

May 3, 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, Professional Engineer Mike Johnson, Lead Water Utility Jim Jespersion, and Utilityperson 1 Doug Condon.

The meeting convened at 8:27 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 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 April 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 they had ample time to review the vouchers and were ready to approve. The motion passed 3-0.

Total Vouchers Approved: \$ 182,172.35

PRESENTATION – Mike Johnson, P.E., Gray & Osborne

Professional Engineer Mike Johnson reported that the Puget Island Water System Plan will expire in September of this year. He has met with representatives from the Department of Health to discuss the different options available to update the plan, including a full plan update, a limited plan update, or converting the system to a small water system management program. Discussion ensued regarding the pros and cons of the three options, including costs, plan longevity, permitting, and operations.

Utilityperson Bruce McClain entered the meeting at 8:36 a.m. and exited the meeting at 8:49 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Town Councilman Robert Stowe commented that the Town's grant applications have been submitted.

DISCUSSION TOPIC:

Long Range Planning

Manager Kay commented that the discussion topic will be kept on the agenda to keep matters fresh in commissioners' minds.

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding

Manager Kay reported that American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding was passed by Congress in March 2021. \$350 billion was budgeted and half used last year. The remaining funds will be used this year. The PUD cannot be a direct recipient of the funds but can apply through another recipient like the County. Some cyber-security upgrades have been budgeted, but he and Auditor Wilson will put together a package of needs and wants to approach County Commissioners to request grant funds.

Lead Water Utility Jim Jespersion and Utilityperson 1 Doug Condon exited the meeting at 9:28 a.m.

REPORTS:

Manager Kay:

Manager Kay reported that no tree-trimming bids were received in March. Through Legal's recommendation, he received a time and materials quote from Asplundh. The prices were very comparable to the 2020 rates submitted by Asplundh. Since the project has already been approved by the commissioners, Manager Kay will move forward with the tree-trimming project.

Manager Kay reported that pole testing and treating crews are working west of Rosburg now. There has been positive feedback from the public and the crews' work is satisfactory.

Manager Kay reported there will be a Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA) meeting this week with the Department of Commerce.

Manager Kay reported that PPC will be moving to in-person meetings so he will be in Portland later this week to attend the meeting.

Manager Kay reported several customers have submitted thank you letters to the PUD and work crews.

Auditor Wilson:

Auditor Wilson reported that she will have long-range financial and capital planning strategies available to share in the coming meetings.

Auditor Wilson reported that several budget line items may roll into next year due to supply chain issues.

Auditor Wilson reported that she has been researching with Manager Kay for staff training tools. For \$167.00 per month, the PUD will have access to training videos, a legal team for HR issues, and employee handbook development.

Commissioner Healy:

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

April 20-PPC 101 Series Power Supply Fundamentals: Non-Federal Alternatives

April 28-Cowlitz-Wahkiakum Council of Government

April 28-WPUDA presentation on Environmental Justice

May 2-Town of Cathlamet discussed utility-rate issues

May 4-PPC

Commissioner Healy commented that he received a note from legal counsel in regard to encouraging public involvement in the board's decision-making process. Discussion ensued. The board welcomes public comment on any action item after the motion has been made and seconded.

Commissioner Reid:

Commissioner Reid reported he attended the WPUDA presentation on Environmental Justice via Zoom.

Commissioner Jungers:

Commissioner Jungers had no report at that time.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at that time.

PIWS Hydrology Study Request

Commissioner Reid moved to approve the Manager's request for a hydrogeology study on the Puget Island Water System. Commissioner Healy seconded. Commissioner Reid commented that this will be the first step in considering any of the available options that were presented. Commissioner Healy stated he would like to see a short dissertation at the end of the report in simple terms what is discovered. There was no public comment at that time regarding the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 9:43 a.m.

Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of May 3, 2022.

Robert Jungers, President

Dennis Reid, Vice President

Eugene Healy, Secretary