

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

The first regular meeting for March 2021 of the Commissioners of Public Utility District No. 1 of Thurston County was called to order on March 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)

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

Consent Calendar:

Approval of Minutes: February 11, 2021 Public Meeting, February 16, 2021 Workshop and February 23, 2021

Prequalification of Contractors: None

SMA Contracts: None

Correspondence: None

Voucher Approval:

- 1) Accounts Payables: February 24, 2021, March 3, 2021
- 2) Payroll: March 5, 2021

Other: None

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 reported on vaccination information, including the current phases and distribution schedule.

Recurring Discussion – Telecommunications

ASM Clemens reported on a meeting she attended with Angela Bennink at Kitsap PUD and attended a Snohomish County Broadband Action Team meeting. She also reported on a few upcoming meetings with different PUDs, her work going forward, and the research needed for next steps of the project.

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. Approval will be scheduled at upcoming Commission meeting. Commissioner Stearns asked about the Squaxin Island Tribe and their concerns and provided Salmon Recovery Funding Board historical information. ASM Clemens addressed the Commissioner's questions.

Action/Approval Item(s):

Resolution 21-07, 1st Amended 2021 Operating Budget

AGM Parker presented Resolution 21-07 which would revise the 2021 Operating Budget. Revisions include changes to the property tax levy revenue based on actual amounts, an addition of the new expense item related to a broadband and telecommunications needs assessment, water revenue and expenses related to the acquisition of the Pattison water system, and an increased chemical expense for the Meadows water system. **Commissioner Oosterman made a motion to approve Resolution 21-07: Commissioner Stearns seconded the motion; the motion passed with all in favor.**

Resolution 21-08, 1st Amended 2021 Capital Budget

AGM Parker presented Resolution 21-08 which would revise the 2021 Capital Budget. Revisions include the addition of the Sward & Platt consolidation project, Knowles Road and Loma Vista water systems well drilling and integration, a new treatment system at Webster Hill, the Tanglewilde-Thompson Place Water System Plan (WSP), and other amendments. Commissioner Stearns asked about the Sward & Platt consolidation project timeline. AGM Parker addressed the Commissioner's concerns. Commissioner Stearns will contact 18th District legislature to discuss water systems located in this district. **Commissioner Oosterman made a motion to approve Resolution 21-08: Commissioner Stearns seconded the motion; the motion passed with all in favor.**

Commissioner Signatures/Break:

There were no physical documents to sign. AGM Parker discussed electronic signature options and advised it will be initially implemented among District staff. GM Weidenfeller recommended support for AGM Parker to represent the District on the Public Works Board, request for approval will be provided at an upcoming Commission meeting.

Presentations:

GM Weidenfeller reported on the Department of Health Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) loans. He also reported on PFAS in terms of the proposed state action level, cost of testing and the timeframe this issue will be considered for adoption by the State Board of Health. Commissioner Stearns asked about the expansion of PFAS testing. Commissioner Oosterman asked if Joint Base Lewis-McChord is still using the same chemical. GM Weidenfeller addressed the Commissioners' concerns. He also reported on several other items, including the Utility Rate Advisory Committee (URAC), updates on the Pattison water system transition including new hire David Gruver, Department of Ecology Policy 1050 Extension of Water Permits and Policy 2030 Municipal Water Law. He also reported on upcoming

meetings including the Westside PUD Managers Committee in the fall and hosting a virtual Thurston County Water Purveyor meeting on April 2, 2021.

Commissioners, GM Weidenfeller and DFO Campbell discussed seismic valves on our three largest water systems. Chris requested staff report their findings on the safety of the seismic valves at our three largest systems at an upcoming meeting.

AGM Parker reported on the District's 2021 bond financing.

DFO Campbell reported that the integration of the Pattison water system is going well. Commissioner Stearns discussed the importance of communication between the field staff and customers to address water quality and service. Commissioner Olsen asked about the water pressure at the Meadows water system. DFO Campbell addressed the Commissioners questions and concerns.

DPC Gubbe reported on major upcoming projects that will require approval.

Commissioner Topics, Discussions and Reports:

Commissioner Olsen reported the new Toxic Cleanup Program Manager at the Department of Ecology, who will be the State lead the PFOA/PFAS cleanup program. He expressed his appreciation of the Pattison water system transition and URAC recruitment. Commissioner Olsen will coordinate a time with AGM Parker to sign documents at the District's headquarters.

Commissioner Oosterman recently attended WPUDA and Emergency Management meetings, she discussed information presented at those meetings. She also spoke about a personal matter.

Commissioner Stearns recently attended meetings including the Conservation District Chehalis Partnership, Thurston Regional Planning Council (TRPC), and Water Resources Advisory Committee, he discussed changes in board members and information presented at those meetings. Commissioner Stearns has informed Mark Daly, TRPC Executive Director that more information will be provided as data is available to discuss telecom access to rural areas.

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 5:54 p.m.

Assignments:

- 1) Follow up with the safety precautions of seismic valves at our three largest systems.
- 2) Follow up with WPUDA for details on the quarterly Water meeting on March 25, 2021.
- 3) Research the proxy voting rules for Commissioners and provide at the next meeting.

Russell E. Olsen, Commissioner and President

Attest:

Linda Oosterman, Commissioner and Secretary