

April 2, 2024

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 Eugene Healy presiding. Also in attendance were Board Vice President Robert Jungers, Board Secretary Dennis Reid, General Manager Daniel Kay, Auditor Erin Wilson, Attorney Tim Hanigan, Secretary Katie Thomas, Town Councilpersons Laurel Waller and Jeanne Hendrickson, Cathlamet Mayor David Olson, and Wahkiakum County Eagle Newspaper representative Stacey Lane.

The meeting convened at 8:30 a.m.

**ROLL CALL:**

Wahkiakum County Eagle Newspaper representative John Anderson and the general public attended by Zoom teleconference.

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Commissioner Jungers moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on March 19, 2024, 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 moved to approve the vouchers for electric and water as submitted. Commissioner Jungers seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Total Vouchers Approved:       \$237,291.54

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Mayor David Olson thanked the PUD for being a partner in the WiFi program, and stated he received a comment from Rainier asking how the joint project was completed. Mayor Olson told them it was due to a good partnership with the PUD, Town, Port, and Chamber of Commerce. He invited a commissioner to join the discussion if Rainier sends a delegation to learn more.

Mayor Olson also commented he doesn't want any misunderstandings between the Town and PUD. He had previously spoken with Auditor Wilson and Manger Kay regarding the

consolidation feasibility study and wanted to continue to cooperate and push transparency. Discussion ensued. Mayor David Olson exited the meeting at 8:39 a.m.

Town Councilperson Jeanne Hendrickson commented she has never met behind closed doors or discussed the feasibility report, which she has not seen yet. She has met with Manager Kay, although not PUD staff, and doesn't understand the comments from Mayor Olson. Town Councilperson Laurel Waller agreed with Ms. Hendrickson's comments.

#### **DISCUSSION TOPIC:**

##### ***Long-Range Planning***

Manager Kay had nothing to add at this time.

#### **REPORTS:**

##### ***Manager Kay:***

Manager Kay reported Auditor Wilson is working on Commissioner Healy's request for a project and funding synopsis.

Manager Kay reported he declined funding from the Public Works Board (PWB) on the North Hull Creek Road project as PWB has archeological requirements that will add \$5,000-\$10,000 to the project. Discussion ensued.

Manager Kay reported Gray & Osborne is moving forward with the Puget Island well project. They have notified the Department of Health and the well will be drilled later this year.

Manager Kay reported the Crossdike looping project design will be submitted later this week by Gray & Osborne.

Manager Kay reported Gray & Osborne is working on the design for the Western Wahkiakum project.

Manager Kay reported the electric side is ramping up on construction, customer projects, and infrastructure projects.

Manager Kay reported the water crew received a new fusion pipe welder for working on pipes up to 8-inches. Discussion ensued.

Manager Kay reported he attended the Town Council meeting last night, and will attend PPC meetings later this week.

***Auditor Wilson:***

Auditor Wilson reported she attended the WPUDA meeting regarding low-income water assistance and water system receivership. Discussion ensued.

Auditor Wilson reported she sat in on a CETA low-income workshop presented by the Department of Commerce. Discussion ensued regarding program design and different funding possibilities.

Auditor Wilson reported the CETA report was due April 1 and it was completed and submitted on time.

Auditor Wilson reported she will be submitting information to the State Auditor's Office this week for the CETA Audit.

***Commissioner Reid:***

Commissioner Reid reported he attended the quarterly WPUDA Water Committee meeting and discussed the following:

- Utility relocation for salmon recovery; reimbursement bill failed in legislation;
- The Department of Health Bill requiring utilities to take over troubled water systems in receivership didn't pass; the County must take over. Discussion ensued.
- Department of Health was not aware they would be in charge of the low-income assistance program for water; they have until June 2025 to present a solution.

Commissioner Reid reported he will not be attending the WPUDA Annual Conference next week unless a portion is on Zoom.

***Commissioner Jungers:***

Commissioner Jungers reported he attended the WaFi meeting; no action was taken.

***Commissioner Healy:***

Commissioner Healy reported:

- He attended the Council of Governments meeting via Zoom;
- He listened to the Town Council meeting via Zoom last night;
- He will not be able to attend the PPC meeting this month;

Commissioner Jungers mentioned he will not be able to attend the quarterly WaFi meeting on June 20, if either of the commissioners would like to attend.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Town Councilperson Jeanne Hendrickson commented the mentorship program at Elochoman Millworks is a wonderful opportunity to bring area youth into a local industry. Discussion ensued.

## **ACTION ITEMS:**

### **Resolution No. 1285—A Resolution Adopting Amendments to the Senior or Disabled Citizen Discount Program Income Guidelines and Adopting Amendments to the Residential Energy Assistance Program Policy and Income Guidelines**

Commissioner Reid moved to approve Resolution No. 1285—A Resolution Adopting Amendments to the Senior or Disabled Citizen Discount Program Income Guidelines and Adopting Amendments to the Residential Energy Assistance Program Policy and Income Guidelines as submitted and Commissioner Jungers seconded. There was no public comment at that time. The motion passed 3-0.

## **ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:37 a.m.

The next regular meeting is April 16, 2024, at 8:30 a.m. in the PUD meeting room.

Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of April 2, 2024.

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**Eugene Healy**, President

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**Robert Jungers**, Vice President

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**Dennis Reid**, Secretary