

March 15, 2022

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 Dennis Reid, Board Secretary Eugene Healy, General Manager Daniel Kay, Auditor Erin Wilson, Attorney Tim Hanigan, and Secretary Katie Thomas.

The meeting convened at 8:30 a.m.

ROLL CALL:

Wahkiakum Eagle Newspaper Reporter Diana Zimmerman and the general public attended by Zoom teleconference.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Healy made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on March 1, 2022 as submitted and 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 made a motion to approve the vouchers for electric and water as submitted. Commissioner Healy seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Total Vouchers Approved: \$ 294,747.03

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment at that time.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Discussion ensued regarding the potential removal of the Open Discussion period from the agenda. Commissioner Reid commented that the removal would force everyone to plan ahead and the time is used only for discussion and not action. Manager Kay commented that if a topic will require an in-depth discussion or research to give Janna a heads-up to put it on the agenda so everyone knows. The board unanimously agreed to leave the Open Discussion period on the agenda.

DISCUSSION TOPIC:

Long Range Planning

Manager Kay led a detailed discussion of BPA's tiered rate methodology. The rate period high water mark for Tier 1 is 4.775MW average with 1MW buffer before getting into Tier 2 rates. Discussion ensued.

Reformat Agenda

This was already discussed as per Commissioner Jungers.

REPORTS:

Manager Kay:

Manager Kay reported that the legislative session ended last Thursday as several of the bills died off quickly. The arrearages bill supplemental budget has been approved and will be distributed by the Department of Commerce. Funds from the bill will be restricted to customers that received assistance from March 2020 to December 2021 due to Covid-19. Discussion ensued.

Manager Kay reported that the proposed transportation budget fuel excise tax was removed.

Manager Kay reported that Senate Bill 5803 died.

Manager Kay reported that House Bill 1117 regarding net ecological gain on projects died; however, there is a budget proviso tied in. Discussion ensued.

Manager Kay reported that there was a 2-hour power outage on Douglas Street Sunday night due to a fallen tree. Discussion ensued.

Manager Kay reported that he is seeing growth on the water and electric side as the weather improves.

Manager Kay reported that he is working with the county on flood mitigation, culvert repairs, and slide prevention.

Manager Kay reported that he met with Steve Carson and David Olson regarding the public Wi-Fi project. They requested assistance installing the Wi-Fi hardware, and the PUD will be providing a lineman and bucket truck on Friday.

Manager Kay stated that he met with Asplundh Tree Service regarding the tree-trimming project. They are experiencing a labor shortage and their new trucks haven't shown up, resulting in the need to complete the project in small increments. Discussion ensued.

Manager Kay reported that he will meet with Mike Johnson from Gray & Osborne and the Department of Health to update the water plans at the end of the month to discuss water load forecast, capital projects, and funding.

Manager Kay reported he will be attended the WPUDA meetings this week.

Manager Kay reported that next week is Spring Break and he will be out of the office Tuesday through Friday.

Commissioner Healy commented that Senator Tim Sheldon is retiring. Discussion ensued.

Auditor Wilson:

Auditor Wilson reported that Apprentice Frank Mendez has advanced to step four. There are about 1,000 hours per step and there are six steps total until he is a journeyman lineman.

Auditor Wilson will continue to report on arrearages and see what can be done for customers. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Healy:

Commissioner Healy reported that he attended or will attend the following meetings:

March 2-3: PPC

March 7: Town Council meeting-Robert Stowe has been assigned as the PUD liaison; the appointment should be finalized at the Town's next meeting

March 10: Legislative update

March 11: PPC quarterly meeting of elected utility leaders

March 24: Council of Government

Commissioner Healy requested to be excused from the meeting if it went past 9:40 a.m. Commissioner Jungers approved the request although he didn't think the meeting would last that much longer.

Commissioner Healy requested approval to attend the second meeting in April via Zoom as he will be out of town. Commissioner Jungers approved the request.

Commissioner Reid:

Commissioner Reid reported that he will be attending WPUDA meetings via Zoom the rest of week, as well as the meetings in April.

Commissioner Jungers:

Commissioner Jungers informed Manager Kay there was a light bulb burned out on the backside of the building. Manager Kay will check it out.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Wahkiakum Eagle Newspaper Reporter Diana Zimmerman commented that she was curious what brought about the removal of the Public Comment section, and Commissioner Jungers informed her it was the Open Discussion period and not the public Comment period.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 9:22 a.m.

Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of March 15, 2022.

Robert Jungers, President

Dennis Reid, Vice President

Eugene Healy, Secretary