

## IMPACT STATEMENT

**Legislation title:** Appoint Heidi Bullock, Colleen Johnson, Rob Martineau, Dory Robinson, and Allan Warman as voting members, and Ana Brophy, Van Le, and Vera Zaharova as ex-officio members of the Portland Utility Board.

**Contact name:** Melissa Merrell

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

**Presenter name:** Mayor Wheeler

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

To appoint five 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 voting members were selected after an open application process. The recommendation for voting members and support for ex-officio members were 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

TO: Mayor Ted Wheeler  
Commissioner Nick Fish  
Commissioner Amanda Fritz  
Commissioner Chloe Eudaly  
Commissioner Dan Saltzman  
Auditor Mary Hull Caballero

FROM: Melissa Merrell, Principal Financial Analyst, Portland Utility Board

RE: Short Biographies for Recommended Members for the Portland Utility Board

On: June 6, 2018

Per Portland City Code, members of the Portland Utility Board (PUB) are appointed by the Mayor, in consultation with the Commissioner in Charge, and confirmed by the City Council.

PUB requests Mayor Wheeler, in consultation with Commissioner Fish and confirmation of Council, appoint Heidi Bullock, Colleen Johnson, Rob Martineau, Dory Robinson, and Allan Warman as voting members, and supports the appointment of Ana Brophy, Van Le, and Vera Zaharova as ex-officio members of the PUB.

### **Reappointments**

**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 on the PUB:

I value and enjoy volunteer public service. It's important for citizens to be involved in their government and provide active and strong oversight. My husband and I have lived in Oregon for over 30 years and full-time in Portland since 2014. I have served on the PUB for the last 2 1/2 years and have found the work both interesting and challenging. As a relatively new Board, the PUB is, in my opinion, gaining traction and is an important partner in the decisions that the bureaus make and that affect the citizens in Portland. I would like to continue to work with the PUB members and the bureaus to enhance the relationship between the PUB and the bureaus.

**Robert Martineau** is a Water Operations Mechanic at the Portland Water Bureau. He also serves as the President of AFSCME Local 189, where he chairs the Policy Committee. Rob

attended all of the meetings of the Utility Oversight Blue Ribbon Commission, and brings knowledge and experience as a front-line operator of Portland's drinking water system.

Reason for wanting to serve on the PUB:

I followed closely the work of the Blue Ribbon Commission on water and sewer rate setting and took numerous opportunities to participate in that process. One point of emphasis identified by those Commissioners when laying the groundwork for the PUB was stewardship of the PWB and BES. Responsible Stewardship is something I feel strongly about and I believe it to be a critical function of this board. I am also a bargaining unit member and employee of the PWB for the past 18 years. I have been a very active and outspoken member of this board since its creation, and served on all sub-committees thereof. I look forward to continuing to serve not only this board but the citizens, ratepayers and employees of the City of Portland.

While I have an interest and willingness to serve on the Portland Utility Board, I also feel an obligation to share my knowledge and experience as front-line Operator of Portland's drinking water system. I welcome the opportunity to continue to help shape the future of these public health systems that are vital in so many ways to the sustainability and livability of Portland.

My goal in serving is to bring the perspective and value of system stewardship to benefit the PUB as a whole in meeting the mandates and expectations of Portland City Council, while increasing the end users confidence of the well intentioned management and competent operation of the city's drinking, storm and waste water systems.

**Allan Warman** is a Business Customer Manager at Portland General Electric, and has a Master's in Applied Economics from PSU, BA in Economic and a BS in Horticulture both from Washington State University. He has worked mostly in the private sector since 1979, including a long tenure with The Boeing Co. as an Energy and Conservation Manager and PGE. Allan has served on numerous non-profit boards.

Reason for wanting to serve on the PUB:

As one of the first residents selected to serve on the PUB, I have found this experience to be challenging and personally rewarding as we have attempted to provide a vital perspective for the members of City Council as they deliberate on issues relating to the Bureaus.

I would like to continue to use my broad and deep professional background addressing a wide array of utility issues facing the City. Presently my work at PGE brings me in contact with most of the City's bureaus. I have a vast working knowledge of the City's water, environmental services and transportation Bureaus and I understand how the Council and Bureau leadership and staff work together to lead the direction of Portland's future.

In the last years as a PUB member and now as co-chair, I am very proud of the work we have done and there is much more to accomplish. I have gained a lot of experience and knowledge and it would be important for our mutual goals to continue. Our goal of being the voice to

advocate for rate payers is of paramount importance and we also have clear goals to make recommendations to Council on issues relating to the Bureaus including budget, staffing and evaluations.

### **New Voting Members**

#### **Heidi Bullock**

Heidi Bullock is an environmental program manager with the Port of Portland who is working with a team on cleaning up the Portland Harbor in a way that is protective of the health of Portlanders and the environment and affordable for the region. Heidi has worked in the environmental industry for over twenty years serving in a variety of technical and management roles. As a scientist she has experience with site investigations, feasibility studies, remedial design and operations, and laboratory analysis work. She also has experience managing both projects and staff. Her project management experience includes project scoping, proposal and budget preparation, project/team coordination, and technical report preparation and review. Heidi also has executive management experience serving as the Portland Business Unit Manager for an environmental engineering consulting firm for three years before joining the Port of Portland.

Heidi believes that everyone has the right to clean air and water and values her work in protecting and preserving those resources.

Heidi holds a B.S. in Applied Biology from Utah State University and an M.S. in Hydrology from the University of Idaho.

Reason for wanting to serve on the PUB:

Clean drinking water and healthy rivers and watersheds are important to me and our community, and I would be honored to have the opportunity to apply my skills, especially in environmental science, to ensure those resources continue to be available and provided to the Portland community.

My reason and goal is simply not to fulfill a civic responsibility but to give something back to the community and help shape policy.

#### **Dory Robinson**

Dory Robinson is a leader among Environmental professionals, and dedicated to advancing the needs for people of color in her work toward Environmental Justice. It is with pleasure and a sense of duty that she joins PUB. Since 2016, Dory has worked in the Water Quality program at the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). As the Northwest Region Water Quality Permit Coordinator, she works on the Underground Injection Control (UIC) and 401 programs as well as the wastewater permitting. Dory has expertise in project management,



compliance and problem solving which she gained in her roles at DEQ and internationally with PLANET HK International, where she worked as medical product registrar and FDA regulator in Shanghai, China. She received her Bachelor's degree in Philosophy from Loyola Marymount University in California. Honors and awards for her work include: presenting at philosophy consortiums at University of Memphis and conferences with Rutgers & Princeton University. Dory is a member of Project Management Institute (PMI), International Professional Women's Society Asia (IPWS). She is a local member of the International Association for Public Participation – Cascade Chapter (IAP2) and Portland's Environmental Professionals of Color (EPOC) network. Dory is passionate about constructing, maintaining and sharing environmental justice. She advocates for equity and diversity through education, discussion and activities that promote resiliency, healing and empowerment for all vulnerable communities.

Reason for wanting to serve on the PUB:

I am very much aligned with the goals and focus of PUB and I would like to use the skills I gained working in the fields of project management, public administration, and communications to positively contribute to this team. I have a strong passion and experience in improving and maintaining high standards for water quality in my work for the State of Oregon. I would be honored to advocate on behalf of and for the benefit of ALL Portland residents; especially People of Color and all people from underrepresented groups like myself. My primary goal is to fully participate in PUB's mission to develop & advise fair, consistent, and equitable outcomes on all pertinent aspects of water quality. My secondary goal is to enhance PUB's visibility & community recognition within Portland neighborhoods, communities of color, and local businesses.

My administrative experience and leadership skills will prove useful to your board. My role at the Oregon DEQ has touched on water, sewer, stormwater, and other programs and communities that are affected by water quality. In my profession, I analyze, interpret, and explain fundamental DEQ and ORS laws, policies and data applicable to water quality permits. In addition, I educate staff, industry professionals, the public, and other governmental agencies in the form of accessibly written reports in statistical or narrative form, and presentations. Enhancing staff performance and resourcefulness are some of my key strengths. I get along well with others and I thrive on finding resolutions to problems. I love working with people that have a strong ethical compass and who prefer to help and inspire others as I do. I am confident that these qualities together with my commitment to get to work will be an asset to PUB.

## **Ex-Officio Members**

### **Reappointments**

**Ana Brophy** is a Capital Project Manager with the Bureau of Environmental Services where she is responsible for overall project management activities related to design and contract administration for large-scale multi-disciplinary and multi-phased Capital projects for sewer rehabilitation, stormwater, and vertical construction. She has 33 years of private and municipal

experience in renovation of military family housing, subdivision development, road construction, surveying, trenchless sewer construction, stormwater management, human resource management, staff training, and budget development.

Ana serves in the BES Specifications Committee, BES Stormwater Management Committee, and BES Construction Change Management Committee. 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. Ana is a mentor in the City Mentoring Program, hosts interns interested in engineering from disadvantaged high schools in the summer, volunteers with Women in the Trades and has served in the Rockwood Boys Scouts.

Reason for wanting to serve on the PUB:

To serve Portland Citizens by collaborating with the PUB on advising City Council on the bureau's CIP budgets, strategic plan, protection of water quality and watershed health, efficiency of operations, sustainability and resilience, regulatory compliance, public policy, economic development, green infrastructure, engagement of under-represented communities, equity for under-served and under-represented populations, and increased transparency.

**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.

### **New Appointment**

**Vera Zaharova** is an Accountant III with the Bureau of Environmental Services and has experience in Accounting and Finance for 13 years. She manages Procurement Card Program for BES, processes Accounts Receivable and reconciling permit projects costs with permit deposits. Vera volunteers with Slavic Empowerment Team, BES Committee for Equity and Diversity, PEER volunteer, and Grace in Action recovery center.

Reason for wanting to serve on the PUB:

I want to gain great level of understanding how Water and BES programs operate and benefit citizens of Portland. I am hoping to learn and also offer my knowledge and experience working with diverse communities, in areas of accounting, finance, budget and equity.