

PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1
OF ASOTIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON
MEETING MINUTES
September 23, 2019

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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, Greg McCall and Don Nuxoll.

Staff: Tim Simpson, Bob Sischo and Craig Riehle.

MINUTES OF MEETING AND VOUCHER APPROVAL

MOTION by Commissioner Greg McCall and seconded by Commissioner Don Nuxoll to approve the consent agenda approving the minutes of the September 10, 2019 Regular Meeting and payment of Electronic Payroll Vouchers #5266EFT – #5282EFT in the amount of \$35,380.68 and Electronic Accounts Payable Vouchers #19092001 and #19092002 and Accounts Payable Vouchers #39922 – #39960 in the amount of \$83,012.97. The question was called for on the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Well No. 7 Motor Repair

The manager reported that a new 300% thrust, 800 hp motor was ordered for Well No. 7. He stated that the cost of the motor from Specialty Pump is \$50,700. Two other vendors were contacted and their price for a new motor was \$56,400 and \$63,260. The manager stated that a new motor was purchased due to the fact that the current motor is only 100% thrust and isn't designed to handle the weight of water being pumped from the well. This error in motor sizing occurred when a Bonneville Power Administration energy efficiency project was implemented in 2002. This same was discovered with the Well No. 3 motor two years ago. The manager stated that it is highly likely that if we continued to use the 100% thrust motor it would be back in the shop again in a few years costing more money in the long run.

The manager reported that Jim Socci from Specialty Pump was contacted and was asked what could be done with the current motor. Mr. Socci suggested repairing the motor and using it as an emergency backup. The manager stated that the cost of repair is \$17,000. Director of Operations, Craig Riehle stated that repair of the motor would be a good "insurance policy" in the event that both Well No. 7 and Well No. 6 motors fail providing a backup for both. The backup motor currently at Well No. 6 was the original the Well No. 7 motor installed in 1983. Well No. 3's original motor is on site and available for backup as well. After discussion about repair of the motor the Board of Commissioners concurred with the decision to repair the motor for use as an emergency backup.

NEW BUSINESS

City of Asotin Water System Management and Operations Agreement

The manager reported that he sent a letter to City of Asotin Mayor Vicki Bonfield regarding proposed amendments to the Interlocal Governmental Agreement between both agencies for PUD management and operation of the City's water system. This Agreement was adopted in August 2005 after PUD staff responded to an emergency at their booster station and has not been modified since originally approved.

He stated that the Agreement amendments include the updating of the language in the Section 3.02 – Duties of the PUD to accurately reflect work that PUD staff are currently performing and increasing compensation from \$3,500.00 to \$5,000.00 per month. The manager reported that Mayor Bonfield responded to the Agreement amendments by stating that the City is conducting a budget workshop tonight after the regular council meeting and that she doesn't see how the increase can possibly be a problem. She went on to state that the PUD has had our back for several years and the increase is fair.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Operations Activity – the manager reported that the crew is currently conducting flushing in the system and recently completed lift station maintenance. The lead pigtail project has been completed. 171 services have been replaced and only 19 – 18-inch or 28.5 feet of lead pigtails were found.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Nuxoll attended the Public Utility Risk Management Service (PURMS) Administrative Committee meeting on September 12 in Burien, Washington. He reported that a NOANet claim will not be supported by PURMS due to the fact that it is a breach of contract. He stated that PURMS now carries drone liability insurance coverage. Medical coverage is currently being reviewed. PURMS is seeking a different market that will provide a better price. Three firms are interested in submitting bids with 2021 being the date for a changeover. Our per employee cost is down significantly this year. Prescription drug costs are down 18% with a push to for members to use more generic brands.

Commissioner Ridge attended the Washington PUD Association meetings September 18-20 in Suquamish, Washington. She reported that Lewis County PUD Commissioner Dean Dahlin passed away this past weekend. At the meetings a panel discussed the pros and cons of smart or advanced meters. The benefits described were accuracy and lower personnel costs. 98% of customers surveyed at one PUD stated they were neutral to the change to the new meters. Mason PUD No. 3 stated that they wish they had purchased more remote disconnect meters. She reported that Pacific PUD won a pole attachment court case against three large telecom companies over the setting of pole attachment rates.

Commissioner McCall will be attending the Washington PUD Association Water Workshop September 25-27 in Leavenworth, Washington.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.