

March 19, 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 Timothy Hanigan, Secretary Katie Thomas, and Town Councilperson Jeanne Hendrickson.

The meeting convened at 8:30 a.m.

ROLL CALL:

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 5, 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: \$249,548.56

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment at that time.

DISCUSSION TOPIC:

Long-Range Planning

Manager Kay reported Representative Marie Gluesenkamp Perez left him a message confirming the award for \$960,000.00 for the Puget Island Water System. Discussion ensued regarding the separate phases, awarded funds, and reimbursement.

Commissioner Healy requested a spreadsheet listing the grant applications made for each project and at what stage the projects are in.

Auditor Wilson provided a brief recap of all grants and projects currently active.

Income Guidelines for Assistance Programs

Auditor Wilson provided the attached handout to explain the Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA) low-income guidelines and explained how that will impact the District. Discussion ensued. Auditor Wilson requested a Resolution for the next meeting to adjust levels as requirements are updated.

Town Councilperson Laurel Waller entered the meeting at 8:54 a.m.

REPORTS:

Manager Kay:

Manager Kay commented he met with Wahkiakum Eagle representative Stacey Lane and will be sending her information for publication.

Manager Kay reported the District met the Department of Ecology's submission deadline for the drought preparedness grant application for west-end engineering to prepare for a shovel-ready project.. Discussion ensued.

Manager Kay reported the EPA has mandated that utilities must verify lead service line connections. He will work with the Department of Health to narrow down which customers may have anything other than HDPE or PVC. Discussion ensued.

Manager Kay reported the District has submitted the water rights application to the Department of Ecology for the Puget Island water project.

Manager Kay commented even though this is a low-danger area, a Wildfire Mitigation plan must be submitted and the District still has to go through the process. Manager Kay commented current procedures and practices, like tree trimming, already help with the mitigation. Discussion ensued.

Manager Kay reported crews are working on substation maintenance, landscaping, and mowing. Crews are also busy with new customer connections, and water and electric line projects.

Manager Kay reported he attended the recent PPC and Town Council meetings.

Manager Kay reported he has had several meetings with the west end residents regarding their water shortage issue and has presented them with several options. Manager Kay

commented one customer has stepped forward and elected to reestablish an old meter location with a new meter box and frost-free hydrant. Discussion ensued.

Auditor Wilson:

Auditor Wilson commented there hasn't been a lot of grant costs to date, but soon we will start receiving reimbursements.

Auditor Wilson reported she is focusing on the SAO annual report and CETA audit.

Commissioner Reid:

Commissioner Reid reported he attended the March WPUDA meetings on Zoom last week. Next week he will attend the WPUDA quarterly water meeting via Zoom. He mentioned he was planning to go to the annual conference next month but he will be cancelling his reservation due to the excessive cost.

Commissioner Reid reported he will attend commissioner education on Wednesday; the speakers will discuss studies on the carbon-zero goal by 2050.

Commissioner Reid reported Thurston County PUD received a \$10million federal grant for rebuilding their water system.

Commissioner Reid recapped the recent Senate and House Bills that passed or failed. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Jungers:

Commissioner Jungers commented the Legislature recently approved a \$25million grant to Energy Northwest.

Commissioner Jungers reported he attended the recent Chamber of Commerce meeting. They discussed the Crab & Oyster Feed success, a centennial ferry celebration for 2025, and an application for a grant for maintenance at the Julia Butler Hansen house. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Healy:

Commissioner Healy provided the following report:

Attended PPC on March 5-6. The reserve distribution clause is provided for in the Northwest Power Act; if BPA reserves get too high, they have to refund the excess to utilities. Discussion ensued.

Attended the forum for utility-elected leaders on March 13.

Attended Town Council meeting last night.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Town Councilperson Jeanne Hendrickson mentioned someone told her the charging cord at the EV station on Butler Street is too short for most vehicles and the initial cost to plug-in is excessive at \$5.00. Manager Kay offered to speak with her regarding these issues outside the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 10:02 a.m.

The next regular meeting is April 2, 2024, at 8:30 a.m. in the PUD meeting room.

Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of March 19, 2024.

Eugene Healy, President

Robert Jungers, Vice President

Dennis Reid, Secretary