

March 18, 2025

The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of PUD No. One of Wahkiakum County, Washington was held on the above date with Board President Robert Jungers presiding. Also in attendance were Board Vice President Presiding Dennis Reid, Board Secretary Eugene Healy, Director of Finance Erin Wilson, Attorney Tim Hanigan, Secretary Katie Thomas, Town Councilpersons Laurel Waller and Jeanne Hendrickson, and Wahkiakum Eagle Newspaper reporter Jen Figueroa.

The meeting convened at 8:30 a.m.

ROLL CALL:

Town Councilperson Robert Stowe and the general public attended by Zoom teleconference.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Reid moved to approve the agenda as submitted and Commissioner Healy seconded. The motion passed 3-0.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Commissioner Healy moved to approve the special meeting minutes of February 26, 2025, the regular meeting minutes of March 4, 2025, and the special meeting/executive meeting minutes of March 11, 2025, as submitted. Commissioner Reid seconded. The motion passed 3-0.

APPROVAL OF FINANCES

With regard to the following electric and water vouchers submitted by Auditor Erin Wilson, Commissioner Reid moved to approve the electric and water vouchers as submitted and Commissioner Healy seconded. Commissioner Reid commented they had ample opportunity to review the vouchers and were ready to vote. The motion passed 3-0.

Total Vouchers Approved: \$533,053.89

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment at that time.

DISCUSSION TOPIC:

Long Range Planning

No report.

Consolidation Status Update

Commissioner Healy reported he attended the Town of Cathlamet meeting last night where Councilperson Laurel Waller received approval to be a committee of one to work with the PUD directly regarding the potential consolidation.

REPORTS:

Manager Kay:

Director of Finance Erin Wilson delivered the following report for Manager Kay in his absence:

- Staff has hired Shelby Garrett as the Director of Finance, and Bryce Heiner has been hired for the water department, both starting March 26.
- EV chargers have been installed in the warehouse and the grant has been closed out.
- The cyber-security assessment is complete and the grant has been closed out.
- We are still waiting on the water test results from the Puget Island Water System; there should be an update at the next meeting.
- New customer construction is picking up and the electric crew is busy with new customer installations.
- The Beaver Creek Road overhead-to-underground project is complete.
- Crews are continuing the overhead-to-underground project on Country Road off of Beaver Creek.

Director of Finance Wilson:

Director of Finance Erin Wilson reported she attended the Town of Cathlamet meeting last night. She is also working on the annual report and looks forward to working with Shelby starting next week.

Commissioner Healy:

Commissioner Healy reported he attended the PPC meeting on March 5 and 6 in Portland. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Healy reported he attended the COG Forum where County Commissioner Dan Cothren spoke about timber sales in Wahkiakum County. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Healy reported he attended the Town of Cathlamet meeting last night.

Commissioner Reid:

Commissioner Reid commented he attended the funeral service for former Chelan County PUD Commissioner Dennis Bolz on Saturday.

Commissioner Jungers:

Commissioner Jungers commented Manager Kay visited his office last week and left the most current Town Water System Plan. Commissioner Jungers has studied the plan and found alarming information, including a 13-year-old line item to replace or install a new raw water intake in the Elochoman River. Another objective is to replace the existing concrete asbestos piping, approximately 5,000-feet, serving the vast majority of fire hydrants in the system. Right now, it appears the hydrants are being served by a 4"—6" pipe, and regulations call for at least 8" mains. Commissioner Jungers cautioned everyone of the potential hazards in the east county that has little or no fire protection. Discussion ensued.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Wahkiakum Eagle Newspaper reporter Jen Figueroa asked questions regarding BPA day-ahead market and how it will affect rate payers here. She also asked about BPA's high turnover rate and loss of employees. Discussion ensued.

ACTION ITEM:**Resolution No. 1295 - A Resolution Appointing Shelby J. Garrett as Director of Finance and Statutory Auditor Pursuant to RCW 54.24.010**

Commissioner Reid moved to approve Resolution No. 1295 - A Resolution Appointing Shelby J. Garrett as Director of Finance and Statutory Auditor Pursuant to RCW 54.24.010 as submitted and Commissioner Healy seconded. There was no public comment at that time. The motion passed 3-0.

ADJORNMENT:

The regular meeting was adjourned at 9:11 a.m.

The next regular meeting is April 1, 2025, at 8:30 a.m. in the PUD Meeting Room.

Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of March 18, 2025.

Robert Jungers, President

Dennis Reid, Vice President

Eugene Healy, Secretary