

Portland Utility Board Recruitment Subcommittee

Monday, May 6 , 2024, 4:00p.m.
Virtual meeting using Zoom platform
Meeting #178

Attendees:

PUB Members:

Heather Day-Melgar
Karen Williams

Staff:

Amy Archer-Masters, Portland Utility Board Analyst, City Budget Office
Farshad Allahdadi, Bureau of Environmental Services
Jacq Tjaden, Commissioner Mapps' Office

Absent:

Alexis Rife (*notice of absence provided in advance*)

Public:

Marrk Callier

Items Discussed, Action Items, Decisions

In these notes PWB stands for Portland Water Bureau, BES for the Bureau of Environmental Services, and PUB for the Portland Utility Board.

This subcommittee meeting was not recorded but additional details can be found online at:

<https://www.portland.gov/pub/events/2024/5/6/portland-utility-board-subcommittee-meeting>

The subcommittee discussed the candidate interviews, evaluations and developed an appointment recommendation for the PUB and Council.

I. Call to Order

PUB Staff called the meeting to order at approximately 4:00pm.

II. Disclosure of communications

There were no disclosures by members.

III. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

IV. Interview Review and Appointment Recommendation

PUB Staff provided a reminder of the goals for this recruitment to provide a recommendation to go to PUB and then Council for 3 voting member vacancies. The general goal of diversity and balance in perspectives, areas of knowledge, areas of interest, lived experience, community connections and lived experiences were discussed. The goal for this meeting is to reach agreement on three candidates to recommend, or three plus alternate candidates. Time permitting the group will reflect on the process to inform future recruitments. The subcommittee reviewed the final scores on screen and discussed the interviews and candidates in order to reach their final recommendation.

- Appreciation was shared for Jacq bringing this group interview process suggestion to the subcommittee, to staff for the logistics and facilitation, to subcommittee members for the time and commitment through the process, and for the overall process that provided some incredibly interesting discussions for consideration.
- Due to a few withdrawals, there was only one group of three in an interview and that proved to be the most dynamic to watch. There were two groups of two candidates that also had interesting conversations, but it was noted that there would be less opportunity for conflict with just two candidates. Staff noted that in the future it would be a goal to ensure at least 3 candidates per group if this approach were used again.
- There was recognition that all the candidates were strong and could bring different skills and experience to the Board. A variety of strengths were discussed including passion, energy, environmental and non-environmental backgrounds, problem solving, equity focus, long-term strategic planning, interest in financials, interest in change and transition, collaborative and respectful communications and interactions, and more.
- The subcommittee agreed to recommend candidates B, D and I for appointment, with candidates C and E as alternates if one of the candidates withdrew or if additional vacancies arise in the coming year.
- PUB staff will notify candidates and subcommittee members will announce the recommendation without providing names at the PUB meeting on May 7th, just highlighting process and key characteristics of recommended appointees.

The meeting adjourned at approximately ~5:00 p.m.