



MINUTES

QLife Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, January 26, 2023
Deschutes Conference Room
and Google Hangouts

Call to Order President Weinstein calls the meeting to order at 12:00 PM.

Roll Call Lee Weinstein, Scott Hege, Scott Randall, Dale Lepper, Rod Runyon, Tom McGowan, John Amery, Kristen Campbell, Stephanie Krell, Mike Middleton and Matthew Klebes.

Changes to the Agenda

There are no changes to the agenda.

[[Mr. Hege moves to approve the agenda. Mr. Lepper seconds the motion, which passes unanimously.]]

Action Items

2023 QLife Officers

[[Mr. Runyon moves to nominates Mr. Randall as QLife Secretary, President Weinstein as QLife Chair and Mr. Lepper as QLife Vice-Chair. Mr. Hege seconds the motion, which passes unanimously.]]

Order #2023-01 Reappointment of Mike Middleton to the Qualitylife Intergovernmental Agency Budget Officer

[[Mr. Hege moves reappoint Mr. Middleton as the Budget Officer. Mr. Lepper seconds the motion, which passes unanimously.]]

Approval of the Consent Agenda

[[Mr. Hege moves to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Randall seconds the motion, which passes unanimously.]]

Finance Report

Financial Report, Analysis and Reconciliation

Mr. Middleton presents the December finance reports to the Board included in the packet and remarks that there are not a lot of changes from the previous month's report. The Operations fund is down \$176,000 from last year because the beginning balance was decreased due to the transfer to the Capital fund. Charges for Services increased over last year by 5% and is moving in a positive direction. Accounts Receivables is outstanding by \$91K, but that was due to the holidays and has dropped to \$48K when Mr. Middleton ran the report more recently. Expenses remain within budgetary expectations.

The Capital fund's interest rates are already at 107% due to conservative budgeting.

The Maupin fund has \$11K in revenue and unchanged from November. Overall, funds are in good shape and are heading in a positive direction.

Discussion Items

Administration & Project Updates

Mr. Klebes informs the Board that we encountered some difficulties with the Casey Eye project. There was water damage in the building so the project was placed on hold to determine how the damage would affect the tenant. They are still interested in moving forward so he expects things to pick up again soon.

Mr. Klebes will be attending a re-engagement meeting with RISI (Rural Innovation Strategies, Inc.) and Kate Franko, which is supported by Google. We are continuing to discuss grant applications and planning for the remainder of the year.

We are moving forward with securing engineering contract services for current projects and in the process of finalizing contracts.

Mr. Amery notes asks if Northern Wasco PUD received a check for the Jefferson St. Damage project yet and Mr. McGowan confirms that they have. Mr. Amery adds that we are in the process of planning an outage to replace the pole associated with this repair. Mr. Hege asks why we are replacing the pole and Mr. Amery explains that the fiber cable that was causing an issue was identified and we chose to re-route around the existing path.

Mr. Klebes states that a possible opportunity with Cascade Renewable Transmission has arisen for a utility line down the river between Oregon and Washington which includes a fiber component. There will be a presentation on this project at The Dalles City Council at the end of February.

BAT Update

President Weinstein remarks that planning funds for broadband have been pushed back. In a press release by the Secretary of State, they noted that they audited the broadband office and they will prepare to receive and facilitate funding. President Weinstein was pleased with the report.

Aristo Technical Management Report

Mr. Amery presents his technical report to the Board and states that we are receiving items for upcoming fiber-to-the-home projects. Once we complete engineering, we can start beta projects. Mr. Hege asks for additional details. Mr. Amery explains that we have two projects planned, one at the Port of the Dalles and the other at Lone Pine. Mr. Hege wonders what his anticipated timeline is and Mr. Amery responds that engineering will determine that.

Mr. Amery remarks that there are high-density frames at City Hall and we had challenges when patching cables. We are attempting to determine if it is a manufacturer's defect.

Mr. Lepper asks about the Casey Eye project and asks if we have a timeframe in mind and Mr. Amery responds that we were just informed to move forward so we are working on mobilization now.

At 12:28 PM, the Board enters into Executive Session under ORS 192.660(2) (f): To consider information or records that are exempt by law from public inspection and (2)(n)(D) & (E) Discuss information regarding security of telecom systems and data transmission.


The Board exists Executive Session at 12:55 PM

Mr. Klebes states that we have a lot of work ahead of use with routine services orders, project expansions and grants. Staff are dealing with a bit of whiplash and he notes that the difficulties with our engineering situation has put us in a more strained position than we were six months ago.

The meeting is adjourned at 12:56 PM

The next regularly scheduled board meeting is set for February 21, 2023.

These minutes were approved by the QLife Board on February 21, 2023.



Scott Randall, Secretary