

August 2, 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, Secretary Katie Thomas, and Electric Foreman Shane Pfenniger.

The meeting convened at 8:30 a.m.

ROLL CALL:

Town Councilman Robert Stowe, Wahkiakum Eagle Newspaper Reporter Diana Zimmerman, and the general public attended by Zoom teleconference.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Commissioner Reid moved to approve the agenda as submitted and Commissioner Healy seconded the motion. Commissioner Reid asked how long the executive session would last and Commissioner Jungers confirmed it would last twenty minutes. There is no decision or action expected. The motion passed 3-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Healy made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on July 19, 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. Commissioner Reid commented the commissioners had reviewed all vouchers and were ready to approve. The motion passed 3-0.

Total Vouchers Approved: \$ 155,891.48

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment at that time.

DISCUSSION TOPIC:

LONG RANGE PLANNING—Fleet Assessment

Manager Kay reviewed the process and goals of the fleet assessment, including where the utility is now and where it needs to be while balancing safety, reliability, and costs. He stated the fleet assessment is not a static plan but is always evolving and adapting. Discussion ensued.

REPORTS:

Manager Kay:

Electric Foreman Shane Pfenniger reported the electric crew recently took a field trip to Lewis County PUD for a tour of their custom-made utility vehicles. Discussion ensued.

Shane exited the meeting at 9:06 a.m.

Manager Kay reported a step-down transformer will be installed on KM Mountain to reduce the voltage as the insulation on the wires is insufficient for the current load. The voltage will be stepped-up on the other side. Discussion ensued.

Manager Kay reported the state passed heat-related laws for working outside in response to last week's heat wave. Crews have been more conscious of the type of work they are doing and taking more breaks during the heat.

Manager Kay reported a water valve was isolated and replaced due to a broken shaft.

Manager Kay stated system mapping is part of long-range planning, and some valves have already been mapped.

Manager Kay stated he has been notified the PUD made it through the second round of congressional funding for the Puget Island Water System. The third round is congressional approval.

Manager Kay stated he has made contact with the property owner on the island with the 80-foot well. The property owner has agreed to have a water sample drawn later this week for testing.

Manager Kay reported only one power outage during the recent heat wave due to a contractor knocking the power out.

Manager Kay reported increasing vegetation management pressure from legislators and insurance requirements. He proposed tightening up the comprehensive vegetation management policy/plan and submitting it to the commissioners. Discussion ensued.

Town Councilman Robert Stowe exited the meeting 9:18 a.m.

Manager Kay reported he attended a WWUC water committee meeting for utilities. The Department of Health is concerned more utilities are not applying for funding and loans.

Manager Kay reported he and Auditor Wilson met with Energy Northwest to discuss cyber security.

Manager Kay reported he met with Charter Spectrum regarding the pole attachment contract. Charter Spectrum is getting ready to submit the pole design.

Manager Kay stated he asked the BPA representative to attend a September meeting to update the commissioners.

Manager Kay reported he will attend the PPC this week with Commissioner Healy.

Auditor Wilson:

Auditor Wilson reported the arrearages to the Department of Commerce for their specified time frame. The electric arrearages were \$41,151.00 and water arrearages were \$6,500.00 as of March 31, 2022.

Auditor Wilson reported the Public Employee Retirement System (PERMS) employer contribution rate will be going up from 10.25% to 10.39% of employees' gross wages.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the 2018-2021 power costs and corresponding average monthly temperatures.

Commissioner Healy:

Commissioner Healy reported he attended the COG meeting on July 28, 2022.

Commissioner Healy reported he listened to the Town Council meeting last night.

Commissioner Healy reported he will attend the PPC meetings on Wednesday and Thursday, although he will be a few minutes late to the Wednesday meeting.

Commissioner Healy provided further details of the Town Council meeting:

- Town Council members discussed that some employees have debit cards, but they are discovering that is sending town funds to a recipient without approval. They will be switching to credit cards.
- Mike Johnson from Gray & Osborne discussed looking into sewer growth and expansion and the associated issues.

- An interim zoning ordinance forbidding living spaces on the first floor of buildings on Main Street was passed.

Commissioner Reid:

Commissioner Reid reported Jefferson County received \$1.8 million for broadband infrastructure for 325 people, which average to approximately \$5,500.00 for each hookup if everyone participated.

Commissioner Reid reported Chelan County PUD will turn off their reclosure functions in the event of extreme weather or wildfire. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Jungers:

Commissioner Jungers reported the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission green lighted twelve units in Idaho laboratories that can produce 77mw each. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Jungers reported several companies have developed plasma cutting technology for directional boring, ranging from 2-inch to 18-ft diameter tunnels. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Healy asked if Energy Northwest is using their own recycled fuel pellets or purchasing from other entities. Discussion ensued.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at that time.

Executive Session:

The executive session was conducted with Board President Robert Jungers presiding. Also in attendance were Board Vice President Dennis Reid and Board Secretary Eugene Healy.

Commissioner Jungers recessed the regular meeting at 9:44 a.m. to enter into executive session for twenty minutes to review and discuss the performance of a public employee.

There is no action or decision expected.

The executive session was exited and the regular meeting re-entered at 10:14 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 10:14 a.m.

Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of August 2, 2022.

Robert Jungers, President

Dennis Reid, Vice President

Eugene Healy, Secretary