

Snowden Community Council – 10.05.022 Board Meeting Minutes

Board Members present: Bob Conner, Roger Gadway, Chuck Kliesh, Jenne Patterson, Jenn Sharp, Dan Spatz, and Chris Stein. Absent: Tom Montag and Lloyd Olson. There were 5 other Snowden Community Members present; and guests from the Klickitat County PUD: Randy Knowles, PUD Commissioner; Jim Smith, Manager; and Mike DeMott, Power Manager and Financial Officer.

Roger introduced our guests, Jim asked if we had any questions for them. Topics discussed included the proposed pump-storage facility; the physics of balancing load with surges in supply; why power infrastructure tends to be concentrated rather than distributed; a pilot study of remote metering; the relationship of private residential energy production to the PUD, and the grid; finding the balance, with equity, between rate and peak load; the impact of electric vehicles; finding grants; and why did the power go out yesterday?

Roger thanked our guests for a great conversation and convened the first meeting in our newly refurbished Cherry Lane Fire Station at 8:32PM. The **Minutes** from September Annual Meeting were approved as presented. Chuck reported the **Treasury** has \$1,254.91; and explained that money is only accrued by donation. There were no **Additions to the Agenda**.

Old Business: Website Committee: Jenn reported that our web expert Aaron has delivered on the second phase of his contract; and submitted an invoice that she gave to the Treasurer, Chuck. Aaron is testing a functional online website that is inter-connected to an SCC and Community Calendar, Survey Monkey and a You Tube channel. Once the testing phase is completed, Aaron will train Jenne and Jenn to populate and update the template with our data, design and graphics, and they in turn will educate the rest of the website committee to help with this large task.

Broadband Committee: Dan reported that he had a conference call with Mr. Stafford from Charter (an internet provider) and Representative Corry. Dan had many questions for Charter, including the proposed coverage area, and the cost to customers. Dan saw a Proposed Coverage Area Map that seemed to only cover about half of Snowden. Charter would like a letter of support from the SCC to help them secure a grant to do this work. Dan asked the Council and membership to consider the trade-offs of applying any grant money we help obtain to actual but limited internet improvement, or should we remain focused on getting grant money for a more comprehensive regional feasibility study?

Fire District #3 Report: Bob gave the Fire District #3 report. A new (\$240,000) fire engine has been ordered to replace the one totaled last winter. All repairs at the Husum Station have been completed except for installing the 400 amp. electric panel, still awaiting delivery. The County Commissioners have lifted the Burn Ban, even though there has been no rain. The Fire District (and DNR??) will be pressuring the Commissioners to restore the Ban until we have had sufficient rainfall for safe burning conditions.

Chuck asked if Klickitat County Fire Stations have internet; Bob replied that Fire District #3 has the same unreliable connections that much of the rest of Snowden has. He said there have been attempts by the Fire District to get CenturyLink to connect (at least Cherry Lane? Mountain View?) but as CenturyLink is a monopoly, with no expected profit for their effort, they were rude, and have remained uncooperative.

Everyone agreed this is an unacceptable and urgent matter of public safety. Dan suggested alerting Representative Corry, Commissioner Jake Anderson, and contacting the County Emergency Services Department. Chardonnay said that reporting CenturyLink to the Federal Trade Commission was an effective way to get a quick response from them. Bob agreed to bring this issue up when the Fire District Board meets next week.

Hearing no further comments **For the Good of the Order**, Roger adjourned the meeting at 9:29PM

Minutes respectfully submitted by

Bea Lackaff SCC Secretary (pro tem)