

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF DECEMBER 28, 2021
OF
PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1
OF
THURSTON COUNTY, WASHINGTON

The second regular meeting for December 2021 of the Commissioners of Public Utility District No. 1 of Thurston County was called to order on December 28, 2021, commencing at 5:00 p.m. Commissioners Linda Oosterman, Russell E. Olsen, and Chris Stearns were present for the virtual meeting hosted via Zoom video conferencing. The following personnel were also present for the meeting:

- John Weidenfeller, General Manager (GM)
- 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)
- Joseph A. Rehberger, Chief Legal Counsel
- 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 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: December 14, 2021

Prequalification of Contractors: None

Correspondence: None

Voucher Approval:

- 1) Accounts Payables: December 15, 2021, December 22, 2021
- 2) Payroll: December 20, 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:

Discussion – COVID-19 Updates

ASM Clemens reported on the latest quarantine and isolation guidelines published by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). Commissioner Olsen asked about quarantine periods, and the ASM addressed the Commissioner's question.

Discussion – Broadband and Telecommunications

ASM Clemens reported on her communication with the Nisqually Tribe in relation to the Broadband Project. ASM Clemens thanked GM Weidenfeller for his leadership, and Commissioner Stearns spoke about his experience with creating solid relationships with fellow governmental and tribal entities.

Action/Approval Items:

Resolution 21-63, Redistricting Plan per Senate Bill 5013-S.SL

Commissioner Olsen thanked the GM for his collaboration with Thurston County. GM Weidenfeller updated the Board on obtaining the official documents from Thurston County. **Commissioner Oosterman made a motion to adopt Resolution 21-63 as presented: Commissioner Stearns seconded the motion; the motion passed with all in favor.**

Resolution 21-64, Policy Amendments

Commissioner Stearns made a motion to adopt Resolution 21-64 as presented: Commissioner Oosterman seconded the motion; the motion passed with all in favor.

Commissioner Signatures/Break: None

Presentations:

GM Weidenfeller reported on an issue recently discovered regarding the current project for the Sward water system. Commissioner Olsen asked about an updated timeline for the project; GM Weidenfeller and DPC Gubbe addressed the Commissioner's question. DPC Gubbe then reported on PFAS testing for specific District water systems.

Commissioner Olsen asked about customer account delinquencies; FCSM Tartt reported on this matter, as the District will restart the disconnection process in January 2022. Commissioner Oosterman and Commissioner Stearns discussed this subject with FCSM Tartt at length. The FCSM also reported on interviews for two open positions at the District. Commissioner Oosterman asked for an update on a laborer position decision related to the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries (L&I); GM Weidenfeller gave an update on this matter.

Commissioner Topics, Discussions and Reports:

Commissioner Olsen discussed the General Manager's annual evaluation. The Commissioner also discussed the Utility Rate Advisory Committee (URAC) meeting on January 20, 2022 as well as the follow-up calls he plans to make to URAC members after that meeting. Commissioner Olsen gave a report on reopening plans for various state agencies in Washington. The Commissioner reported on the recent death of a Washington State Senator.

Commissioner Oosterman reported on matters related to COVID-19. The Commissioner also reported that many of her events have been recently cancelled.

Commissioner Stearns reported on the 2021 Re-Wire Conference and the topics discussed at this event. The Commissioner also reported on the meetings he has recently attended.

Commissioner Oosterman asked the Board about diversity, equity, and inclusion and any additional information on this topic that she may have missed during recent meetings. The Board entered into a detailed discussion on this topic.

Executive Session:

At 5:51 p.m., Commissioner Olsen announced that the Board would be entering into an Executive Session to consider the selection of a site or the acquisition of real estate by lease or purchase when public knowledge regarding such consideration would cause a likelihood of increased price, as authorized by RCW 42.30.110 (1)(b), for 15 minutes until 6:06 p.m. At 6:06 p.m., it was announced that the Executive Session would be extended for five minutes until 6:11 p.m. At 6:11 p.m., it was announced that the Executive Session would be extended for five minutes until 6:16 p.m. At 6:16 p.m., the Executive Session was concluded and the regular meeting resumed. The District's attorney was present for the Executive Session. No decisions were made during the Executive Session.

Adjournment: Commissioner Stearns made a motion to adjourn the meeting: Commissioner Oosterman seconded the motion; the motion passed with all in favor. The meeting adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

Assignments:

- 1) Email the Commissioner Bio for Commissioner Olsen listed on the District's website for review.
- 2) Ensure that the U.S. flag at PUD Headquarters is flown half-mast on Wednesday, December 29, 2021 to honor the late Washington Senator Doug Ericksen.

Russell E Olsen

[Russell E Olsen \(Jan 13, 2022 11:30 PST\)](#)

Russell E. Olsen, Commissioner and President

Attest:

Linda Oosterman

[Linda Oosterman \(Jan 13, 2022 13:37 PST\)](#)

Linda Oosterman, Commissioner and Secretary









Minutes 12282021

Final Audit Report

2022-01-13

Created:	2022-01-12
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