

PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1
OF ASOTIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON
MEETING MINUTES
May 14, 2024

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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 April 23, 2024 Regular Meeting and Payroll Vouchers 2181–2183 and Electronic Payroll Vouchers 7404EFT–7429EFT in the amount of \$76,221.93 and Electronic Accounts Payable Vouchers 24050301, 24050601–24050603, 24050701, 24050702, 24051301, 24051501–24051504 and 24052801 and Accounts Payable Vouchers 45208 – 45301 in the amount of \$747,169.12. 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

The manager presented Resolution 24-530 which provides an expression of gratitude to Wes Ison for his 38 years of service as a sewer system operator and Superintendent of the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Wes has been an employee of the PUD for a little over 1 year after the PUD began contract operations of the City Sewer System. An employee luncheon and award presentation will be held in Wes' honor on Friday, May 24, 2024 at 11:30 am with an open house to follow from 1:30 to 3:00 pm.

MOTION by Commissioner Greg McCall and seconded by Commissioner Judy Ridge to approve Resolution 24-530 thanking Wes Ison for 38 years of service. The question was called for on the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Capital Improvement Activity – The operations crew completed installation of the 8-inch PVC water main on Sycamore Street from 3rd to 5th Streets replacing 680 feet of steel water main. The main was pressure tested, chlorinated, flushed and the water quality sample was taken was satisfactory. The tying over of customer service lines has been completed and the final tie-in of the line to the PUD system will be completed tomorrow. The City of Clarkston began work yesterday on the Bridge Street roundabout.

Administrative Activity – The 2023 Audit has begun and an Audit Entrance Conference will be held on Friday, May 17. A draft of the updated Comprehensive Water System Plan (Plan) was received and staff review is complete. Changes identified by staff will be made by the consulting engineer and the Plan will be sent to the Department of Health (DOH) before the end of the month for their 90-day review. Upon completion of the review by DOH, a Board workshop will be held to present the Plan.

Development Activity – Updated water and wastewater system design plans, for the Clarkston Haven development on Port Drive, have been received and are currently under review.

City Sewer System Activity – Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) staff are continuing the flushing of the sewer collection system. Point repairs are on hold due to equipment repair. The final draft of the Technical Memorandum, analyzing the options for the sewer main replacement project between 6th and 7th Streets from Libby to Park Streets, has been delayed due to the need to further analyze project options. The Cured In Place Piping method was chosen over several options but there are several factors that are being examined that may hinder this construction method. Additional analysis of the current piping condition will be conducted prior to making a final decision before entering the design stage.

City Sewer System Main Replacement Project – A meeting with the contractor, who will be completing the Cured-In-Place Piping sewer main improvement project, in the alley between 5th and 6th Streets from Chestnut to Elm Streets, was held on Tuesday, May 7. The project will begin Monday, May 20 with Debco replacing a manhole followed by the contractor start. The contractor stated a willingness to conduct the project between the hours of 7:00 pm to 7:00 am in order to reduce the impact on customers. Businesses and residents, affected by the sewer main project, were notified of the project by letter on Thursday, May 2. Included in the notification was an announcement of a public meeting at City Hall on Wednesday, May 15 at 6:00 pm to discuss the project and address any concerns and questions. Additional visits were made by staff to determine if the proposed time schedule would work for the businesses. Owners were overwhelmingly in favor of the contractor proposed working hours.

City Sewer System Transfer – Northwest Municipal Advisors provided the final schedule of events for obtaining bond financing. To begin the bond financing process, a Draft Preliminary Official Statement and data request was provided by Bond Counsel to the PUD on Friday, April 26. The manager and Director Sischo completed the data request returning it on Thursday, May 2 for review. The next step in the process is the distribution of the first draft of the Preliminary Official Statement and a draft bond resolution for review and comment. At the Public Works Board (PWB) meeting held on Friday, May 3, the PWB provided official approval for transfer of the City's PWTF loan to the PUD. Development of a contract amendment to transfer ownership of the PWTF to the PUD is underway. The Department of Natural Resources provided the Consent to Assignment Agreement, on Wednesday, May 8, which provides for the transfer of the WWTP Aquatic Lands Outfall Easement to the PUD. The Agreement was reviewed and approved by legal counsel. June 1, 2024 is the proposed easement transfer date.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner McCall attended an Energy Northwest (EN) Board of Directors meeting April 23-25 in Pasco, Washington. He reported that an election for an outside member for the Executive Board was conducted and former Washington State Senator Tim Sheldon was selected for the position. The Chief Executive Officer discussed the \$25 million designated by the state for the purpose of developing small scale nuclear power. He stated that if the Initiative on the November ballot, to eliminate that state's Climate Change Program, is passed, funding would be eliminated. EN staff reported that vehicle charging stations continue to be installed and that the fast-charging stations require more resources, such as, transformers and other equipment.

Commissioner Ridge attended a Public Power Council (PPC) meeting May 1-2 in Portland, Oregon. She reported that the Columbia River System Operations lawsuit limiting the Bonneville Power Administration's (BPA) financial commitment to the agreement is ongoing. The BPA Administrator reported that they continue to examine infrastructure needs and costs which will affect BPA rates and tariffs. PPC continues to address Post-2028 BPA rate issues and the record of decision by BPA on the Provider of Choice affects and contract values. EN provided a report that the Columbia Generating Station nuclear power plant's performance continues to improve and break records.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.