

September 6, 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 Sheriff Mark Howie.

The meeting convened at 8:30 a.m.

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

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

**ROLL CALL:**

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

**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 they had ample time to review the vouchers and were ready to approve. The motion passed 3-0.

Total Vouchers Approved:       \$ 202,590.64

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Commissioner Healy made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on August 16, 2022 as submitted and Commissioner Reid seconded. The motion passed 3-0.

Ron Wright entered the meeting at 8:33 a.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Sheriff Howie presented an initiative to add 0.2% to the county sales tax in order to fund a new emergency radio system. The current county sales tax is one of the lowest in the state at 7.6%. The additional 0.2% would add twenty cents to every one hundred dollars spent in Wahkiakum County. The current radio system is outdated and inadequate to meet the county's needs. Sheriff Howie also reported federal dollars are being requested to help fund the upgrade. Discussion ensued.

Sheriff Howie and Ron Wright exited the meeting at 8:49 a.m.

## **OPEN DISCUSSION**

There was no public comment at that time.

Commissioner Reid commented that many internet providers are unable to reach “the last mile” and many homes aren’t being served with high-speed internet. He would like to see internet companies reach every customer. Discussion ensued.

## **DISCUSSION TOPIC:**

**LONG RANGE PLANNING---Intent to apply for Department of Commerce Funding for the intended use of mapping the District’s Electric System for the purpose of providing affordable and accessible access to utility infrastructure for broadband deployment**

Manager Kay stated one the PUD’s goals is to get the electric and water systems in the county mapped and would like to apply for funding. Discussion ensued regarding software systems, potential costs, and data gathering and entry.

## **REPORTS:**

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

Manager Kay reported the District contracted with Advanced Diving earlier this year to conduct tank cleaning and inspections to be completed this week.

Manager Kay reported crews are busy finding and repairing leaks on Fairview Road and in the Skamokawa and Altoona Pillar Rock Road areas.

Manager Kay reported the water sample and chloroform testing on the private well on SR 409 came back satisfactorily.

Manager Kay reported the electric side is busy with new construction line extensions.

Manager Kay reported crews are continuing to replace poles on the pole testing and treating program.

Manager Kay reported crews are tree trimming when possible.

Manager Kay reported Auditor Wilson is helping sort through grant information and applying where appropriate.

Manager Kay reported he is coordinating with the Town and Mayor Olson to apply for funding.

Manager Kay reported there is asbestos tile under the carpet in the meeting room. It will cost approximately \$6,000.00 for an environmental contractor to properly clean up the room. Manager Kay will put together a scope of work.

Manager Kay reported BPA representatives will be here at the next meeting to provide an update on BPA.

Manager Kay reported he is still working through supply chain issues and is seeing high numbers of poor-quality components. Discussion ensued.

Manager Kay reported one bird related power outage recently.

Manager Kay reported he will attend WPUDA meetings next week.

***Auditor Wilson:***

Auditor Wilson reported the PUD had a preliminary budget in the office on or before the first Monday in September as required. She is still working on the preliminary budget and is hoping to present it in early October.

Auditor Wilson reported she applied for a grant to organize the file room. Shredding services and new file cabinets were requested but the grant was denied. She will work organizational projects into the budget and will apply for additional grants.

***Commissioner Healy:***

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

August 25-Cowlitz/Wahkiakum Council of Governments meeting  
August 31 and September 1-PPC meetings  
September 6-Town Council meeting

***Commissioner Reid:***

Commissioner Reid reported he will attend WPUDA meetings in Olympia next week, but will not be attending the water workshop in Spokane.

***Commissioner Jungers:***

Commissioner Jungers had no report at that time.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment at that time.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **Intent to apply for Department of Commerce Funding for the intended use of mapping the District's Electric System for the purpose of providing affordable and accessible access to utility infrastructure for broadband deployment**

Commissioner Reid made a motion to approve the application to the Department of Commerce for the intent to apply for Department of Commerce funding for the intended use of mapping the District's Electric System for the purpose of providing affordable and accessible access to utility infrastructure for broadband deployment and Commissioner Healy seconded. There was no public comment. The motion passed 3-0.

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:36 a.m.

Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of September 6, 2022.

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**Robert Jungers**, President

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**Dennis Reid**, Vice President

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**Eugene Healy**, Secretary