

Public Comment for May 19, 2021 TDPUD Board meeting

Please read the following aloud at the Board meeting, during public comments. It will take approximately just over two minutes to read.

The Truckee Donner Public Utility District does a great job in providing reliable power and high quality water to its customers. Ratepayers are quite satisfied in that regard.

However, there is room for improvement in other areas. The Board of Directors can do better.

Why did the Board relax the education and managerial experience requirements for the General Manager position after Peckham and McKenney had released the hiring brochure? Originally, in both the 2020 and 2021 executive searches, a Bachelor's degree was required. Then, at some point during the process, it was no longer required. Also required were five to ten years of executive management experience. This requirement was also relaxed. Why did the requirements change mid-stream?

In this light, the selection of Brian Wright as the new GM appears to be a pre-determined selection. Why did the Board allocate tens of thousands of rate-payer dollars retaining Peckham and McKenney to conduct a second search for a new GM? Was it to fulfill some regulations and give the appearance that it was a legitimate search? It appears that the criteria were changed to fit the pre-selected candidate rather than selecting from qualified applicants per the original, advertised search criteria.

The process the Board ultimately followed was not fair to fully qualified applicants. It was not fair to others who may not have applied in the first place because they didn't meet those originally advertised requirements.

I hope Brian Wright does great things for the TDPUD. However, it does not appear that the process was geared to find the best candidate, the person with the experience, appropriate education, and the best temperament and aptitude for this GM position. It was geared to conveniently pre-select one candidate, Brian Wright. Period.

Next, I would like to know if there is a plan to re-instate in-person Board meetings when the California co-vid regulations allow.

I would like these questions presented and answered. The public deserves your acknowledgement, your attention, and your answers. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Becky Mazzer