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Executive Director Report
Mike McArthur
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The activity level is increasing exponentially as we approach the 2023 Legislative Session. We hope to focus on CREA legislative priorities during this meeting so as to help direct our lobbyist and inform our collaborations with organizational partners.

But first we need to take care of some business:

Consent agenda:

Minutes of October 13.

Please Approve

Finances: Total income is at 41% which primarily reflects healthy beginning balance. We plan to begin invoicing for membership and SIP shares in December. Total expenses are 29% at the 5 month mark. RNW recognized the reciprocal relationship and canceled CREA dues.

Please Accept Financial Report

Membership Dues Schedule:

We need to review and update our dues structure. We have several categories including those below:

Individual
Local Government
With or without generation

SIP Counties
Industry (6 categories)
Technology (6 categories)
Industry (3 sizes)
Utility ?

UM 2000

This is the docket that will deal with PURPA issues. Greg Adams informed me that NIPPC and REC are not able to devote much resource to the investigation and are looking to CREA and Greg to lead. Given the significance of this proceeding and I believe, adequate budget, I told Greg that we should go ahead with full involvement.

BPA Transmission Queue

We hope to share a presentation seen at the Oregon Siting Workgroup meeting from Ricky Bustamonte, Transmission Planning Director at BPA. He shared that there are over 45,000 MW of requests for 4 counties in Oregon: Sherman, Wasco, Morrow and Crook with Sherman leading at 15,000+ MW. Typically only 10-15% of the projects get built but for Sherman 1,500 more MW would more than double generation in the county. Assuming it's mostly solar it will be interesting to see where the projects are proposed. Rumors are there is interest around the Buckley sub-station but we understand that significantly expensive upgrades are required for interconnection to happen there which means big project to amortize the costs.

The other interesting piece was among BPA's 5 planned transmission improvements is to upgrade the Big Eddy to Chemawa (Cascade South) line from 230KV to 500 KV for \$233M. It will take an estimated 8 years to complete in an existing right of way.

Siting

We spend an inordinate amount time in discussions about siting renewables: ORESA, Oregon Smart Siting Collaborative, the Oriana/Verde/1000 Friends/RNW led Oregon Siting Workgroup (I'm testifying Thursday 12/8 at House Committee on Energy and Natural Resources on this issue).

What it boils down to is that we have two siting paths: EFSC (who are conducting their own self examination) and county process. So the question should be: what needs fixing to help expedite both these processes if we are to meet the goals of HB 2021 ('21)?

PGE Discussions

Ormand and I have continued our discussions with Jimmy Lindsay and others at PGE about how to compensate for additional capacity from solar and storage.

Legislation

Tess Milio will set the stage for our discussion of legislative priorities. We have several legislative concepts and place holder bills as well as partnering with other organizations to propose legislation. We would like to get a sense of CREA Executive Board priorities.

Next Meeting

The plan is to continue virtual meetings through January. My mobility may be limited for a few months due to a medical procedure.