

NEW BUSINESS

Asotin County Broadband Action Billing Insert Request

The manager presented a request from the Asotin County Broadband Action Team for insertion of internet broadband access and speed survey flyer asking Asotin County residents to test the speed of their internet service. The information provided will assist with grant funding for broadband expansion.

MOTION by Commissioner Judy Ridge and seconded by Commissioner Greg McCall to approve insertion of an Asotin County Broadband Action Team internet broadband access and speed survey with PUD billing statements. The question was called for on the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Change the Tuesday, March 14, 2023 Meeting Date

The manager stated that Commissioner McCall has requested changing the Tuesday, March 14, 2023 regular meeting date and time to Monday, March 13, 2023 at 9:00 am due to travel plans.

MOTION by Commissioner Judy Ridge and seconded by Commissioner Greg McCall to approve changing the Tuesday, March 14, 2023 meeting date and time to Monday, March 13, 2023 at 9:00 am. The question was called for on the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Capital Improvement Activity – The Well No. 1 Generator project startup has been delayed because a required transformer will not ship until Thursday, June 22. The Rivers Bend Packaged Booster Pump Station is scheduled to ship Friday, April 21.

Development Activity – A satisfactory water quality sample was obtained on the Swansons RV Park water system, located on Appleside Boulevard, before installation of backflow prevention device and connection to the PUD. Jeff Port has requested approval of extension of the pressurized sewer main on Appleside Boulevard to properties northeast of 3rd Avenue and to his storage units on the northwest side of 3rd Avenue. A sewer extension engineered plan has been designed and is under review.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner McCall virtually attended Washington PUD Association (WPUDA) meetings February 15-17. He reported that at the New Commissioner meeting the Public Records Act and Open Public Meetings Act were discussed. At the Water Committee meeting a roundtable regarding lead pipe inventories and replacements was held. Asotin PUD action on lead service lines began with a 2016 Department of Health lead service lines and components survey and the discovery of partial lead lines in 2017. All lead lines have been removed from service. The Committee heard reports on legislation regarding drought funding, culvert relocation funding, affordable housing, the Foster Task Force, and the moratorium on utility disconnects for nonpayment for water and electric utilities when the weather is predicted to be 90 degrees or higher. WPUDA opposes the legislation but it passed the House yesterday. At the Board of Directors meeting, the Board heard a recap of the Annual Meeting held in December. Due to inclement weather during that time of year the Annual Meeting is being moved to April beginning in 2024. There will be no December Annual Meeting this year. The Executive Director addressed the fact that WPUDA is non-profit and a trade organization and they are allowed to lobby and advocate for issues supported or opposed by their members. The Board also discussed the vague language of the hot weather utility disconnect moratorium. The Board also heard a report from Energy Northwest and discussed the lack of snowfall in Canada which will affect Columbia River Operations.

Commissioner Ridge virtually attended the Washington PUD Association Energy Committee meeting on Wednesday, February 15. She reported that the Committee discussed bills regarding clean energy siting and electric power system reliability both of which are governor request legislation. They also discussed moratorium on utility disconnects for nonpayment for water and electric utilities. The Bonneville Power Administration provided activity updates and discussed declining to be the First Jurisdictional Deliverer in 2023 for the state's Climate Commitment Act. First Jurisdictional Deliverer, or FJD, is the technical term for the entity that is responsible for complying with the climate program for any emissions associated with in-state generation or electricity imported into Washington.

Commissioner Ridge will be virtually attending a Public Power Council meeting on Thursday, March 2.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.