

PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1
OF ASOTIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON
MEETING MINUTES
September 23, 2013

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President Judy Ridge presiding, the Public Utility District No. 1 of Asotin County Meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. at the PUD Office at 1500 Scenic Way.

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ROLL CALL: PRESENT Commissioners: Judy Ridge, Gary Hicks and Don Nuxoll.

PUD Staff: General Manager Tim Simpson, Treasurer Bob Sischo and Counsel Scott Broyles.

Members of the public were present.

MINUTES OF MEETING AND VOUCHER APPROVAL:

MOTION by Commissioner Don Nuxoll and seconded by Commissioner Gary Hicks to approve the consent agenda approving the minutes of the September 9, 2013 Regular Meeting and payment of the Transaction Vouchers covering vouchers #2865EFT through #2879EFT in the amount of \$25,801.88 and Blanket Transaction Voucher Approval Document covering vouchers #31815 through #31857, and Electronic Transaction Vouchers #13040101, #13092002, #13092003 and #13100101 in the amount of \$183,064.70. The question was called for on the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Port of Wilma Progress Report for Water System Transfer and Sewer System Upgrades

The manager reported that we are waiting on the US Army Corp of Engineers to provide documents for the reassignment of land easements from the Port of Whitman County to the PUD. He stated that Counsel continues to develop the water system transfer documents. The manager reported that we are waiting on a Whitman County Health Department (WCHD) review of the recent information provided by the Port on the proposed septic system drainfield. Once a determination is provided by the WCHD we will be able to discuss how to proceed with the Port of Wilma sewer system.

NEW BUSINESS

Set the 2014 Budget Hearing for Monday October 7, 2013

The manager stated that the draft operational budget for the 2014 calendar year has been developed and was placed in file on September 1, 2013. He stated that the Revised Code of Washington states that a budget hearing is required to be held the first Monday in October. The manager stated that October 7th is the first Monday.

MOTION by Commissioner Gary Hicks and seconded by Commissioner Don Nuxoll to set the 2014 Budget Hearing for Monday, October 7, 2013 beginning at 5:30 pm. The question was called for on the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Chamberlain Court Water Line Replacement Project – the manager reported that approximately 1,100 feet of 6" PVC pipe was installed on Chamberlain Court and 6th Street by the end of last week. The new water main replaces old 4" and 6" steel main lines. The new main was charged with chlorine over the weekend and was flushed today with a water quality sample taken. Once the sample analysis is returned satisfactory the operations crew will complete the tie-over of the existing customer service lines from the old line into the new one and then abandon the existing line in place.

Comprehensive Sewer System Plan – the manager reported that engineers at Murray, Smith and Associates have completed the Comprehensive update of our Sewer System Plan and will be making a presentation of the Plan at the October 8, 2013 meeting. Commissioner Nuxoll requested that the Commissioners be provided a copy of the plan prior to the meeting for review.

Health Care Reform Act – Treasurer Bob Sischo reported that as required by the Health Care Reform Act, employees and commissioners who are a part of the PURMS Health Insurance program were notified of their options under the federal program. The Treasurer also stated that per the requirements a form providing information about our employee health care benefits was provided to the Internal Revenue Service.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Hicks reported that he attended the Washington PUD Association meetings in Chelan, Washington on September 18-20. He reported that Initiative 937 which was passed several years ago and dealt with renewable energy is still creating issues with electric utilities throughout the state. He reported that the group received a report about the "raiding" of the Public Works Trust Fund by the state legislature in order to fund education due to a state Supreme Court mandate. Commissioner Hicks stated that this revolving loan fund, which provides low interest loans for critical basic infrastructure, would not recover for many years. Commissioner Hicks stated that the city of Wenatchee and has gone to court seeking to resolve an issue regarding a local utility tax. He stated that if the city wins this case, it could have a significant effect on utilities state wide possibly giving cities authority to tax water, wastewater and other utilities. Cities are already allowed by state law to charge electric companies a utility tax.

Commissioner Ridge and Commissioner Hicks will be attending the annual Washington PUD Association Water Workshop in Leavenworth on September 25-27. Craig Riehle, GIS Coordinator, will also be attending the Workshop.

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.