and Design LLC.
- Transmission Credits Allocation Agreement between Northern Wasco County People’s Utility District and Design LLC.

Said approval is subject to the following conditions:

- The District’s General Counsel must review and approve execution of the final versions tendered by Bonneville Power Administration and Design LLC.
- All four Agreements must be executed together.
- Design LLC must provide a Parent Guaranty from Google, Inc., securing its obligations to Northern Wasco County People’s Utility District under the Electric Service Agreement and the Cost Allocation Agreement.

Assistant General Manager/Director of Power Resources Kurt Conger read the following into the record:

During the Executive Session, staff and legal counsel reviewed four Agreements, and actions that are necessary to provide service to the Design LLC data center in the Port of The Dalles Columbia Gorge Industrial Center (“CGIC”). The Bonneville Power Administration (“BPA”) holds an essential role in this plan of service, referred to as the L0380 Construction Work (“L0380”), that provides a 230 kV source of energy from a new substation, called Quenett Creek, located north of the existing BPA Chenoweth Substation. These Agreements commit Northern Wasco County People’s Utility District (“the District”), BPA and Google’s subsidiary, Design LLC, to implement the L0380 Construction Work.

The first two Agreements for consideration are the Agreements between BPA and the District. These two Agreements are described as follows:

1. BPA proposes to amend an existing Design and Engineering Agreement with the District to modify the scope for construction of the Quenett Creek Substation, modifications to the Chenoweth and Big Eddy substations, and other line work necessary for delivering power at 230,000 volts to the District’s tie-line facilities in CGIC. The “Amendment” obligates the District
to cause payments to be made for these projects which are estimated to cost approximately $36 million.

2. By the second Agreement, called the Transmission Credits Agreement, BPA will reimburse the District for costs incurred during construction of the facilities described in the Amendment by applying transmission credits to the monthly BPA transmission bills issued to the District. Transmission credits will be provided for a term of 20 years or until the cost of L0380 has been fully credited, with interest, to the District.

The next two Agreements for consideration are between the District and Design LLC, and are described as follows:

1. The Cost Allocation Agreement assigns all cost responsibility for L0380 to Design LLC, a subsidiary of Google. By this Agreement, NWCPUD can cause payments by Design LLC to BPA for L0380 costs.

2. Finally, the Transmission Credits Allocation Agreement stipulates that transmission billing credits received by the District from BPA are to be credited, in accordance with the Transmission Credits Agreement, to the monthly power bills issued to Design LLC.

The motion was seconded by Director Smith; it was then passed unanimously.}}}

President Gonser thanked everyone for their work on this project; it is greatly appreciated.

The Board recessed at 6:21 p.m.

The Board reconvened at 6:28 p.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

There was no public comment.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Items contained in the consent portion of the Agenda includes the following:
The Board considered the approval of the June 27, 2017 Consent Agenda.

{{Director Smith moved to approve the June 27, 2017 Consent Agenda as presented. Director Howe seconded the motion; it was then passed unanimously.}}

President Gonser recessed the Regular Session for the Board to convene as the District’s Contract Review Board.

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**CONTRACT REVIEW BOARD – TAYLOR LAKE 230 kV TIE LINE TOWER PROCUREMENT**

At 6:30 p.m. the Board convened as the District’s Contract Review Board.

Assistant General Manager/Director of Power Resources Kurt Conger presented the following information on staff’s recommendation to purchase four (4) 230 kV Tie-Line Towers for the Taylor Lake Facility:

- The Contract was put out for bid on May 17, 2017.
- Five (5) qualified bids were received.
- Bids were opened and evaluated on June 16, 2017 on both price terms and non-price terms.
- The cost of the towers will be paid 100% by Design LLC.
- The funds for these towers have already been advanced to the District.
- The prices for the towers ranged from $95,246 to $220,131.
- Staff recommends awarding the Contract to Trans American Power Products at a cost of $95,246. The towers can be delivered within 10 to 12 weeks.
- The towers will be transported in sections and will be assembled onsite.
- The project will not be able to proceed until after the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) assessment process has been completed.
- It is estimated that it will take two to three weeks to set the towers.
- The towers are self-supporting and will be set into concrete foundations.
The towers will be located on property owned by Bonneville Power Administration.

Some discussion occurred.

{{Director Smith moved based on staff’s recommendation, to award the bid for the purchase of goods and services for the 230 kV Tie-Towers Project to Trans American Power Products (TAPP) at a cost of $95,246.00, subject to a final change order adjustment for foundation design. Director Williams seconded the motion; it was then passed unanimously.}}

At 6:36 p.m. the Board adjourned as the Contract Review Board to return to Regular Session.

REGULAR SESSION

DIVISION UPDATES

Engineering/Operations:

General Manager Roger Kline presented the Engineering/Operations Report since Assistant General Manager/Director of Engineering Paul Titus is home sick.

Kline reported on the following:

- Engineering’s focus has been around large capital work planning and getting it ready for execution.
- On Father’s Day, an outage occurred at approximately 4 p.m. at the Tenth Street Substation lasting until a little after 6 p.m. Real time conditions did not warrant the trip condition to happen. The crew transferred some loads around and figured out that it was a relay setting that caused the outage. The next day, Monday, June 19th the reclosers, circuit breakers and controls were updated and the system was checked to be sure that the District did not have false settings in other places. The Substation was then returned to normal operation.
- Staff worked with BPA to ensure that the District would be able to provide interim service power to the Design LLC Temporary Service Project at Taylor Lake. A temporary mobile transformer was placed outside BPA’s Chenoweth Substation and was ready to feed power to the Data Center. The mobile transformer is now being taken out since it was not needed after all.
- The District will be reusing some pieces and parts from the mobile transformer as it is taken apart. One of the reclosers will supply the District’s feeder out of the
Seufert Substation. The District bought something for one project, we didn’t need it, but it was repurposed to meet another need.

- The District successfully upgraded the software, that interacts with the meter reading hand held devices, to the current system that feeds the District’s new meters that are being put out in the field. The upgrade was required due to the vendor no longer being able to support the 20-year old technology.
- Engineering is working with a third-party support contractor to do an assessment of The Dalles Marina infrastructure. The electric service that feeds the marina is challenged from a safety and regulatory compliance perspective in some areas.

**Operations:**

Director of Utility Operations Kevin McCarthy reported as follows:

- District surplus equipment and vehicles have been sold recently at public auction in The Dalles by Auction Sales Company and in Portland by J.J. Kane Auctioneers. The District’s proceeds from the sales were $79,000. In addition, the tree trimming truck was sold to Skamania County PUD for $80,000.
- Big River Landscaping has been cleaning up the landscape at the Columbia Heights Substation. Additional landscaping work at the Substation will be budgeted for in 2018.
- District Operations is hosting regional training offered by Northwest Public Power Association (NWPPA). A meter reading training for linemen was held today. The District’s participants receive a discount on their training since the District is hosting the event.
- McCarthy attended an emergency management meeting on June 20th in regards to the solar eclipse event that will occur on August 21, 2017. The District will position a line and water truck in Dufur with materials on August 16th to respond to situations that might happen around the solar eclipse event. The employee on call during the event lives in Dufur.
- Emergency responders estimate that it will take eight (8) hours to travel from Madras to The Dalles during the eclipse due to traffic. Emergency responders biggest fear is fire.
- There are only six (6) open tree trimming service orders remaining from the original backlog back to 2013.
- Trees Inc, Contractor, and District Right-of-Way Vegetation Program Arborist Dave Taphouse are doing an excellent job.

*Approval to purchase two (2) Pickup Trucks*

McCarthy reviewed and discussed with the Board his memorandum in regards to staff’s recommendation to purchase two (2) Ford Pickup Trucks from Northside Ford for approximately $90,000. A copy of McCarthy’s memorandum to the Board of Directors is hereto attached and marked as Exhibit 1.
McCarthy noted that the 20-year old One (1) Ton Tree Trimming Truck is being proposed to be replaced, along with the Pickup Truck from the McNary Fishway.

A lengthy discussion occurred after Director Smith raised a concern with the District not going out for bids to see how local bids would compare to the State’s contracted price.

President Gonser also had concerns. He feels if the local businesses can come close to the State of Oregon’s contracted amount then the District should buy locally.

General Manager Roger Kline stated that the State’s contracted price is $6,000 less so staff is recommending that the State contract be used rather than going out for bids.

Director Howe stated that he does not think that any one in town would come close to the State’s contracted amount for special types of equipment. The District wants to support the local community at the same time saving money for our customers.

Further discussion occurred in regards to acquiring local bids and the types of pickups proposed to be purchased under the State’s contract.

Kline stated that it is staff’s recommendation to purchase the Pickups under the State’s Contracted Bid as authorized under the District’s Public Contracting Rules and Procedures. If the Board does not approve, staff will need to start the process over. Kline noted that there is a clear benefit to the District to acquire vehicles in this manner.

President Gonser stated that he does not have a problem going ahead with this purchase. He is willing to turn this matter over to the Board to come up with future options.

Director Smith agreed with President Gonser.

{{Director Smith moved to authorize staff to purchase two Ford Pickup Trucks from Northside Ford for approximately $90,000.00 as recommended by staff. Director Williams seconded the motion; it was passed by a vote of three to two. Directors Gonser, Williams and Karp voting yes, while Directors Smith and Howe voted no.}}

**Finance & Risk:**

Chief Financial Officer/Director of Finance & Enterprise Risk Harvey Hall went over and discussed with the Board his memorandum in regards to April 2017 Financial Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). A copy of Hall’s memorandum is hereto attached and marked as Exhibit 2.

Other items that Hall reported on are as follows:
2018 Budget Process

- The District's net income through the end of May 2017, is -$351,649.08. This amount does not reflect the increase in tariff rates which took effect on May 1, 2017.
- Hall noted that the District experienced a significantly good rate period due to the earlier cold snap; the District endured a short fall in revenue when The Dalles Fishway Plant was shut down for three weeks in January 2017; and the significantly lower power prices are beginning to rebound.
- May 2017, financials will be available shortly for the Board's review.
- Hall referred the Board to the May Write-Offs. He noted that over the last three years, write-offs have been in a downward trend. Net Write-offs to date for the calendar years of 2015-2017 are as follows: 2015, $16,678.77 (0.0030%); 2016, $11,205.72 (0.0024%) and 2017, $8,559.59 (0.0019%). Hall complimented staff for working with District customers to collect outstanding debt. Hall noted that the American Public Power Association's (APPA) average is 0.0035%; the District is at 0.0019%.
- Staff is starting to talk about labor and major cost assumptions for 2018.
- It is staff's intention to bring a Capital Plan and Capital Budget to the Board for their consideration at the July Board Meeting. After which a Preliminary Budget for 2018 will be put together and will be provided to the Board in September. This year's budget process will provide the Board with more opportunities to review and make changes to the proposed 2018 Budget document.
- Back in April 2017, staff and the Board discussed rate assumptions for 2018, which were in the range of a 3% to 4% rate increase. By October 2017, staff will be able to provide the Board with a high level of what that rate assumption might look like.
- The Board will be asked to adopt the 2018 Budget in December 2017.
- In April 2017, Moss Adams, District Auditor, presented the 2016 Financial Audit to the Board of Directors. One of the major changes that was recommended by the Auditor was to clean up the District’s contribution in aid of construction and not net it against the assets; resulting in a $4 million change.
- Staff had been in conversation previously with Moss Adams regarding another $4 million, which was not settled before they closed the audit.
- It was Hall’s recommendation, and Senior Management agreed, that this change should be made in 2016. The matter was pursued with Moss Adams. A final Restatement on the District’s net position is coming out this week which will add another $4 million onto the District’s net assets. There will be no change to the District’s income this year; it is purely a balance sheet change.
- By making this change the District has completely cleaned up everything from 2001 to 2016 for all net assets. The effect is that the District’s Total Gross Electric Plant will increase by $8 million. The District’s Total Gross Plant will be $84,600,000.
This change, however, will increase the debt depreciation expense in the future. Resulting in another $240,000 a year in interest expense that will be recognized during that time, as well as recognizing revenue.

Hall noted that depreciation is not a cash expense.

Some discussion occurred in regards to the 2016 Audit, which was conducted by Moss Adams.

**Power Resources:**

Assistant General Manager/Director of Power Resources Kurt Conger reported as follows:

**Chenoweth-Harvey 115 kV Transmission Line**

- On June 12, 2017, the District had a group from Toronto, Canada come down to perform an inspection of the conductor with their LineView device. The device performs an electromagnetic inspection of the conductor on the transmission line. The line can either be energized or deenergized.
- The Chenoweth-Harvey transmission line was deenergized to perform the inspection.
- Inspection of the conductors were performed on all spans.
- A formal report is expected back from Kinectrics in a few weeks.
- The initial results of the inspection are that the integrity of the conductors and shield wires are almost new.
- The report will be used by the District to determine the service life until the District does a follow-up inspection in 5 to 10 years.
- The District's large primary customer is very interested in the results of the inspection.
- Conger noted that the insulator strings are almost 60 years old. The plan is to reinsulate all phase conductors on Towers 1/1 to 1/4, which goes to RiverTrail Substation where it crosses over River Road and over the Discovery Substation.
- Reinsulation of the two towers located on both sides of the Discovery Substation has been completed. The District is waiting for insulator materials to arrive to complete the other two towers.
- The work on the RiverTrail Substation pull offs was completed by Michels Power.
- Michels Power completed their support for LineView, the Reinsulation Project out at the Chenoweth-Harvey Transmission Line and the RiverTrail Pull Offs.

**RiverTrail Substation**

- The RiverTrail Substation is getting close to being completed.
- Michels Power's team did a lot of clean up around the 115 kV towers.
There is almost no activity at the RiverTrail Substation. The contractor finished in May. A short punch list is being worked on now.

The pre-commissioning meeting with Bonneville Power and Google is scheduled on Thursday, June 29th.

Step procedures will be gone over for energization of the RiverTrail Substation during the week of July 10th.

Power Plants

- Staff has begun marketing for the output of The Dalles Fishway Plant for October 1st going forward.
- In June, Mid-C Prices were very low; prices have started to go up last week.
- Conger will be canvassing the market between now and the end of June to see if there are parties interested in acquiring the output from The Dalles Fishway.
- Conger spoke about the McNary Fishway vehicles that were sold within the last few years. The McNary Plant has a Ford Explorer which is a good vehicle to move people to and from the Plant but staff has a need for a truck. Conger is recommending that the District acquire a one (1) ton King Cab 4-Wheel Truck for Chief Operator Greg Hendricks to drive.
- McNary Fishway’s output, since the beginning of June, has gone from 9 MW to 9.6 MW since the net head conditions are improving. Staff expects the McNary Fishway to be metering in excess of 10 MW in late summer.
- The output from The Dalles Fishway is up from 4.3 MW since the beginning of June to 4.8 MW.
- The new runner at the McNary Fishway Plant will produce 0.5 MW more on a continuous basis.
- A Hydro Operator Trainee Position will be opened for The Dalles Fishway as part of our continuous succession planning efforts.
- The District has lost two Hydro Department employees over the last six months; leaving two.

Wholesale Power Prices

- Mid-C Daily Index Prices are the daily diurnal prices that we see.
- The revenue from The Dalles Fishway is based on these daily prices.
- The negative prices in early June, as low as -$6, were driven by wind energy and solar in the Southwest and the overall surplus of energy in the Northwest.
- The recent heat wave moved prices sharply upward; into the $20 plus range for on-peak.
- Forward prices also tend to be affected by what is happening today. As we see heat coming on, daily prices go up, as well as forward prices.

Director Smith asked a question of Conger in regards to selling power at a loss.
Conger responded by stating that there were a few hours in June when off-peak prices were negative. Power prices would have to be really low for the District to consider cycling the plant on and off.

Director Williams inquired regarding the District’s one (1) aMW position that the District still has with the Northwest Energy Management Services (NEMS) that the Board authorized to be liquidated earlier in the year.

Conger stated that he is following NEMS Resource and Planning Director Blake Weathers’ lead. NEMS has a Board meeting in August. Conger believes that this matter will be discussed at that time to liquidate the position to Shell Energy. Early June was not a good time to sale the one (1) aMW position.

Conger went over his memorandum to the Board of Directors in regards to the transfer of Vehicle 71. A copy of Conger’s memorandum is hereto attached and marked as Exhibit 3.

{{Director Smith moved to authorize the purchase and transfer of the McNary Fishway Hydro Project Ford Explorer, Vehicle #71, at the cost of $16,826.00 from the McNary Project owners – Klickitat County Public Utility District and Northern Wasco County People’s Utility District, to Northern Wasco County People’s Utility District’s fleet. Director Howe seconded the motion; it was then passed unanimously.}}

Director Howe asked if the insurance coverage will be modified due to the increased value of District assets.

Hall stated yes. He has been in touch with the District’s Bond Counsel to ensure that everything has been disclosed and that everything is covered.

**Corporate Services:**

Energy Specialist Lance Kublick reported as follows:

**Energy Conservation Program**

- The District will be receiving a $45,000 Energy Efficiency Grant from Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) since Surprise Valley Electrification Corp. determined that they could not utilize the funding by the end of the current rate period. The money has been granted to the District; it will not need to be repaid.
- Last week Kublick received an email of the availability of a grant in the amount of $25,000. Depending upon who applies for said grant, the District may only receive a portion of the grant amount.
Director of Corporate Services Cyndi Gentry referred the Board to Energy Management Technician Travis Hardy's memorandum in regards to the Conservation and Low-Income Weatherization Policy Amendment Request. A copy of Hardy's memorandum is hereto attached and marked as Exhibit 4.

Gentry stated that staff is recommending that we make a change in the District's Low-Income Weatherization Program, which would require that all manufactured homes must meet the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Manufactured Home Construction and Safety Standards and be constructed after June 15, 1976, in order to qualify for the District's Low-Income Weatherization Program.

Some discussion occurred in regards to staff's recommendation and the problems being encountered in pre-1976 manufactured homes, which have required costly repair work to protect the conservation measures being completed under the project.

Kline stated that staff appreciates and recognizes that there are large amounts of customers that the District cannot provide support to through this program due to the age of the home. This does not mean that staff cannot come back to the Board with other options to assist District customers. The Low-Income Weatherization Program was started back in 2015.

Director Karp asked how staff plans to communicate the change.

Kline stated that communication regarding the change in the Low-Income Weatherization Program would occur when the District is approached by a customer. Kline does not recommend that a Press Release be sent out in regards to the change in the Program.

{{Director Karp moved to amend Northern Wasco County People's Utility District's Conservation & Low Income Weatherization Program to include the following language: "All manufactured homes must meet U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Manufactured Home Construction and Safety Standards and be constructed after June 15, 1976, in order to qualify for Northern Wasco County People's Utility District's Low-Income Weatherization Program. In addition, work will not be performed on any home with existing mold or other safety concerns that cannot be corrected with standard weatherization improvements." Director Williams seconded the motion; it was then passed unanimously.}}

**General Manager:**

General Manager Roger Kline reported as follows:
Customer

- Kline was on the KODL Coffee Break Show on Friday, June 23, 2017. The District will be participating monthly on the Coffee Break Show.
- Various members of the Executive Management Team (EMT) met with the principles of two of the District’s industrial customers, Precision Lumber and SAPA.
- Kline is appreciative of the Board continuing to progress in its rate making practices and adopting staff’s recommendation of a long-term financial approach and view.
- The District will be launching shortly the new website, www.nwascopud.org.

The new proposed website was reviewed and discussed, along with the District’s Facebook Page.

Gentry noted that the District’s new website is on track to go live on Monday, July 3, 2017.

Kline further reported on the following:

- Kline and Gentry are working with Actidyne Survey Research on the District’s 2017 Customer Satisfaction Survey. The results of the survey will be used as a base line for comparison with future surveys conducted every three to four years.
- Kline was interviewed by a New York Times Reporter regarding President Trump’s proposed budget and possible privatization of BPA’s transmission assets and what it could mean to our local community and customer base. The article is not out yet; it could be a couple of weeks from now.

Staff

- Staff is busy turning out quality work.
- The modernization of the District’s Enterprise Solution Utility Power Net (UPN) software continues.
- Staff is now approving accounts payable processes electronically.
- Staff is shoring up some of the District’s internal controls and are learning a lot about the systems and where the controls are at.
- Staff has been working on the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) process. This project will aid staff in refining how staff completes their work.
Upcoming

- During the July 18, 2017, Board Strategic Planning Work Session, the Executive Management Team will present recommended updates for 2018 for the Board’s consideration.
- Based on current findings, staff needs to reemphasize current policy governance to fulfill the stated Legislative, Regulatory & Board Development Goals in the District’s Strategic Action Plan.
- On July 25th, a joint presentation will be made to the Board of Directors by representatives of the District, QualityLife (QLife), Mid-Columbia Economic Development District (MCEDD) and a national telecommunications subject matter expert on the state of high speed fiber and different ways to partner in the future. The goal of the presentation is to provide the Board with information and request feedback on behalf of the District’s customer-owners.
- The 2017 Quarter 2 Operational Performance Dashboard will be presented at the Board’s July meeting.

General Counsel:

No report was given by General Counsel James Foster since he is on vacation.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration and approval of Dock Crew Services Contract with Michels Power

McCarthy went over his memorandum to the Board in regards to the Electric Operations Dock Crew Services Contract. A copy of McCarthy’s memorandum is hereto attached and marked as Exhibit 5.

Staff is recommending that the Contract be awarded to Michels Power to provide dock crew services for an amount not to exceed $150,000. The dock crew will install and maintain components relative to the District’s overhead electric distribution system.

McCarthy noted that Michels Power will perform operations and maintenance (O&M) work for the District. Additional work will be generated by OSMOSE when they begin testing and treating the District’s power poles.

Some discussion occurred in regards to the work that will be performed by Michels Power and the terms of the Contract.
Kline noted that there is no shortage of work. No existing staff is being displaced by this Contract. There is a lot of work to be done, which cannot be completed in a timely manner by existing staff.

Operations Supervisor Pat Morehart provided the Board will examples of work that will be performed under this Contract by Michels Power.

{{Director Williams moved to award the Contract to Perform Installations and Corrections of Northern Wasco County People's Utility District Overhead Electric Distribution System to Michels Power for an amount not to exceed $150,000.00 and that staff is authorized to execute the Contract. Director Smith seconded the motion; it was then passed unanimously.}}

City Franchise and Fish & Wildlife Taxes

President Gonser stated that he feels it is time for the District to include in customer billings the taxes that they are being charged with. President Gonser feels customers need to understand what their power bill consists of; it is not just electricity.

Kline was not sure if the District would be able to include the cost for fish and wildlife from Bonneville Power Administration down to the customer level.

Conger noted that the District is already including these costs on our large customer’s billings.

Director Howe stated that there are other coastal PUDs already including this information on their customers’ billings.

Some discussion occurred regarding including the franchise fees and fish and wildlife costs from BPA on customer billings.

Kline does not feel that the District can act now; an action item would be bill redesign.

Hall stated that the Franchise Fees are from the City of The Dalles and the City of Dufur. There will be some work associated with the redesign since all customers are not subject to these Franchise Fees. Hall suggested customer education on these costs and why some customers get the fee while others to not.

Director Smith felt that the District should look at the fish and wildlife cost since all customers are impacted by this cost.

Gentry stated that she feels it will take a lot of staff and system work to make these changes. Staff is currently trying to get the UPN software system to work correctly. It would be best to address this matter when the District gets the UPN system reset.
Hall suggested that the District begin with a customer education process on the fish and wildlife mitigation costs. From there the District could look at what goes in the bill, which will still require additional customer education.

After a lengthy discussion, it was agreed upon that staff will expand customer outreach to begin educating District customers on what else is included in their electrical bill other than cost.

Approval to amend items authorized to be purchased under Dufur Historical Society Living History Museum's 2016 Economic Development Grant

The Board was provided with the letter and attachments from Nancy Gibson, Director of the Dufur Historical Society Living History Museum, in regards to their 2016 Economic Development Grant. This letter arrived yesterday, so Executive Assistant Kathy McBride is not recommending that the Board take action on her memorandum which was included in the Board Packet. A copy of the letter from Gibson and the memorandum from McBride are hereto attached and marked as Exhibits 6 and 7.

Executive Assistant Kathy McBride requested that the Board consider amending the items authorized to be purchased under the Museum's 2016 Economic Development Grant Application.

{{Director Karp moved to approve amending the items authorized to be purchased by the Board of Directors under the Dufur Historical Society Living History Museum's 2016 Economic Development Grant Application from a LED TV and two (2) seamless auto looping DVD Players to two (2) televisions and one (1) Videotel HD27D Looping DVD Player. Director Howe seconded the motion; it was then passed unanimously.}}

Consideration of additional information pertaining to National Neon Sign Museum 2017 Economic Development Grant

The Board considered the additional information provided by the National Neon Sign Museum in regards to their 2017 Economic Development Grant. Said information was requested by the Board of Directors at their May 23rd Board Meeting. A copy of the information from the National Neon Sign Museum is hereto attached and marked as Exhibit 8.

Some discussion occurred in regards to the Museum's updated budget, construction timeline and the listing of funding sources to complete the project. Directors Gonser, Howe and Karp were in support of the documentation submitted, however, Directors Williams and Smith were not.
***It was the consensus of the Board of Directors to approve the release of Economic Development Grant Funds to the National Neon Sign Museum after receiving the documentation as requested by the Board of Directors at the May 23, 2017 Board Meeting.***

**OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business to discuss.

**BOARD REPORTS**

**LOC/OPUDA Meetings:**

Gentry stated that she took away the following items from the June Oregon People's Utility Districts Association (OPUDA) Board Meeting in Salem on Friday, June 23, 2017:

- Most of the Oregon People's Utility Districts are dealing with similar issues.
- Three or four other People's Utility Districts are looking at rate actions.
- Other utilities are starting to develop 10 year financial plans.
- Utilities who are looking at AMI meters are considering whether to offer an opt out option.

Director Williams stated that Emerald PUD is starting to roll out AMI meters with no opt out option.

Director Williams mentioned the radio frequency levels as shown in the Smart Meters and Radio Frequency Flyer put out by Emerald PUD. A copy of said Flyer is hereto attached and marked as Exhibit 9.

Kline stated that as a part of succession planning, Executive Management Team (EMT) members will rotate in attending the monthly OPUDA Board Meetings in Salem.

President Gonser reported as follows on the recent Legislative Oversight Committee (LOC) Board Meeting in Salem this month:

- A video of an Oregon Legislative Session in the Senate was shown by Danelle Romain from The Romain Group. The video focused on three State Senators speaking in regards to the State's Energy Supplier Assessment (ESA).
- In this video, Senator Alan Olsen is talking about the Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE). Senator Olsen states that there are some bribes that were going on with the Business Energy Tax Credit (BETC) monies. An ODOE staff
member took around $300,000 in bribes to award these grants out. The staff member is now a whistle blower; he was moved out of the Department of Energy and is now working as a military advisor. 

- Senator Bill Hansell, in the video, states that the rate payers are paying both sides of the ESA lawsuit. ODOE is taking revenue from the ESA to defend themselves. Senator Hansell also stated that ODOE has never received General Fund dollars from the State of Oregon.
- Senator Betsy Johnson stated that the ESA is not a fee, it is a tax. It is an established slush fund for ODOE. There has been a 20% increase in the ESA Tax.
- Senator Olsen talked about proposing a bill that would reduce the ESA Taxes from 0.3% to 0.1%.
- Oral arguments on the ESA Lawsuit is scheduled for June 29, 2017 in Marion County.
- There is an Oregon environmental group that is proposing a carbon tax in the 2018 short Legislative Session. Senator Peter Courtney has said that we are not passing any major legislation in the short session.

NWPPA

Director Smith reported that he will be attending the Northwest Public Power Association's (NWPPA) two-day conference in Vancouver, B.C. where they will be discussing revenue requirements for the organization.

Energy Northwest Participants Review Board

Director Smith reported on the outage at the Columbia Generating Station for refueling and making improvements to the plant. Energy Northwest is confident that they will see more output efficiencies upon the completion of the work.

APPROVAL OF FUTURE MEETINGS/TRAVEL/OR RELATED MATTERS

July 5, PPC Forum – Dan Williams, Howard Gonser, Clay Smith, Connie Karp and Roger Howe
July 6, PPC Executive Committee Meeting - Dan Williams, Howard Gonser, Clay Smith, Connie Karp and Roger Howe
July 14, Chamber Economic Development Committee Meeting –
July 21, LOC/OPUDA – Dan Williams, Howard Gonser and Roger Howe
There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

President

ATTEST:

Secretary
MEMORANDUM
DIRECTOR OF UTILITY OPERATIONS
NORTHERN WASCO COUNTY PEOPLE'S UTILITY DISTRICT

DATE: June 14, 2017
TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FROM: Kevin McCarthy, Director of Utility Operations
SUBJECT: PURCHASE OF TWO PICKUP TRUCKS

NWCPUD has a need to purchase two Ford Pickups. One is for the McNary Fishway Hydro operations and the other is for the Utility Arborist with the total approximate cost for both vehicles being $90,000.

The PUD can use existing negotiated price agreements for, materials, goods and services on the State of Oregon Contract (ORPIN). The benefits of this price agreement are the labor savings of internal staff's time to develop specifications and overseeing the quote/bid process.

Northern Wasco County People's Utility District Public Contracting Rules and Procedures, Section E (1)(a) Special Procurements and Exemptions, require that all contracts shall be based upon competitive bids except: (a) Contracts made with, or the cost of which is provided by, other public agencies or Federal Government.

It is recommended that the Board authorize staff to purchase two Ford pickup trucks from Northside Ford for approximately $90,000.00, with the exception of requiring competitive bids that the purchase is made with, or the cost of which is provided by, other public agencies (State of Oregon ORPIN) or the federal government.

Thanks,

Kevin
MEMORANDUM
DIRECTOR OF FINANCE & ENTERPRISE RISK
NORTHERN WASCO COUNTY PEOPLE’S UTILITY DISTRICT

DATE: June 23, 2017
TO: Northern Wasco County PUD General Manager and Board of Directors
FROM: Harvey Hall
SUBJECT: April 2017 Financial Key Performance Indicators

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Measures the number of days the District can cover average operating expenses based on total unrestricted cash. Reflects total unrestricted cash divided by average daily operating costs. A higher number is better.

| Current Ratio        | 2.60   | 2.97        |

Measures the District’s short-term ability to pay current bills. Reflects total current assets divided by total current liabilities. A higher number is better.

| Debt to Asset        | 32.4%  | 27.9% (w/o BPA) | 43.9% (w/BPA) |

Measures a District’s ability to meet its current and long-term liabilities based on the availability of assets. Reflects total debt divided by total assets. A lower number is better.

**Debt Service Coverage:** In the process of updating projection models.

Measure the District ability to meet its annual long-term debt payments. Reflects annual long-term debt payments divided by total income less operating expenses. A higher number is better.
June 19, 2017

To: Northern Wasco County Board of Directors

From: Kurt Conger, Assistant General Manager, Director of Power Resources

CC: Kevin McCarthy, Operations Manager
    Greg Hendricks, Chief Operator, McNary Fishway Project

Subject: Transfer of Vehicle 71, Ford Explorer

Vehicle 71, the 2013 Ford Explorer, no longer meets the needs of the staff at the McNary Fishway Hydro Project – a truck with a bed for hauling equipment and trash is necessary. A related agenda item, purchase of a pickup for the project’s use, is proposed by staff.

Because the Ford Explorer is jointly owned by the Project (Klickitat County PUD & Northern Wasco County PUD), the transaction consists of a sale from McNary Hydro Project to Northern Wasco County PUD’s general fleet in the amount of $16,826.00; which is the current book value of the vehicle. The Explorer will fill a need for another passenger vehicle to replace Vehicle 4, the 2004 Chevy Blazer, in the NWCPUD fleet.

Staff seeks a motion and approval to transfer vehicle 71 from the McNary Hydro Project to the general fleet.
DATE: June 16, 2017

TO: Directors Gonser, Howe, Karp, Smith & Williams

FROM: Travis Hardy, Energy Management Technician

SUBJECT: Conservation & Low-Income Weatherization Policy Amendment Request

Background

Since inception of NWCPUD’s Low Income Weatherization Program in May of 2015, The PUD has included all manufactured homes owned by low-income customers regardless of manufacture date. A majority (approx. 80%) of pre-1976 manufactured home projects have required costly repair work to protect the installed (or to be installed) measures including: plumbing repairs, partial/full re-pipe, drain replacement, floor repairs (from past water damage), window frame replacement (from past water damage), and gutter installation (not required or included on most pre-1976 manufactured homes, and most often not compatible with existing roof structure type/style).

These revisits and repairs cost the PUD and the Contractors time and money, but moreover, these homes utilize our limited funds for projects that may only benefit the customer for as long as the structure remains intact and livable, instead of the 15-20 year lifespan of the measures’ intention. This would be a cost-effective program, if we could ensure the structure will still be utilized and livable over the next 15+ years, which is not necessarily a realistic expectation given the existing condition and the materials used in the construction of these homes.

The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is the Federal regulator that provides subject matter expertise in this area. They state that, “Homes built prior to June 15, 1976, even with modifications, do not meet the HUD standards and cannot be accepted as compliant with the HUD Code. HUD’s Manufactured Home Construction and Safety Standards covers body and frame requirements, thermal protection, plumbing, electrical, fire safety, and other aspects of the home, published under 24 CFR Part 3280.”

Recommendation

Staff and Management recommend the Board of Directors approve a policy amendment to include the following language:

“All manufactured homes must meet HUD’s Manufactured Home Construction and Safety Standards and be constructed after June 15, 1976, in order to qualify for NWCPUD’s low-income weatherization program. In addition, work will not be performed on any home with existing mold or other safety concerns that cannot be corrected with standard weatherization improvements.”
MEMORANDUM
DIRECTOR OF UTILITY OPERATIONS
NORTHERN WASCO COUNTY PEOPLE’S UTILITY DISTRICT

DATE: June 12, 2017
TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FROM: Kevin McCarthy

SUBJECT: ELECTRIC OPERATIONS DOCK CREW SERVICES CONTRACT

NWCPUD requires professional services from an IBEW signatory Contractor to perform installations and corrections of NWCPUD’s overhead electric distribution system. NWCPUD has initiated a systematic multi-year project to install and maintain components relative to its overhead electric distribution system. The Contractor must have extensive working knowledge of the NESC and shall provide all labor and equipment required to perform the work specified.

The PUD received Dock Crew quotes from five (5) electrical IBEW electrical contractors. Originally International Line Builders (ILB) had the lowest dock crew labor rates. However, after reviewing the work, ILB chose not to enter into a Services Contract with the PUD. Michels Power had the next lowest dock crew labor rates.

Staff is recommending that the Board authorize staff to enter into a Contract with Michels Power to provide dock crew services to Northern Wasco County People’s Utility District with a not to exceed cost of $150,000.00.
Dufur Historical Society  
Living History Museum  
Northern Wasco County  
Public Utility District  
2345 River Road  
The Dalles OR 97058  

541-467-2205  
P.O. Box 462  
Dufur, OR 97021  
dufurhist@orwelco.net  
www.dufurthreshingbee.org

2016 Economic Development Grant

First I would like to thank the board of directors for awarding the Dufur Historical Society a 2016 Economic development Grant.

In our grant we had ask for 2 Videotel HD27D Looping DVD players and 2 televisions. After ordering the players we were told the company was not happy with that model and would work with us on a model more suited to our needs. We ended up purchasing one player at the cost of $513.78. The machine works wonderfully and we are very happy with it.

However we were not able to purchase the second one we planned to use in our military display. The goal was to show Oregon Military history through tapes and interviews. Since there was not enough funds left to purchase another Videotel unit I called the Discovery Center to get Carolyn’s thoughts, after our conversation I purchased a 6 Disc CD changer to replace the second Videotel unit. It doesn’t do all the things the other unit does but for now it will serve the purpose.

Enclosed you will find invoices with payments for the items purchased along with photos of the Military and Great Southern Displays.

Thank You for helping our museum grow through educational displays.

Nancy Gibson  
Director Living History Museum  
President Dufur Historical Society
TO
Dufer Historical Society
861 Adkisson Road
Duper, OR 97021

INVOICE 71144
SALESPERSON
Lisa
INVOICE DATE
04/26/17

SHIP TO
Same
#85434

ACCT # SHIP DATE SHIPPED VIA TERMS PURCHASE ORDER #

ORDP 4/26/17 UPS Ground Credit-Card Mike Gibson

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ATTN: Mike Gibson

Subtotal 513.78

A FINANCE CHARGE OF 1.5% PER MONTH IS CHARGED TO PAST DUE INVOICES.

Thank You

Paid

TOTAL $ 513.78
Merchand: Videotel
681 Anita Street #104
Chula Vista, CA 91911
US
619-670-4412

Order Information
Description: media player & move sensor
Order Number:
P.O. Number: 71144
Customer ID:
Invoice Number: 71144

Billing Information
Shipping Information
97021

Shipping: 0.00
Tax: 0.00
Total: USD 513.78

Payment Information
Date/Time: 26-Apr-2017 13:32:43 PDT
Transaction ID: 60108646639
Transaction Type: Authorization w/ Auto Capture
Transaction Status: Captured/Pending Settlement
Authorization Code: 073115
Payment Method: Visa XXXX5622

Final Details for Order #111-0796008-9370643
Print this page for your records.

Order Placed: November 16, 2016
Amazon.com order number: 111-0796008-9370643
Seller's order number: 5921680-102304
Order Total: $283.95

Shipped on November 17, 2016

Items Ordered
1 of: RCA LED42C45RQ 42-Inch 1080p 60Hz LED HDTV (Black)
Price
Sold by: BldTrade L.L.C. (seller profile)
Condition: New

Shipping Address:
Dufur Historical Society Living History
40 NW MAIN ST
DUFUR, OREGON 97021-7002
United States

Shipping Speed:
Economy Shipping

Item(s) Subtotal: $283.95
Shipping & Handling: $0.00
Total before tax: $283.95
Sales Tax: $0.00
Total for This Shipment: $283.95

Payment information

Payment Method:
Visa | Last digits: 5622

Billing address
Dufur Historical Society
PO Box 462
Dufur, Oregon 97021
United States

Credit Card transactions

Item(s) Subtotal: $283.95
Shipping & Handling: $0.00
Total before tax: $283.95
Estimated tax to be collected: $0.00
Grand Total: $283.95

Visa ending in 5622: November 17, 2016:$283.95

To view the status of your order, return to Order Summary.
Final Details for Order #111-4506267-3917831
Print this page for your records.

Order Placed: November 16, 2016
Amazon.com order number: 111-4506267-3917831
Order Total: $24.99

Shipped on November 19, 2016

Items Ordered
1 of: VideoSecu ML531BE TV Wall Mount for most 22"-55" LED LCD Plasma Flat Screen Monitor up to 88 lb VESA 400x400 with Full Motion Swivel Articulating 20 in Extension Arm, HDMI Cable & Bubble Level WPS

Sold by: Warehouse Seller (seller profile) | Product question? Ask Seller

Condition: New

Shipping Address:
Dufur Historical Society Living History
40 NW MAIN ST
DUFUR, OREGON 97021-7002
United States

Shipping Speed:
No-Rush Shipping

Payment information

Item(s) Subtotal: $24.99
Shipping & Handling: $0.00
Total before tax: $24.99
Sales Tax: $0.00
Total for this shipment: $24.99

Grand Total: $24.99

To view the status of your order, return to Order Summary.
Final Details for Order #114-1488027-8645051
Print this page for your records.

Order Placed: June 20, 2017
Amazon.com order number: 114-1488027-8645051
Order Total: $139.99

Shipped on June 20, 2017

Items Ordered
1 of: Samsung UN24H4000 24-Inch 720p LED TV (2014 Model)
售出方: Amazon.com LLC

Condition: New

Shipping Address:
Dufur Historical Society Living History
40 NW MAIN ST
DUFUR, OREGON 97021-7002
United States

Shipping Speed:
Two-Day Shipping

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Shipped on June 21, 2017

Items Ordered
1 of: VideoSecu ML12B TV LCD Monitor Wall Mount Full Motion 15-Inch Extension
Arm Articulating Tilt Swivel for Most 15 to 27-Inch LED TV Flat Panel Screen with VESA 100x100,75x75 1KX (Black)
售出方: Warehouseseller (seller profile) | Product question? Ask Seller

Condition: New

Shipping Address:
Dufur Historical Society Living History
40 NW MAIN ST
DUFUR, OREGON 97021-7002
United States

Shipping Speed:
Two-Day Shipping

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Payment information

Payment Method:
Debit Card | Last digits: 7711

Billing address

Item(s) Subtotal: $139.99
Shipping & Handling: $0.00
Total before tax: $139.99
Details for Order #114-4848508-2627419
Print this page for your records.

Order Placed: June 20, 2017
Amazon.com order number: 114-4848508-2627419
Order Total: $149.00

Not Yet Shipped

Items Ordered
1 of: Onkyo DXC390 6 Disc CD Changer
Price $149.00
Sold by: Electronics Expo (seller profile)
Condition: New
Authorized Onkyo Dealer. Shop With Confidence. Electronics Expo is a Top Rated Seller with over 170,000 Positive Reviews.

Shipping Address:
Dufur Historical Society Living History
40 NW MAIN ST
DUFUR, OREGON 97021-7002
United States

Shipping Speed:
No-Rush Shipping

Payment information

Payment Method:
Visa | Last digits: 5622

Billing address
Dufur Historical Society
PO Box 462
Dufur, Oregon 97021
United States

Item(s) Subtotal: $149.00
Shipping & Handling: $0.00
Total before tax: $149.00
Estimated tax to be collected: $0.00
Grand Total:$149.00

To view the status of your order, return to Order Summary.
DATE: June 21, 2017

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FROM: Kathy McBride, Executive Assistant

SUBJECT: GRANT EXTENSION REQUEST

On March 28, 2017, I received a telephone message from Nancy Gibson from the Dufur Historical Society Living History Museum regarding their 2016 Northern Wasco County People's Utility District Economic Development Grant in the amount of $1,217.37. Ms. Gibson indicated in her message that they are having difficulty acquiring the equipment that the Museum was intending to purchase as outlined in their Grant Application.

I have contacted the Museum and have left messages on numerous occasions, as well as sending a letter to them indicating that they should submit a request to the Board of Directors requesting a grant extension and authorization to change the equipment proposed to be purchased.

As of this date, I have not heard back from anyone. Therefore, I would like to request that the Board approve on behalf of the Dufur Historical Society Living History Museum a one year Economic Development Grant Extension, which would extend the completion of the grant project until June 28, 2018. If approved, the Museum would then have adequate time to submit their request to the Board of Directors for authorization to change the equipment proposed to be purchased.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.
Kathy McBride

From: Charles Bearden <rob@3rdpartyneutral.com>
Sent: Friday, June 16, 2017 7:51 PM
To: Kathy McBride
Subject: Economic Development Grant
Attachments: PUD Grant Budget Project Budget.pdf

Kathy-

Thanks for seeing David and me this afternoon on short notice. I enjoyed our conversation and love your enthusiasm for our project.

My understanding is that, prior to disbursing funds, the District would like to see a current project budget and construction timeline, in addition to a list of funding sources. To that end, I have attached a budget summary.

Our proposed timeline has the building being open to limited occupancy the first week in August. At that time, the plan is to have the first and second floors open, with the basement Education Center coming online in December.

The funds necessary to complete the project are expected to come from three sources: grants ($25k), local fundraising event ($50k), and the balance from an anonymous donor that has been onboard from the time the building was acquired. As a backup, we have a $300k pledge from another donor, payable over the next 18 months. This donor, as well, prefers to remain anonymous, at least until the building opens.

Plumbing in the building is underway. Photos and invoices are forthcoming. Please let me know what else you might need.

Again, it was a pleasure meeting you today. The Museum board of trustees is grateful for the District’s support and excited to open a facility that we believe will attract tourist traffic and spur further downtown development.
# Project General Interior Construction Budget NNSM

## Preliminary

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SMART METERS and RADIO FREQUENCY

Emerald PUD is upgrading its grid management system to build a stronger and smarter electric system. The upgrade will also provide exciting new benefits to our customers.

Smart meters are a fundamental component of the smart grid, and EPUD's smart meters comply with Federal Communications Commission (FCC) health and safety standards.

What is Radio Frequency?

Smart meters send encrypted electricity usage data to Emerald PUD by radio frequency (RF) signals. This technology is common; in fact, many everyday products use RF communication, including cell phones, laptop computers, and baby monitors.

Distance + Power + Time On = Radio Frequency Level

Distance
Signal strength and radio frequency decrease as you move away from the device. Meters are typically placed outdoors, with a wall separating the meter from the living space.

Power
A smart meter transmits data using only one watt, similar to the power of a cordless phone or baby monitor.

Time On
Unlike cell phones, laptop computers, and baby monitors which are left on for long periods, smart meters use RF energy to transmit a maximum of 4.5 percent of the day* (less than 1.25 hours a day).

In the US, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) establishes the requirements for use of RF and acceptable exposure limits for the public. Emerald's smart meters comply with all requirements set by the FCC, as well as international requirements set by global bodies. The smart meter's operating band is 26 MHz wide between 902 and 928 MHz. Because the FCC exposure limit is frequency dependent, the limit for the band ranges between 601 and 619 pW/cm² (microwatts per square centimeter). The exposure level from a smart meter at one foot is more than 150 times lower than the FCC limit.

How does the radio frequency of a smart meter compare to other wireless products? Let's take a look.

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<th>*AVERAGE TIMES HIGHER</th>
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<td>5. Microwave Oven</td>
<td>0.0029</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Handheld Delivery Terminal</td>
<td>0.0022</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Baby Monitor</td>
<td>0.0011</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. TV Remote</td>
<td>0.00031</td>
<td>3.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Wireless Modem</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Smart Meter</td>
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</table>

Source: SiteSafe  * Average exposure measured in milli-grams (mW) per square centimeter is the average amount of energy exposure over a period of time from a particular source.

### MYTH vs. FACT

**Safety**

*Smart meters are not safe and don't meet federal standards.*

**FALSE**

Emerald's smart meters comply with Federal Communications Commission (FCC) health and safety standards.

**Time**

*Like a cell phone, a smart meter is 'on' all of the time and emitting RF as it searches for a signal.*

**FALSE**

On average, an Emerald smart meter is “on” and transmitting a maximum of 4.5 percent of the day in short signals.

**Health**

*Smart meters can cause health effects.*

**FALSE**

There is no medical evidence linking health concerns with exposure from a smart meter.

The American Cancer Society determined, “Because the amount of RF radiation you could be exposed to from a smart meter is much less than what you could be exposed to from a cell phone, it is very unlikely that living in a house with a smart meter increases the risk of cancer.”

**Home Safety**

*The RF from a smart meter is more powerful than other devices typically used in the home.*

**FALSE**

In the home, a smart meter RF level is 100,000 times less than the FCC limit. Smart meters are typically placed outdoors, with a wall separating the meter from the living space. Signal strength and radio frequency decrease as you move farther from the device.