

**OVERTON POWER DISTRICT NO. 5  
BOARD MEETING**

May 16, 2018  
4:00 P.M.  
Overton, Nevada

**PRESENT:** Mr. Mike Fetherston, Chairman  
Mr. Mike Young, Secretary / Treasurer  
Mr. Chad Leavitt, Trustee  
Mrs. Judy Metz, Trustee  
Mr. Jack Nelson, Trustee  
Mr. Byron Mills, Attorney

Mr. Mendis Cooper, General Manager  
Mrs. Teresa Romero, Assistant General Manager / Finance & Administration Manager  
Mrs. Becky LaGrow, Executive Assistant  
Mr. Jon Jensen, Engineering Manager  
Mr. Bruce Hughes, Manager of Transmission & Distribution Operations  
Mrs. MeLisa Garcia, Accounting Supervisor

**ABSENT:** Mr. Doug Waite, Vice Chairman  
Mr. Robert Bunker, Trustee

*Note: The minutes of this meeting have been tape-recorded and will remain on file in the District's main office for a period of one-year for public examination.*

**CALL TO ORDER**

ORDER OF BUSINESS: At 4:00 p.m. Mr. Mike Fetherston called the meeting of the Overton Power District No. 5 Board of Trustees to order. The agenda items were addressed in the following order:

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

A motion was made by Mike Young and seconded by Doug Waite to approve the minutes of the March 21, 2018 Board Meeting. The Board voted five (5) ayes, zero (0) nays in approval.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Mr. Mike Fetherston had no report at this time.

**ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

Mr. Byron Mills had no report at this time.

## **MANAGER'S REPORTS**

- **SCHOLARSHIPS**

Mrs. Becky LaGrow gave a report on the 2018 scholarship program. On the 4<sup>th</sup> of April, the CoBank Sharing Success Grant application was submitted. Notification of grant award was received on April 19<sup>th</sup>, CoBank check's in the amount of \$2,500 and District checks in the amount of \$5,500 were distributed to both Virgin Valley High School and the Moapa Valley Education Foundation for distribution to scholarship recipients. The names of the 2018 OPD Scholarship recipients were updated on the District website today.

- **CONSTRUCTION**

Mr. Bruce Hughes reported there was one (1) unplanned outages on the Bunkerville B circuit, affecting three (3) customers for thirty minutes.

The *Overton crew* is working on tree trimming, Warm Springs Pole changes, pole work at Stewart's Point, overhead to underground, numerous other pole changes and assisted the Mesquite crew with the 69-kV line.

The *Mesquite crew* worked on Primex plant upgrades, high voltage upgrade for Reliance Connects, completed the Mesquite Library project, set transformer and temporary power for the Exit 118 Eagles Landing Project and completed the 138-kV line work until the planned outage next week.

*Hook-ups* – forty-six (46) residential and one (1) commercial hookups for both valleys.

*Safety Meeting Topic* – Electrical Safety and First Responder Electrical Safety. Mesquite Fire and Rescue was included in this training. Contacts are being made to bring the presentation to Overton, Logandale, Moapa & Bunkerville; the difficulty lies in getting the volunteers together at the same time.

*Training* – Bruce attended the NRECA Safety Leadership Summit. There was a lot of valuable information presented. Going forward, the safety meetings will rotate between the two valleys and office personnel will be included in the first hour as a mandatory requirement. Also, we will be re-structuring the Safety Committee.

*Federated Insurance* – Our Workman's Compensation Representative came in for an audit, our Statewide Worker's Comp Experience Modification Factor is 0.76. Hazard Recognition training for office personnel will be implemented in the future.

*No Loss Time Record* - To date the record stands at 7 months and 5 days.

Mike Young brought up the great compliments to the District about the quick restoration of power that are on Facebook.

Judy Metz thinks it is a good idea for Board members to receive a copy of the Hazard Recognition Form and be included the training.

- **ENGINEERING & OPERATIONS**

Mr. Jon Jensen reported

*Dino to Falcon Line* – the construction has been completed; this includes the structures, wire and fiber being put into place. The substation crew is now tasked with getting the fiber spliced, communications working, cyber protection and SCADA verified and functional. Distribution loads are being reconfigured for the 138-kV line outage to connect the new line. After the connection, testing and load moving will follow to isolate the 69-kV line across the freeway in preparation of the new structure.

*I-15 Freeway Crossing* – The dirt work has been completed. The foundation trench has been dug, rebar cages and bolt cages were installed, and the concrete poured. At this time, NDOT has approved our proposed traffic plan; at this time, ADOT has not sent their approval. At this time, the proposed work will be completed on June 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> barring any unforeseen circumstances.

- **GENERAL MANAGER**

Mr. Mendis Cooper reported this month:

*Changes in Leadership* – Randy Ewell retired as GM /CEO of Mt. Wheeler Power in April; Kevin Robinson will be stepping up into the position. Last week, Tom Husted resigned as CEO of Valley Electric Association in Pahrump.

*Colorado River Commission* –

*Customer meeting* - Discussions were held on CRC budget and future costs. Trends currently show that rates will continue to rise.

*SLCAIP Application Meeting* – Our current SCLAIP contract expires in 2024, OPD must submit an application to CRC to continue receiving CRSP power. Submitting the application does not guarantee that we will receive the same allocation we have had in the past.

*NV Energy Transmission Rate* – NV Energy has submitted a settlement proposal; the District's response will be sent to them by Friday. NV Energy is picking up the pace, hopefully we will see a resolution soon. Regarding our legal services in the matter; the Board approved \$25,000 for Mr. Craig Silverstein's services. These funds will be exhausted soon; I will be coming back to the Board next month for additional funds.

*SSEA* – SSEA held a board meeting; elections were held, and the same officers were re-elected. There was also a report on the budget and annual audit findings.

*NREA Meetings* – Over the next month, myself and two other NREA CEO's will be meeting with state legislators and leaders to discuss ECI and other power related issues.

*Rate Design* – Staff has worked on rate design concepts over the past few weeks. Staff will meet with CFC rate design team to finalize the Cost of Service process and kick off the Rate Design portion.

- **FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION**

Mrs. Terry Romero reported looking in to Nixle regarding mass communications. It is an opt-in program. She is still researching to find out definite costs and benefits to customers. If it turns out to be beneficial, a proposal will be presented for Board approval.

- **ACCOUNTING**

Mrs. Garcia gave the financial report for April 2018, a copy of which is on file.

### **REVIEW OF A DRAFT UNMANNED AERIAL SYSTEM (UAS) POLICY OPD-A-13.001**

The District recently purchased an Unmanned Aerial System (UAS), also known as a drone. Staff recommends that a policy be developed to govern the flight operation of the UAS, to establish the requirements for pilot certification, and to meet other requirements for the safe operation of the system.

Staff has reviewed the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) guidelines and incorporated the FAA requirements into a draft policy and met with the District's insurance carrier and incorporated their comments as well. Mr. Randall Ozaki presented the draft policy to the Board for review and comment. The Board's comments will be incorporated in the document and a final policy will be brought back to a future Board meeting for final approval. Mr. Mike Young made the only suggested change to Staff. Mr. Ozaki is available via phone or email if any other changes are thought of. No Board action is required at this meeting. This item is for review and comment.

#### **DISCUSSION TO RELEASE AN RFP FOR AUDITING SERVICES FOR YEARS ENDING 2018-2020**

2017 year-end was the last year for our current auditing contract. Staff is requesting approval to send an RFP to various auditing firms to complete the District's year end audit for 3 years (2018-2020) with a possible 2-year extension. Staff is seeking input from the Board of Trustees on the details of the RFP regarding: Scope of Service, Term of Contract and Qualification Requirements. Mrs. Terry Romero presented the draft of the RFP to Board members for comment. Mr. Mike Young was still concerned about the term of three (3) years with a possible two (2) year extension. The RFP does not guarantee the two-year extension. No Board action is required at this meeting. This item is for review and comment.

#### **DISCUSSION ON VEHICLE CHARGING STATIONS**

Mr. Mendis Cooper gave a presentation and started a discussion on vehicle charging station possibilities in our service territory. The Governor of the State of Nevada has tasked the Governor's Office of Energy (GOE) with the responsibility to establish the Nevada Electric Highway (NEH). Phase 1 of this initiative is to install electric vehicle charging stations (EVCS) along US 95 from Las Vegas to Reno. Phase 2 is to install EVCS along US 93 from the North to the South of Nevada and along the I-15 corridor. The GOE has authorized the use of funds obtained through a legal settlement to fund EVCS installations. Applicants can apply for a State grant to obtain and use these funds to install EVCS at approved locations. Staff has contemplated the idea of applying for these funds and working with local business owners to install EVCS at several locations in our area. The GOE has increased the grant to cover the entire cost of the installation. OPD is eligible to apply for the grant and build service to it; while the business would take it over as soon as it is energized. The location must be determined as the application requires the District to specify the township in which the station will be located. Contact the General Manger with any Board member ideas. No Board action is required at this meeting. This item is for review and comment.

#### **DISCUSSION ON 2018 NRECA RESOLUTIONS**

Mr. Mendis Cooper discussed that a significant part of each National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) regional and national meeting includes discussion and approval of new resolutions and modification of existing resolutions. The NRECA has established a process and timeline for submitting new resolutions and suggested modifications to existing resolutions. The Board of Trustees and staff have an opportunity to propose new resolutions and to suggest modifications to existing resolutions over the next few weeks. Staff will review the process and timeline with the Board of Trustees to give the Board an opportunity to participate in the resolutions process before the timeline passes.

**PRESENTATION ON MAPPING**

Mr. Jon Jensen gave a detailed presentation on the District’s Transmission and Distribution Mapping system. When Operations is completing switching scenarios, the changes are shown to all users in real time using an ESRI land-based system.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**BOARD COMMENTS**

*Mike Young* – Spoke to Paul Laxalt has come out in support of Energy Choice Initiative (ECI) but is open to carving out the rural utilities.

**APPROVAL OF NEXT MEETING DATE**

A motion was made by Mike Young and seconded by Chad Leavitt to approve Wednesday, May 16, 2018 as the next Board Meeting date. The meeting will be held in the Mesquite Office at 4:00 PM. The Board voted five (5) ayes, zero (0) nays in approval.

**EXECUTIVE – CLOSED DOOR SESSION**

A motion was made to enter Executive Session.  
A motion was made to exit Executive Session.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 5:55 PM.

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Chairman, Mike Fetherston

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Vice Chairman, Doug Waite

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Secretary / Treasurer, Mike Young