

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL COMMISSION MEETING OF FEBRUARY 6, 2024**  
**OF**  
**PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1**  
**OF**  
**THURSTON COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

The first special Commission meeting for February 2024 of the Commissioners of Public Utility District No. 1 of Thurston County was called to order on February 6, 2024. The meeting commenced at 5:00 p.m. Commissioners Linda Oosterman, Russell E. Olsen, and Chris Stearns were present for the meeting hosted in-person at District Headquarters, located at 1230 Ruddell Road SE, Lacey, Washington 98503. District staff present at the meeting include:

- John Weidenfeller, General Manager
- TaSeana Tartt, Finance and Customer Service Manager (FCSM)
- Ernestine Jim, Accounting Assistant
- Kurin Miller, Administrative Services Coordinator (ASC) and Clerk to the Board

**Call to Order:**

Commissioner Oosterman called the special meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

**Approval of Agenda:**

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

FCSM Tartt introduced the District's new Accounting Assistant, Ernestine Jim. Ms. Jim addressed the Board, and a short discussion ensued.

GM Weidenfeller reported on several topics including District staff on vacation, leave he will take later in the week, personnel changes, the District's nomination for Operator of the Year, and the first reading of a diversity, equity, and inclusion resolution scheduled for the first regular Commission meeting in February.

Commissioner Stearns asked about projected trends in water system outages, and Commissioner Oosterman asked about recent employee recruitment. GM Weidenfeller addressed these questions.

The Board reviewed the 2024 Commissioner Assignments document and provided direction to District staff on updates to the document for approval at the next regular Commission meeting. The Board held an in-depth discussion with GM Weidenfeller about this topic.

Commissioner Olsen brought up discussion points for a future meeting regarding the Board's Strategic Plan. The Board discussed the Strategic Plan at length with GM Weidenfeller.

Commissioner Oosterman spoke about the upcoming trainings and events she will be attending throughout February.

Commissioner Olsen reported on his work with Bill Clarke and attempted communications with a few Washington State Representatives regarding culvert replacement funding. The Commissioner also reported on a personal matter, and he led a discussion on the Tanglewilde-Thompson Place 600 water system and a proposed PFAS project at that system.

Commissioner Stearns reported on his work with the Puget Sound Regional Council and the topics discussed at those meetings.

**Adjournment: Commissioner Olsen made a motion to adjourn: Commissioner Stearns seconded the motion; the motion passed with all in favor. The meeting adjourned at 6:56 p.m.**

**Assignments:**

- 1) Update the 2024 Commissioner Assignments document, and schedule for approval (on the Consent Calendar) during the first regular Commission meeting on February 13, 2024.
- 2) Contact the Yelm Chamber of Commerce to pay dues for 2024.
- 3) Schedule Board review of the Strategic Plan at the next few Strategic Planning Sessions, including:
  - a. External versus internal growth and potential disposition of District water systems outside of Thurston County
  - b. A consolidation goal for District water systems
  - c. Examine and discuss financial implications and the Board's policy on the topics above
  - d. Future budget priorities for District staff for possible outline in the Board's Strategic Planning Session
- 4) Register Commissioner Oosterman for the EPA's water and wastewater sector threat briefing scheduled on February 27, 2024.

*Linda Oosterman*

[Linda Oosterman \(Feb 29, 2024 12:43 PST\)](#)

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Linda Oosterman, Commissioner and President

Attest:

*Christopher Stearns*

[Christopher Stearns \(Feb 29, 2024 15:42 PST\)](#)

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Christopher Stearns, Commissioner and Secretary











# Minutes 02062024

Final Audit Report

2024-02-29

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