

PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1
OF ASOTIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON
MEETING MINUTES
July 29, 2025

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President Judy Ridge 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: Greg McCall and Don Nuxoll. Judy Ridge by phone.
Staff: Tim Simpson and Bob Sischo.

MINUTES OF MEETING AND VOUCHER APPROVAL

MOTION by Commissioner Don Nuxoll and seconded by Commissioner Greg McCall to approve the consent agenda approving the minutes of the July 8, 2025 Regular Meeting and Electronic Payroll Vouchers 8213EFT–8238EFT in the amount of \$72,978.84 and Electronic Accounts Payable Voucher 25070801, 25070802, 25071801, 25071802, 25072101, 25072502, 25072503, 25072801–25072804 and 25081201 and Accounts Payable Vouchers 47054–47137 in the amount of \$220,801.62. 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 Bid for Asphalt Patching – 20th Avenue and Steele Lane Water Main Replacement Project

The manager stated that bids were requested from contractors on our Small Works Roster for asphalt patching for the water main replacement project on 20th Avenue and Steele Lane which replaced 1,500 feet of 6-inch steel water main. The bid results from each contractor, including sales tax, are as follows: Poe Asphalt Paving, Inc.–\$44,180.22, Herco, Inc.–\$45,498.10 and CNR Enterprises–\$52,150.24. The bids were reviewed and tabulated and Poe Asphalt Paving is the lowest responsible bidder.

MOTION by Commissioner Greg McCall and seconded by Commissioner Don Nuxoll to award the bid for asphalt patching for the 20th Avenue and Steele Lane Water Main Replacement Project to Poe Asphalt Paving, Inc. in the amount of \$44,180.22. The question was called for on the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Write Off of 2021 Uncollected Accounts

The manager stated that PUD policy requires Board approval for the write-off of uncollected customer accounts after they remain uncollected for more than three years. For the year 2021 there were 39 uncollected accounts in the amount of \$4,630.23 with 24 of those accounts sent to the collection agency. Past due accounts that are under \$25.00 do not get sent to collections due to processing costs. The 2021 accounts presented for write-off will continue to be pursued. Customers who return and want to sign up for service again, must pay previous account balances before receiving service. Any amounts received after approval of write off become miscellaneous income. The manager stated that The uncollected amount represents .00087 percent of our \$5.93 million in revenue for the year 2021.

MOTION by Commissioner Don Nuxoll and seconded by Commissioner Greg McCall to approve the write-off of the 2021 Uncollected Accounts. The question was called for on the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Administrative Activity – The Bonneville Power Administration has provided the final Record of Decision on the BP-26 rate case. Power rates will increase 8.9%, on average, and transmission rates will increase 19.9%, on average, for a three-year period beginning October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2028. The PUDs power rates will increase 2.46% and the transmission rate will increase 3.50% with a net effect of a \$7,000 increase in annual costs. Director Sischo discussed his recent conference with AEGIS and EIM with Public Utility Risk Management System Administrator (PURMS) Dick Rodruck. He reported that the development of the PURMS wildfire pool is moving forward.

Water System Activity – A satisfactory water sample was obtained on the new water main on 20th Avenue and Steel Lane and the crew completed the tie over of customer service lines to the new main. Replacement of the steel main from west end of 20th Avenue across 13th Street and connection to the PVC water main on the west side of the street will occur in a couple of weeks. The road will be shut down for the day and traffic will be detoured. Paving will be completed the same day.

Sewer System Activity – The Wastewater Treatment Plant crew continues to flush and camera the sewer collection system in the County and is working through the list of identified point repairs.

Development Activity – Staff had preliminary discussions with an engineer regarding a subdivision on property from Elm Street to Chestnut Street between 15th and 16th Streets.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner McCall virtually attended the Washington PUD Association (WPUDA) meetings July 16-18. He reported that at the Education Roundtable the group discussed topics for future meetings and the development of public service announcements promoting the importance of public utility districts. At the Water Committee meeting the group discussed the Department of Health's water affordability survey and assessment and the development of legislative priorities for the 2026 legislative session. At the Board meeting the group adopted the WPUDA 2025-2026 Strategic Plan and discussed the WPUDA office building facility condition assessment report. A committee will be formed to address the immediate and future issues identified in the report. Over \$3 million in immediate repairs and preventive maintenance has been identified.

Commissioner Ridge attended the WPUDA meetings at Skagit County PUD in Mount Vernon, Washington. She reported that at the Education Roundtable the group discussed the Washington Voting Rights Act and the effect it has had on PUDs and other public entities in the state. At the Energy Committee meeting WPUDA reported that they are partnering with Northwest RiverPartners on five initiatives. Those initiatives are: The use of science to evaluate historic fish counts to program goals, adopt Phase 2 program goals, continue to support hatchery production for fish recovery, maintain existing conditions and reject calls for the removal of the Lower Snake River Dams.

Commissioner McCall attended Energy Northwest (EN) meetings July 23-24 in Richland, Washington. He reported that the CEO provided a report on the Columbia Generating Station refueling outage and EN's work on geothermal energy exploration and production. The group was updated on the status of the Amazon and EN partnership for the development of the X-Energy's small scale modular nuclear (SMR) reactor. Amazon representatives were present and discussed their support of the project with a \$334 million investment and discussed how fundamental this project is and the importance of the foundation it will lay for future SMR projects. The DOW project in Texas will be a model for EN.

Commissioner McCall reported that as part of the X-Energy project, EN presented three options for governance structure of the project for conditional approval between both the Board of Directors (Board) and the Executive Board (EB). EN staff stated that the governance structure must comply with Washington State Statute and EN Policy, will require the exchange of information necessary for Board decisions and requires the Board's final approval of the SMR project. The Board decided to retain existing Board and EB Responsibilities with enhanced Board access and advisor support. The EB would retain existing governance responsibility for the SMR Project, including oversight of the LLC. In tandem, the Board will be responsible to establish and approve conditions, monitor progress, certify that conditions are satisfied, cast final approval vote. Amazon representatives supported this decision. Each EN member utility will be required to vote on the project. EN's goal is to have the final conditional approval ready by the third quarter of 2026.

Commissioner McCall virtually attended the Washington Association of Sewer and Water Districts (WASWD) Section I and II meeting. He reported that the Executive Director discussed the WASWD legislative priorities for the 2026 legislative session. Staff reported on the availability of webinars and the issues some utilities are encountering with the State Auditor's Office annual audits. The group also heard a report regarding the City of Spokane and Spokane Valley's sizable and good water quality aquifer.

Commissioner Ridge will be virtually attending a Public Power Council meeting on Thursday, August 7.

ADJOURNMENT

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