

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 9, 2021
OF
PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1
OF
THURSTON COUNTY, WASHINGTON

The first regular meeting for February 2021 of the Commissioners of Public Utility District No. 1 of Thurston County was called to order on February 9, 2021, commencing at 5:00 p.m. Commissioners Russell E. Olsen, Linda Oosterman and Chris Stearns were present for the teleconference meeting hosted via Zoom. The following District employees were also present for the meeting:

- John Weidenfeller, General Manager (GM)
- Julie Parker, Assistant General Manager (AGM)
- Kim Gubbe, Director of Planning and Compliance (DPC)
- Jim Campbell, Director of Field Operations (DFO)
- TaSeana Tartt, Finance and Customer Service Manager (FCSM)
- Ruth Clemens, Administrative Services Manager (ASM)
- Kurin Miller, Clerk to the Board

Call to Order:

Commissioner Olsen called the regular meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda:

Commissioner Oosterman made a motion to approve the agenda as presented; Commissioner Stearns seconded the motion; the motion passed with all in favor.

Consent Calendar:

Approval of Minutes: January 19, 2021 (Strategic Planning Session), January 19, 2021 (Commissioner Workshop), January 26, 2021

Prequalification of Contractors: None

SMA Contracts: None

Correspondence: None

Voucher Approval:

- 1) Accounts Payables: January 27, 2021, February 3, 2021
- 2) Payroll: February 5, 2021

Other:

- 1) Small Works: Johnson & Maddox Construction Co., Inc.

Approval of Consent Calendar:

Commissioner Oosterman made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar as presented; Commissioner Stearns seconded the motion; the motion passed with all in favor.

Public Comment: None

Information or Discussion of Operations/Policy Issues:

Recurring Discussion – COVID-19 Updates

ASM Clemens spoke about the new COVID-19 variant, phase information mandated by Washington state, in-person public meetings, and vaccine distribution.

Recurring Discussion – Telecommunications

GM Weidenfeller and ASM Clemens met with the Director of the Washington Statewide Broadband Office, and a liaison from that office was assigned to the District. GM Weidenfeller provided telecommunications information to the Thurston Regional Planning Council (TRPC) at a recent meeting. Both Commissioner Olsen and Commission Stearns commented on this topic.

Discussion – WRIA 13 Watershed Restoration and Enhancement Plan

ASM Clemens gave an overview and timeline on the Water Resources Inventory Area (WRIA) 13 Watershed Restoration and Enhancement Plan. Further review and approval will be scheduled at upcoming Commission meetings.

First Reading – Resolution 21-05, Strategic Plan Update

GM Weidenfeller presented Resolution 21-05 which updates the Strategic Plan with recommended changes. Each Commissioner commented and made recommendations.

Action/Approval Item(s):

Resolution 21-04, Supporting a Needs Assessment of Broadband and Telecommunications

ASM Clemens presented Resolution 21-04 which outlines direction from the Board on broadband and telecommunications. Commissioner Olsen asked that if another direction is agreed upon, the Board revisit this resolution to amend as necessary. **Commissioner Stearns made a motion to approve Resolution 21-04: Commissioner Oosterman seconded the motion; the motion passed with all in favor.**

Commissioner Signatures/Break:

There were no physical documents to sign.

Presentations:

GM Weidenfeller reported on PFAS in terms of the timeframe this issue will be reviewed by the Washington State Department of Health (DOH). He also reported on several other items, including the Utility Rate Advisory Committee (URAC), updates on the Pattison water system transition, Department of Ecology (DOE) Policy 1050, and municipal water law.

AGM Parker recently forwarded the correspondence received from Pattison water system customers to the Board. Commissioner Olsen thanked the AGM for her work in this respect. Commissioner Oosterman also spoke about this topic and suggested that additional information be sent to those Pattison water system customers that have already contacted our office.

To answer Commissioner Olsen's question, DFO Campbell detailed the processes by the Field Operations crew to prepare for colder weather.

DPC Gubbe reported that a water availability request was received for the Glacier Vista water system, outside of the water system's service area; to provide water to this connection, a Water System Plan (WSP) amendment is required and a Public Meeting will be scheduled. The DPC will schedule approval via the Consent Calendar at the next Regular Commission Meeting on February 23, 2021. Commissioner Stearns asked about water availability and the developer for this property; DPC Gubbe addressed the

Commissioner's question. DPC Gubbe also spoke about her work on the WSP update for the Tanglewilde-Thompson Place water system, which includes a preconstruction loan to cover the WSP update, a feasibility study, and environmental reviews for mainline replacement. Commissioner Stearns asked about the project; DPC Gubbe addressed the Commissioner's question. Finally, the DPC reported on the District's funded Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) projects. Commissioner Olsen asked about Pattison water system projects; DPC Gubbe addressed the Commissioner.

Commissioner Topics, Discussions and Reports:

Commissioner Olsen spoke about a personal matter. Commissioner Olsen then presented an award to Commissioner Stearns for his years of dedication to the District. Later in the meeting, Commissioner Olsen also addressed the District's transition to telework.

Commissioner Oosterman also spoke about a personal matter. The Commissioner also spoke about a Duke University study on changing mindsets and her education experience on this subject. Commissioner Olsen added to this discussion.

Commissioner Stearns attends the weekly WPUDA Legislative update calls. He also recently attended TRPC and Water Resources Advisory Committee (WRAC) meetings. The Commissioner spoke in detail at the topics presented during those meetings.

Adjournment: Commissioner Oosterman made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Commissioner Stearns seconded the motion; the motion passed with all in favor. The meeting adjourned at 6:04 p.m.

Assignments:

- 1) Update the Strategic Plan based on direction received from the Board.
 - a. Eliminate "with good value" wording on page 4.
 - b. Include "WPUDA" on page 3.
 - c. Eliminate the word "very" on page 4.
- 2) Send an invitation to Commissioner Stearns for the All Staff Meeting for February 2021.
- 3) Per Linda's suggestion, mail out the letter to the people who contacted us from Pattison water system.
- 4) Post the first letter to Pattison water system customers (a joint letter from Pattison Water Co. and the District) to the website.
- 5) Schedule a short presentation by the engineer for the Tanglewilde-Thompson Place water system project at the Special Meeting (Commissioner Workshop) on March 16, 2021.



Russell E. Olsen, Commissioner and President

Attest:



Linda Oosterman, Commissioner and Secretary