

PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1  
OF ASOTIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON  
MEETING MINUTES  
June 13, 2023

.....  
President Don Nuxoll 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, Clarkston, Washington.  
.....

ROLL CALL: PRESENT Commissioners: Don Nuxoll, Judy Ridge and Greg McCall.  
Staff: Tim Simpson and Bob Sischo.

WASHINGTON PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION

Washington Public Utility Districts Association (WPUDA) President, Dave McKenzie, Deputy Executive Director Liz Anderson and Senior Policy Analyst Stefany Zelepuza visited the PUD Board of Commissioners meeting and presented an overview and update of activities highlighting advocacy, training, education, collaboration and policy analysis.

MINUTES OF MEETING AND VOUCHER APPROVAL

**MOTION** by Commissioner Judy Ridge and seconded by Commissioner Greg McCall to approve the consent agenda approving the minutes of the May 23, 2023 Regular Meeting and Payroll Vouchers 2142 – 2145 and Electronic Payroll Vouchers 6845EFT – 6870EFT in the amount of \$77,875.82 and Electronic Accounts Payable Vouchers 23053001, 23060201, 23060501, 23060502, 23060503, 23060504, 23060701, 23060702, 23061201 and 23062601 and Accounts Payable Vouchers 43962 – 44054 in the amount of \$422,275.58. The question was called for on the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

OLD BUSINESS

There were no items presented under Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS

Asotin County Intergovernmental Water and Sewer Systems Extension Agreement

The manager presented an Intergovernmental Agreement with Asotin County for the extension of a PUD water main and connection and improvements to sewer mains that will serve the Asotin County Justice Center (Center) located across from the Asotin County Landfill on 6th Avenue. As a part of the project, the County will be extending a 10-inch water main to the property from the 12-inch main located on Evans road near the Turning Point Business Park and a 4-inch service meter will be installed off this main and located near the facility in the right-of-way. The PUD will assume ownership of the water main after final inspection and approval of the Bill of Sale and Letter of Transmittal that provides for the transfer of the water main and appurtenances to the PUD. A utility easement for the water main was provided by the County in February 2022. Sewer service connection was completed when Western Construction connected to the sewer main on 6th Avenue in March of 2022, running the sewer line to the Center site when grading and preparation for the site was completed. Sewer system work included replacing the manhole in 6th Avenue between 27th Street and Blue Mountain Court, relocating the existing 4-inch force main that runs from Turing Pointe to the 6th Avenue sewer main and re-installing flushing stations on this line, and installing new 4-inch force main for the Center. The sewer line will be owned by the County and will include a sewer pump station with safeguards to prevent unnecessary items from reaching the sewer main and keeping their pressurized main from plugging. The PUD will be inspecting all components of this sewer line to ensure it meets construction standards. The County Board of Commissioners approved the Agreement at their meeting held on Monday, June 5.

**MOTION** by Commissioner Greg McCall and seconded by Commissioner Judy Ridge to approve the Intergovernmental Water and Sewer Extension Agreement with Asotin County and authorizing the Manager to execute the Agreement. The question was called for on the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

### MANAGER'S REPORT

Capital Improvement Activity – Customer service lines were tied over to the new main on 11<sup>th</sup> Street from Chestnut to Libby Streets. Material purchased in December of 2022, specifically brass service line fittings, has not arrived from the vendor. An inventory was conducted to ensure enough material was available to complete the second half of the 11th Street water main replacement project from Libby Street to Highland Avenue. A material order will need to be placed now to replace stock taken for the project and ensure material arrives in time for the 2024 main replacement projects. Bids for this material are due next week. The building transformer for Well No. 1 is scheduled to ship June 22. Once installed the new emergency backup generator can be connected and tested. The River's Bend Booster Pump Station is scheduled to ship on June 21 and arrive on June 22. The Well No. 2 motor starter is scheduled to arrive by month end. The starter replaces an original starter that has been showing signs of failure.

Administrative Activity – PUD membership with the Washington Association of Sewer and Water Districts was approved by their Board. The ERSI mapping upgrade project and conversion to the cloud is complete. The manager provided a financial report for the period ended May 31, 2023.

City Sewer System Activity – The manager reported that the SCADA System upgrade is in progress. ACS is scheduled to be on site June 26. Extension of fiber to the WWTP is scheduled and should be completed soon. Consor Engineers conducted an electrical site visit today as a part of the operational assessment. The update of the WWTP O&M Manual by Keller and Associates Engineers kicked off yesterday which included a walk-through of the plant. Videoing of sewer mains for the sewer main replacement project, that the City camera could not get through, was completed by Roto roter. A 30% project design review meeting will be held on Thursday, June 15. The engineers estimate for the 3 sewer main replacement projects is \$2.10 million. Funds may need to be designated next year along with the \$1.5 million from the city ARPA funds to complete the projects. Engineers will be looking into the feasibility of Cured In Place Piping for the sewer main between 5th and 6th Streets. A memorandum from Consor will be provided this week. The Network Integration Transmission Service Agreement between the Bonneville Power Administration and Avista Utilities, which provides for the transfer of federal power over Avista lines to PUD sites, is under review by BPA. The Washington Cities Insurance Authority completed a WWTP evaluation and assigned a \$40 million value to the plant.

### COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Nuxoll attended a virtual Public Utility Risk Management System (PURMS) Executive Committee meeting on Thursday, May 25 and a PURMS semi-annual meeting held Wednesday, May 31 and Thursday, June 1. He reported that a resolution finalizing of the sale of Pacific Underwriters to Brown and Brown and the transfer of the administration of PURMS to this firm was unanimously approved by the PURMS Board. The transfer of ownership is scheduled for July 1, 2023. Current owners, employees and Administrator Dick Rodruck will remain with PURMS for a period of two years to assist with the transition. Brown and Brown pledged that they would keep administrative cost increases low with only a 3% increase per year as is currently seen. Commissioner Nuxoll stated that additional meetings could occur before the transfer of ownership if issues arise. Brown and Brown is the third largest brokerage firm in the United States and administrates a number of risk pools. They cannot be the broker for the PURMS risk pool and Marsh will continue as the broker.

Commissioner Ridge virtually attended a Public Power Council (PPC) meeting Thursday, June 8. She reported that discussion continued regarding the California Independent System Operator and the Western Markets and the impact regionalization will have on PPC member utilities. Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) transmission issues were discussed with BPA staff along with the Post-2028 rates and residential exchange issues. BPA Post-2028 draft comments will be available to PPC for discussion next month. PPC stated that they need to know BPA's strategy regarding a number of issues. PPC staff and members stated they will be constructive in the process with BPA but need to be firm with regard how issues and changes proposed will affect member utilities to ensure they are protected.

Commissioner McCall attended a special called WPUDA Board Meeting on Friday, June 9. He reported that the special called meeting for consideration and action to approve contributions to conduct a study of Net Energy Metering (NEM). The utility community has been working with the consulting firm E3 to develop a study proposal to assess the cost-shift among utility customers from NEM. Solar and wind owners are allowed to sell their unused generated energy to the utility which can impact the revenue of the utility while shifting and increasing the cost of electric service to other customers. After discussion of the merits of the study, the WPUDA Board approved the contribution of funding to conduct the study. WPUDA will use the study to develop policies and direct legislation affecting member electric utilities.

#### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.