

PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1
OF ASOTIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON
MEETING MINUTES
February 23, 2021

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President Greg McCall presiding, the Public Utility District No. 1 of Asotin County Meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. The meeting was held by teleconference in accordance with the Washington State Governor's Proclamation 20-28, dated March 24, 2020, due to the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) and Proclamation 20-28.15, dated January 19, 2021, extending the original and subsequent Proclamations.

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ROLL CALL: PRESENT Commissioners: Greg McCall, Don Nuxoll and Judy Ridge.

Staff: Tim Simpson and Bob Sischo.

MINUTES OF MEETING AND VOUCHER APPROVAL

MOTION by Commissioner Judy Ridge and seconded by Commissioner Don Nuxoll to approve the consent agenda approving the minutes of the February 9, 2021 Regular Meeting and payment Electronic Payroll Vouchers #5846EFT – #5862EFT in the amount of \$38,177.20 and Electronic Accounts Payable Vouchers #21021901, #21021902 and #21021903 and Accounts Payable Vouchers #41501 – #41522 in the amount of \$129,722.05. The question was called for on the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

COVID-19 UPDATE

The manager reported that the total dollar amount of accounts currently past due is approximately \$90,700; \$21,000 higher than the last report. The amount is higher due to the timing of the billing and the fact that today is the due date for the January 28th billing. The number should reduce significantly. \$40,700 of the delinquent accounts are in the 1-30 range and \$26,400 of the delinquent accounts are over 120 days past due. 95 door tags were generated for cycles 1-3 were distributed February 10-11 and 45 payments were received. 180 door tags for cycles 4-6 were generated and will be distributed today.

OLD BUSINESS

There were no items presented under Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS

There were no items presented under New Business.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Operations Activity – the manager reported that due to the recent winter storm event, calibration of the PUD sewer plant flow meter was rescheduled to Wednesday, March 3. The operations crew will be spending the next 3 days in class for crane operation certification.

Well No. 3 Improvement – the manager reported that due to the recent winter storm, Specialty Pump rescheduled the install of the new pump and column and reinstall of the shaft and motor at Well No. 3 to Monday, March 1. The well will be made operational once a satisfactory sample has been obtained.

Reservoir Inspection – the manager reported that even with the weather event, Liquivision Technologies arrived on site February 10th to inspect PUD and the City of Asotin's reservoirs. Because of the snow, they were unable to inspect the Scenic Hills and Port of Wilma reservoirs. Inspection of these reservoirs will be scheduled at a later date. Work performed to date, in the amount of \$17,033.69, will be paid.

Legacy Estates 4th Avenue Development – the manager reported that preliminary plans have been received for the Legacy Estates 29-lot development near the 1700 Block of 4th Avenue. The sewer line will be extended 575 feet east on 4th Avenue in order to serve the development. A 6-inch water main extends 275 feet into the property and serves 1 customer. Discussion will occur with the developer regarding replacing the line with an 8-inch main tapping into the 12-inch water main on 4th Avenue.

COMMISSIONER’S REPORT

Commissioner McCall and Commissioner Ridge attended virtual Washington PUD Association (WPUDA) meetings February 17-19. Commissioner Ridge reported on the New Commissioner Orientation and the discussions regarding the Open Public Meetings Act and Public Records Act. Staff from the State Attorney General’s Office provided information regarding quorums of a board, actions and issues that can or can’t be discussed, executive sessions and commissioners’ roles and responsibilities. Both Commissioners earned their training certificates. Commissioner Ridge provided an overview of a number of bills that the WPUDA is tracking that affect energy, water, telecommunications and customer service activities of PUDs.

Commissioner McCall provided an overview of the Water Committee meeting roundtable. Discussion focused on culvert replacement and funding for PUDs for these projects and the current volatile price of materials. He reported that during the Board meeting it was stated that nominations for new officers will occur at the March meetings with voting for the nominees being conducted at the April annual meeting. It was reported that Substitute House Bill 1336, which provides retail broadband authority to PUDs is up for a vote in the State House of Representatives today. An exemption on Business and Occupation Taxes for PUDs and utility bill assistance was discussed along with news that the Utilities and Transportation Commission will extend the disconnect moratorium for private utilities through July 31, 2021. It is expected that the governor will follow suit for public utilities through an update of the Rate Payer Assistance Proclamation. CEO George Caan and a representative from the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) discussed the proposed removal of the Lower Snake River Dams by U.S. Representative Mike Simpson (R-Idaho). Energy Northwest and BPA provided updates regarding operations and finances.

Commissioner Ridge will be virtually attending a Public Power Council meeting on Thursday, March 4.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.