

March 5, 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 Councilperson Jeanne Hendrickson, and Wahkiakum Eagle Newspaper Reporter Stacey Lane.

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 February 20, 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. Commissioner Reid commented the board had ample time to review the vouchers and were ready to vote. The motion passed 3-0.

Total Vouchers Approved: \$239,828.87

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment at that time.

DISCUSSION TOPIC:

Long-Range Planning

Manager Kay commented the Legislative session will end on March 7 and he should know shortly thereafter if the Puget Island water project is approved for funding. Discussion ensued regarding grant and loan options, and water rights acquisition.

REPORTS:

Manager Kay:

Manager Kay reported he solicited four bids for the tree trimming and vegetation project and has received two quotes. He has evaluated both quotes and recommends the commissioners accept Davey Tree Surgery. The limit the PUD will pay is \$125,000.00. Discussion ensued.

Manager Kay reported after the last meeting he met with Commissioner Reid and the west end group looking for short term solutions for their lack of water. He has been looking for drought preparedness grants from the Department of Ecology to help fund engineering costs for the project. Commissioner Reid commented he requested letters from the residents regarding their drought issues and has not received any response. Discussion ensued.

Manager Kay reported he met with Gray & Osborne; they are hoping to start the looping project construction in about a month and are putting together some construction drawings. The project will be 80% funded by the EPA.

Manager Kay reported Gray & Osborne is designing the 4,000-foot water line project from SR 4 to Fairview Road to be started this summer. They are also designing the Skamokawa extension east of the Duck Inn.

Manager Kay reported the electric crew is working on pole replacements on Crown Camp Road and Satterlund Road, along with brush clearing, road maintenance, and tree trimming.

Manager Kay reported another new water connection on Salmon Creek Road.

Manager Kay reported the Legislative session ends on March 7 and provided a quick review of the current Bills. He also mentioned he would like to consign the District's carbon allowances into the next auction while they still have value. Discussion ensued.

Manager Kay reported he and Commissioner Healy attended the COG Regional Information Forum last week.

Manager Kay reported he attended the County Commissioners' meeting.

Manager Kay reported he will attend the PPC meetings on Wednesday and Thursday this week.

Auditor Wilson:

Auditor Wilson reported the CETA audit will be starting in the next few months. She spoke on the phone with Tom Bernard from the state auditor's office to clarify details and audit parameters.

Auditor Wilson reported she is also working on the annual report and end-of-year tasks.

Commissioner Reid:

Commissioner Reid reported he attended the west end water meeting with county residents last week, and next week he will attend WPUA meetings by Zoom.

Commissioner Jungers:

Commissioner Jungers had no report at that time.

Commissioner Healy:

February 20-Attended Town Council meeting by Zoom.

February 27-Attended Council of Governments Forum. Topics discussed were how to keep the Julia Butler Hansen house in local hands, a centennial celebration for the ferry, and the sheriff's office is working on upgrading their radio system. Discussion ensued.

March 6-7-Will attend PPC meetings in Portland.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Town Councilperson Jeanne Hendrickson commented she is impressed with the way the meetings are run, the respect, and the level of knowledge Manager Kay brings to the PUD. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Reid commented Representative Joel McEntire was recently called to duty with military orders and will miss a vote in the Legislative session. His high school senior step-daughter, Lillian Hale, will be able to vote for him by proxy. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Jungers commented he was a reserve deputy for 31 years, and this county has the best deputies he's seen in a very long time. He is sad to see good deputies leave for better pay in neighboring counties because this county pays so much less. Discussion ensued.

ACTION ITEMS:

Award 2024 Tree Trimming and Vegetation Management Quote

Commissioner Reid moved to award the 2024 Tree Trimming and Vegetation Management quote as submitted by Davey Tree Surgery. Commissioner Jungers seconded. There was no public comment at that time. The motion passed 3-0.

Executive Session:

Commissioner Healy recessed the regular meeting at 9:18 a.m. to enter into executive session for twenty minutes to discuss the legal risks of current or proposed action with legal counsel as per RCW 42.30.110(1)(i).

There is no action or decision expected.

The executive session was exited and the regular meeting re-entered at 9:38 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 9:39 a.m.

The next regular meeting is March 19, 2024, at 8:30 a.m. in the PUD meeting room.

Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of March 5, 2024.

Eugene Healy, President

Robert Jungers, Vice President

Dennis Reid, Secretary