

PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1
OF ASOTIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON
MEETING MINUTES
September 25, 2023

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

Staff: Tim Simpson and Bob Sischo.

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 September 12, 2023, Regular Meeting and Electronic Payroll Vouchers 7027EFT – 7052EFT in the amount of \$66,733.62 and Electronic Accounts Payable Voucher 23090801, 23090802, 23092001, 23092002, 23092003 and 23092101 and Accounts Payable Vouchers 44381 – 44419 in the amount of \$136,638.05. 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

Award Quote on Fleet Vehicle

The manager reported that the motor on a 2011 Ford F-150 failed causing extensive damage to all six cylinders. The mechanic stated that repairs to the engine would cost between \$8,000 and \$10,000 but more issues may exist when they pull the engine apart. They recommended replacing the motor but when they contacted Ford Motor Company and other suppliers, they found that there are no motors available. Ford stated there is a shortage of motors and it could be some time before they were available. The manager recommended spending these funds on a new or used vehicle rather repairing a vehicle whose value is equal to or less than the repairs. He stated that this vehicle was on the schedule for replacement in 2024 and funds are available in the Equipment Replacement Fund.

The manager stated that quotes were requested from vendors for both new and used trucks that are available at their dealership. Staff checked on the national and state fleet sales sites and there were no trucks listed in the model being sought. They also spoke with a vendor about availability and the vendor stated that delivery of new fleet vehicles would take over 4 to 6 months. The manager presented quotes for new and used vehicles. After Board discussion of the vehicle quotes, the manager recommended purchasing a new vehicle from Jess Ford, who provided the lowest quote for a fleet truck.

MOTION by Commissioner Greg McCall and seconded by Commissioner Judy Ridge to award the quote for a Ford F-150 fleet truck to Jess Ford in the amount of \$48,070.47. The question was called for on the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Resolution 23-514 – Surplus Vehicle

The manager presented Resolution 23-514 which provides for the surplus of the 2011 Ford F-150 that incurred engine failure and is not operational. He stated that the Resolution provides for disposal of the vehicle in the most cost-effective manner available. The Board discussed options available for disposal.

MOTION by Commissioner Judy Ridge and seconded by Commissioner Greg McCall to approve Resolution 23-514 providing for the surplus and disposal of a 2011 Ford F-150. The question was called for on the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Capital Improvement Activity – Paving on 11th Street was completed Monday, September 18. The crew began work last week on the replacement of several short runs of 2-inch galvanized water mains. The first location was 200 feet of galvanized line on Ashley Drive into Ashley Court. The other locations are 10th and Poplar Streets and 11th and Maple Streets which will include looping the lines into existing water mains and eliminating dead end mains. The crew installed the final flusher on Chestnut and 6th Street on Tuesday, September 19. The Well 2 motor starter was installed on Wednesday, September 20 and it is operational. Requests for bids for the rehabilitation of Well 1 will be released this week. The motor, shaft column and pump will be pulled and the well will be videoed. A pump design was completed and the pump will be replaced with a new 3,350-gpm pump. Currently the well produces in the range of 2,700 to 2,900 gpm. The column will be replaced and the shaft will be upgraded to stainless steel. The motor will be evaluated but will not be replaced.

Development Activity – Delivery of the water meter and meter vault for the Asotin County Justice Center is still pending and the construction schedule will dictate the installation. Work on installation of the water main and customer service lines for the Zenner Addition on Clemans Road will begin early next month. The final design for the proposed 16-lot Folsom Development off of Chukar Lane has been submitted to the County. A customer on Hallgren Drive had a septic system failure and the Asotin County Health Department is requiring connection to the PUD pressurized sewer line on 11th Avenue. The customer will install a Septic Tank Effluent Pump Systems. The 2-inch pressurized sewer line will be designed to PUD standards and the PUD will assume ownership of the line after final inspection.

City Sewer System Activity – The Point System repair work on the sewer collection system began last week. Work on electrical issues identified in the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) operational assessment will begin this week. The 95% design for the sewer main replacement project is scheduled for release and review on Friday, October 6. Both the City of Clarkston and the Department of Ecology will review the design. A 5-year contract extension, and cost adjustment, between the City and Clearwater Composting for receiving biosolids from the WWTP is being considered this week. The manager will discuss a direct contract with the Clearwater Composting general manager tomorrow.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner McCall and Commissioner Ridge virtually attended the Washington PUD Association (WPUDA) meetings September 13-15. Commissioner Ridge reported that at the Government Relations Committee meeting they heard from a former state senator on how to be effective in communicating with legislators. The group discussed the governor's race and the power and water issues that will be addressed in the 2024 Legislative Session. She reported that at the Energy Committee meeting they discussed the Washington Public Disclosure Commission, wildfire prevention, Ecology's clean fuel credits and the state seeking to transfer all low-income assistance under their umbrella. PUDs who provide this service are opposed to the state taking over these community programs.

Commissioner McCall report that at the WPUDA Education Committee meeting a speaker discussed geothermal energy for generating power and moderating building or home temperature. They also heard from staff at Douglas PUD about their work on hydrogen production for vehicle fuel and energy.

At the Water Committee Roundtable meeting the Department of Ecology discussed water banking and water trusts, the Foster Task Force and Policy 2030. The Department of Health discussed funding opportunities for disadvantaged communities and the \$1.5 billion in funds appropriated to the state for infrastructure improvement. At the Board meeting it was announced that Deputy Director Liz Anderson was promoted to Executive Director with the pending retirement of George Caan. The Board heard several reports including one from the Bonneville Power Administration on a variety of energy subjects.

Commissioner McCall virtually attended the Washington Association of Sewer and Water Districts 2023 Annual Membership Meeting on Friday, September 22. Reports were provided by the Executive Director, the Treasurer and the Directors from the four sections in the state. Asotin PUD is located in Section 1. The 2024 Budget was adopted along with the proposed bylaw amendments.

Commissioner Nuxoll stated that he received an updated agreement for the transfer of the Public Utility Risk Management Systems (PURMS) to the new owner upon the sale of Pacific Underwriters. The Executive Committee gave final approval to the transfer of PURMS administration to the new owners of Pacific Underwriters, Brown and Brown, on Thursday, September 7. The closing date of the sale and transfer is October 1, 2023.

Commissioner McCall will be attending the Washington PUD Association Water Workshop September 27-29 in Sequim, Washington.

Commissioner Ridge will be attending the Public Power Council meeting October 4-5 in Portland, Oregon.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.