

February 7, 2023

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 Dennis Reid presiding. Also in attendance were Board Vice President Eugene Healy, Board Secretary Robert Jungers, General Manager Daniel Kay, Auditor Erin Wilson, Attorney Tim Hanigan, Secretary Katie Thomas, and county residents Jason Will and Mark Vik.

The meeting convened at 8:30 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 Healy moved to approve the agenda as submitted and Commissioner Jungers seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Jungers made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on January 17, 2023 as submitted and Commissioner Healy seconded. The motion passed 3-0.

APPROVAL OF FINANCES:

With regard to the following electric and water vouchers submitted by Auditor Erin Wilson, Commissioner Healy made a motion to approve the vouchers for electric and water as submitted. Commissioner Jungers seconded the motion. Commissioner Reid asked if the check for REAP was incoming funds or outgoing funds, and Auditor Wilson confirmed the funds were paid out of the program to five customers. Discussion ensued. The motion passed 3-0.

Total Vouchers Approved: \$416,078.38

PUBLIC HEARING

Commissioner Reid recessed the regular meeting and opened the public hearing at 8:33 a.m.

County resident Jason Will asked where on the PUD website he could find the plan to make comments. Manager Kay confirmed the proper notices were published in the newspaper and the topic was available to discuss at previous meetings. Manager Kay provided an overview of the water plan and stated it has to be updated every six years. Since the plan

had no changes, the least costly option was to do the Plan Conversion rather than the more expensive renewal.

Commissioner Jungers confirmed Mr. Will's questions had been answered.

Commissioner Reid closed the public hearing and reentered the regular meeting at 8:42 a.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment at that time.

DISCUSSION TOPIC:

Long Range Planning

Manager Kay commented he has met with Auditor Wilson to discuss the scope of work for the downstairs remodel.

PIWS Alternate Water Source Follow Up

Manager Kay commented that one of the District's priorities is to have a secondary source of water, as the current sole source is a mainline across the bridge. He would like to schedule a workshop with the Town to explore options and funding opportunities.

Manager Kay reported he and Auditor Wilson met with Mike Johnson of Gray & Osborne and the Town of Cathlamet's Mayor David Olson and Public Works Director David McNally to discuss the potential water source. Mayor Olson suggested a follow-up meeting with the District's Commissioners and the Town's Councilmembers. The PUD Commissioners supported the suggestion.

Attorney Hanigan commented he is making preliminary contact with land owners or their agents to explore temporary lease options to drill a test well. Once water testing to the District's satisfaction is complete, the PUD will have the option to purchase or enter into a long-term lease. Discussion ensued regarding costs, options, and potential depth of test well.

Further discussion ensued regarding other options available for a secondary water source, including drawing from the river, and why a well is being considered and not surface water. Manager Kay reminded the audience the Department of Ecology has very strict and specific requirements for drawing water from the river, and the costs for treating surface water is excessive.

REPORTS:

Manager Kay:

Manager Kay is working with legal to draft a customer letter to deal with the current RCW regarding the vegetation policy and wildfire mitigation.

Manager Kay reported crews are busy with customer growth and various projects.

Manager Kay reported the subdivision on the hill has been completed.

Manager Kay reported crews are aggressively replacing poles according to the pole test results.

Manager Kay reported the District is in a holding pattern for the Congressional direct spending. He is waiting to get the official award notification from Congress for the Puget Island project.

Manager Kay reported the water crew has been helping with flagging services on Highway 4 during pole replacement activities.

Manager Kay reported supply chain issues are making it difficult to stock poles.

Manager Kay reported one of the garage door openers is in the shop so some of the vehicles are parked outside.

Manager Kay reported BPA is trying to get a draft out by July 2023 for the post-2028 contract. Discussion ensued regarding priorities and maximizing the value of Tier 1 pricing.

Manager Kay reported the District has signed a letter of agreement with Energy NW to further investigate funding opportunities for electric and water projects.

Manager Kay reported the 2023 tree trimming quote package has been released. He has sent it to four companies so far.

Manager Kay reported Charter Spectrum has signed the pole attachment agreement, and he is still waiting on a couple communications companies.

Manager Kay reported the upstairs swing gate is a security issue and will install a stop on it for one-direction swing only.

Manager Kay reported he attended the Town of Cathlamet meeting on February 6.

Manager Kay commented he is requesting travel authorization for the utility energy forum in California. He has attended for several years now and received a scholarship again.

Auditor Wilson:

Auditor Wilson provided a detailed overview of the 2022 financials, including revenues, reimbursements, new growth, REAP, cost of water and power, taxes, operations and maintenance, customer service and administrative labor, health and welfare benefits, capital investments and special projects. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Jungers:

Commissioner Jungers reported he attended the Energy Northwest quarterly meeting in Olympia. Eight board members had been replaced in the previous three meetings he missed. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Healy:

Commissioner Healy reported he attended the following meetings:

Jan.19-Met with PUD officials from Legislative District 3 and Rep. Marie Gluesenkamp Perez.

Jan. 26-Cowlitz/Wahkiakum Council of Governments.

Feb. 6-Town Council meeting. Commissioner Healy noted the Town has established an emergency purchase policy to allow flexibility during their process of accepting a loan from the Department of Ecology in order to cut interest on the waste water treatment facility.

Commissioner Reid:

Commissioner Reid reported he will attend the PUD Association meetings next week by Zoom.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at that time.

ACTION ITEMS

Approve Puget Island Small Water System Management Plan Conversion

Commissioner Jungers moved to approve the Puget Island Small Water System Management Plan Conversion and Commissioner Healy seconded. There was no public comment at that time. The motion passed 3-0.

Resolution #1276—A Resolution Declaring an Emergency for the Purpose of Waiving Competitive Bidding Requirements for Procurement of Supplies, Equipment, Materials and Parts

Attorney Hanigan confirmed the changes the commissioners requested were made on the final draft of the Resolution, including bid requirements, manager reporting period, and the two-year sunset clause.

Commissioner Healy made a motion to approve Resolution #1276—A Resolution Declaring an Emergency for the Purpose of Waiving Competitive Bidding Requirements for Procurement of Supplies, Equipment, Materials and Parts, and Commissioner Jungers seconded. Discussion ensued regarding the use of “Emergency” in the title. There was no public comment at that time. The motion passed 3-0.

MEETINGS & TRAVEL APPROVAL REQUIRED:

Commissioner Jungers moved to approve travel for Manager Kay to attend the Utility Energy Forum in Cambria, CA on April 19-21, 2023, and Commissioner Healy seconded. The motion passed 3-0.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 10:04 a.m.

The next regular meeting is February 21, 2023 at 8:30 a.m. in the PUD meeting room.

Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of February 7, 2023.

Dennis Reid, President

Eugene Healy, Vice President

Robert Jungers, Secretary