

### IMPACT STATEMENT

**Legislation title:** Appoint Colleen Johnson as co-chair, Hilda Stevens and Dan Peterson as voting members, and Alice Brawley-Chesworth, Ana Brophy, and Van Le as ex-officio members of the PUB.

**Contact name:** Melissa Merrell

**Contact phone:** (503) 823-1810

**Presenter name:** Mayor Wheeler

**Purpose of proposed legislation and background information:**

To appoint a co-chair, two voting members, and three ex-officio members of the Portland Utility Board. These appointments are required by code.

**Financial and budgetary impacts:**

There is no budget impact to this action.

**Community impacts and community involvement:**

The Portland Utility Board is a 11-member citizen oversight body that strengthens accountability and transparency at our two public utilities: the Bureau of Environmental Services and the Portland Water Bureau. In addition to the eleven full members, three ex-officio members are included. The creation of the board was subsequent to a recommendation by a Blue Ribbon Commission made of public members that took considerable public testimony in identifying issues and solutions. The co-chair recommendation was approved by the board at a public meeting where public comment was solicited. The voting members were selected after an open application process and also approved by the board at a public meeting where public comment was solicited.

### Budgetary Impact Worksheet

**Does this action change appropriations?**

**YES:** Please complete the information below.

**NO:** Skip this section

| Fund | Fund Center | Commitment Item | Functional Area | Funded Program | Grant | Sponsored Program | Amount |
|------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|-------|-------------------|--------|
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## **New Voting Members**

**Hilda Stevens** brings over 20 years of extensive government communications experience in both the public and private sector. Prior to becoming a small business owner, Hilda developed and implemented communication strategies to ensure consistent messaging to a broad range of external audiences including residents, community and business leaders, school districts, and policymakers. She's a former Community Relations Manager for Water Environment Services in Clackamas County and a Program Educator for Washington County's Environmental Health Program. She holds a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from St Mary's University and a Masters of Business Administration from George Fox University. Her communications and citizen involvement programs have been recognized by the National Association of Clean Water Agencies, National Association of County Information Officers, and the City-County Communications and Marketing Association. Hilda currently resides in Southeast Portland where she owns Bazi Bierbrasserie and serves as the President for the Hawthorne Boulevard Business Association. In her spare time, she enjoys playing and watching soccer, and exploring the great outdoors with her dog Jack.

Reason for wanting to serve on the PUB:

I've been a resident of Portland for over 13 years and now own my small business for over 6 six years. I bring over 20 years of experience in customer service, having spent nearly a decade with a focus in wastewater and stormwater management. As our community continues to grow, I can bring a diverse background into how to better serve our residents and provide thorough public engagement to ensure transparency while managing our assets and funds responsibly.

**Dan Peterson** is a licensed Mechanical Engineer working for Portland General Electric in the area of power generation. He graduated from Purdue University with a BSME and has worked in the power industry for the last 10 years. He has volunteered with Engineers Without Borders supporting two different projects involving a solar powered water pumping station as well as culvert design and construction in Central America.

Reason for wanting to serve on the PUB:

As a Portland resident I would like to serve my community, serve my local government, and participate in activities that benefit my fellow Portlanders. My work experience is in the power industry (I am currently employed by PGE) and am familiar with many aspects of utility operation. Between that and my mechanical engineering degree I believe my skill set and background are an excellent fit for contributing to this board.

## **Ex-Officio Members**

### **Reappointment**

TO: Mayor Ted Wheeler  
Commissioner Nick Fish  
Commissioner Amanda Fritz  
Commissioner Chloe Eudaly  
Commissioner Dan Saltzman  
Auditor Mary Hull Caballero  
FROM: Melissa Merrell, PUB Analyst  
RE: Short Biographies for Portland Utility Board Appointees  
On: June 22, 2017

Per Portland City Code, co-chairs and members of the Portland Utility Board are appointed by the Mayor, in consultation with the Commissioner in Charge, and confirmed by the City Council.

The PUB requests Mayor Wheeler, in consultation with Commissioner Fish and confirmation of Council, appoint Colleen Johnson as co-chair, Hilda Stevens and Dan Peterson as voting members, and Alice Brawley-Chesworth, Ana Brophy, and Van Le as ex-officio members of the PUB.

#### **Appointment of Colleen Johnson as Co-Chair**

Colleen was appointed to the board in June 2016 and recommended by the full board as co-chair at the May 2, 2017 monthly PUB meeting.

Colleen Johnson is Professor Emeritus of Economics at Eastern Oregon University where she has taught economics, public policy, and public administration for 30 years. She received her Ph.D. in Economics from Washington State University. Her research has centered on the effects of federal deficits on interest rates, the economics of the minimum wage, and the relationship between poverty, race, and socio-economic well-being. Colleen served 16 years on the La Grande City Council, 14 of those as Mayor of La Grande. As Mayor, she also served on the Oregon Mayors Association Board of Directors and on the League of Oregon Cities Board of Directors. Colleen now calls Northwest Portland home.

#### **Reason for wanting to serve as PUB co-chair:**

Over the course of the last two decades I discovered that I value and enjoy volunteer public service. My husband and I have owned property in Portland for almost 20 years but recently moved here full time and I would like to channel my interest in public service to my new community. I believe in the value of citizen oversight. As a new advisory board, the PUB will face some very interesting and challenging issues and I feel that my skills, knowledge, and experience will prove relevant and helpful. I have experience conducting meetings and am familiar with local government. I have the time to commit to the board and think I can help move the board forward as a deliberative advisory body.

**Alice Brawley-Chesworth** has over 20 years of experience in the municipal water and wastewater field. She worked for the City of Phoenix and the Portland Water Bureau prior to taking her current position as a Regulatory and Policy Analyst for the Portland Bureau of Environmental Services. She is a registered Professional Engineer in Arizona and Oregon.

Alice has Bachelor's degrees in Chemistry and Russian from Penn State, a Master's degree in Civil & Environmental Engineering from Arizona State, and a Graduate Certificate in Environmental Policy from the University of Denver. Currently, she is an Urban Studies PhD student at Portland State University where she is researching change in water and wastewater utilities. In particular, she is interested in the cultural, regulatory and institutional barriers to the innovations that are necessary to tackle today's wicked environmental problems.

Reason for wanting to serve on the PUB:

In my job as a Regulatory and Policy Analyst for BES, it's important for me to understand not only the bureau's work, but also how that work can impact the public. Being a member of the PUB allows me to better understand the public perspective. In addition, I want to help the PUB to examine policies and planning processes at the bureaus that establish what work we will do, rather than concentrating too heavily on specific projects.

### **New Appointments**

**Ana Brophy** is a construction manager with the Bureau of Environmental Services where she manages Capital Improvements projects. She has 30 years of private and municipal experience with site development, sewer construction, stormwater, horizontal and vertical construction, budget development, Erosion and Sediment Control, and City of Portland Standard Specifications. Ana volunteers with Women in the Trades, serves in the BES Standards and Practices, is a mentor in the City Mentoring Program, hosts high school summer Interns, and is the BES Native American Heritage Coordinator. She advances and promotes City Equity Goals and Strategies by serving in the BES Equity and Diversity committee and integrating equity and inclusion in her work and partnerships.

Reason for wanting to serve on the PUB:

To serve Portland Citizens by providing equity insight and commitment to the City's Equity values. To collaborate with the PUB to implement an equity lens that can be used to evaluate work that impacts our communities, to partner with the community and City to ensure that Citizens are engaged in shaping decisions that affect their lives, and by proactively working together to reduce disparities and provide opportunities to disadvantaged communities. To utilize my private and municipal experience with site development, sewer, stormwater, and vertical design and construction to collaborate with the PUB on advising City Council on Capital Improvements, financial plans, budgets, public policy, equity, economic development, and green infrastructure.

**Van Le** is a Principal Management Analyst and administers PWB's capital project management system. She designed and manages PWB's annual report on capital projects, aka "the CIPAR." As a certified PMP, Van manages processes to further strengthen capital project delivery in PWB. She has an M.Ed in Educational Technology from the Harvard Graduate School of Education. Her brainchild, OregonHelps.org, has been replicated in six states and has won multiple national and international honors including UNDP's Compendium of Innovative e-Government Practices. In the past, she conducted external evaluations for Open Society Institute, Rockefeller Foundation and the German Marshall Fund. Van has served on the boards for Oregon Peace Institute and Oregon Mediation Association and volunteered with ORTOP, Girl Scouts and USA Climbing.

Reason for wanting to serve on the PUB:

PUB advises the City Council in many areas and I am most interested in resiliency planning and service delivery performance.