

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING OF OCTOBER 8, 2024**  
**OF**  
**PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1**  
**OF**  
**THURSTON COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

The first regular meeting for October 2024 of the Commissioners of Public Utility District No. 1 of Thurston County was called to order on October 8, 2024. The meeting commenced at 5:01 p.m. Commissioners Linda Oosterman, Russell E. Olsen, and Chris Stearns were present for the hybrid meeting hosted via Zoom video conferencing and 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
- Julie Parker, Assistant General Manager
- Kim Gubbe, Director of Planning and Compliance (DPC)
- Jim Campbell, Director of Field Operations (DFO)
- TaSeana Tartt, Finance Director (FD)
- Kurin Miller, Administrative Services Coordinator (ASC) and Clerk to the Board
- Kalelia Gipson, Customer Service Representative and Associate Clerk to the Board
- Doug Piehl, District Engineer
- Joseph A. Rehberger, Chief Legal Counsel

**Call to Order:**

Commissioner Oosterman called the regular meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Approval of Agenda:**

**Commissioner Stearns made a motion to add an item to the agenda under Information or Discussion of Operations/Policy Issues, per Commissioner Oosterman's request to discuss the next Board Strategic Planning Session in November: Commissioner Olsen seconded the motion; the motion passed with all in favor. Commissioner Olsen made a motion to approve the agenda as amended: Commissioner Stearns seconded the motion; the motion passed with all in favor.**

**Consent Calendar:**

Approval of Minutes: September 10, 2024, September 17, 2024, October 1, 2024

Prequalification of Contractors: None

Correspondence: None

Voucher Approval:

- 1) Accounts Payables: September 11, 2024, September 18, 2024, September 25, 2024, October 2, 2024
- 2) Payroll: September 20, 2024, October 4, 2024

Other:

- 1) Resolution 24-40, Washington State Homeland Security Region 3 Mutual Aid Agreement
- 2) Resolution 24-41, Policies and Procedures Update
- 3) Authorization to Purchase Vehicle to Support New Field Technician (Project Position), Tools for Field Operations Staff to Work on Wells, Telemetry Pilot Test
- 4) Resolution 24-48, Construction Engineering Services Contract for Pattison 500 DWSRF Reservoir Project

**Approval of Consent Calendar:**

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

**Public Comment:** None

**Information or Discussion of Operations/Policy Issues:**

**Board Strategic Planning Session in November**

Commissioner Oosterman asked that the Strategic Planning Session in November be canceled, and a Commission Special Meeting be scheduled for December 3, 2024, so that the Board can perform a review for the General Manager in an Executive Session. The Board agreed to cancel the last Strategic Planning Session on November 3, 2024; they also agreed on the December 3<sup>rd</sup> Special Meeting date.

**Introduction of New Project Position Employee**

GM Weidenfeller introduced Brandon Warner, the PUD's new Field Technician I, a project position. Each Commissioner addressed Mr. Warner.

**Discussion – PUD Winter Celebration Recommended for December 13, 2024**

AGM Parker spoke briefly about the PUD's Winter Celebration, recommended to begin at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, December 13, 2024. The Board agreed on the December 13<sup>th</sup> celebration date.

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading – Resolution 24-42, Policies and Procedures Update**

AGM Parker introduced Resolution 24-42 which would adopt a few revisions to Policy 100-032 Travel. Commissioner Stearns spoke briefly about meetings he has attended within the county.

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading – Resolution 24-43, DWSRF Loan Contract for Prairie Ridge 605 Consolidation**

AGM Parker introduced Resolution 24-43 which would authorize the General Manager to sign the contract for the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) loan for the consolidation of the Prairie Ridge 605 water system with two other District-owned water systems: Tolmie 239 and Hawk Acres 607. GM Weidenfeller spoke about informational meetings planned for these communities in the future.

**1<sup>st</sup> Readings – Resolution 24-44, DWSRF Loan Contract for East Olympia 684 PFAS Remediation, Resolution 24-45, DWSRF Loan Contract for Cooperfield 678 PFAS Remediation, Resolution 24-46, DWSRF Loan Contract for Lazy Acres 351 PFAS Remediation, and Resolution 24-47, DWSRF Loan Contract for Burnsville 676 PFAS Remediation**

AGM Parker addressed the four resolutions regarding PFAS remediation at the East Olympia 684, Cooperfield 678, Lazy Acres 351, and Burnsville 676 water systems.

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading – Resolution 24-49, Sale of Kitsap County Water Systems**

GM Weidenfeller introduced Resolution 24-49 which would allow the PUD to enter into a Water System Transfer Agreement with Washington Rural Utilities Company LLC (WRUC) for the transfer five (5) District-owned Group B water systems, 36 approved connections located in Kitsap County. Commissioner Stearns asked that the resolution (specifically the third paragraph in the body of the resolution) be amended to include situation-specific language so that the Board has clarification for similar situations going forward.

**Action/Approval Items:**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting in December (December 24, 2024)**

**Commissioner Olsen made a motion to cancel the regular Commission meeting scheduled on Tuesday, December 24, 2024; Commissioner Stearns seconded the motion; the motion passed with all in favor.**

**Presentations:**

GM Weidenfeller reported on several items, including the first water system tour date with Lewis County in Packwood this week, a budget proviso that funds a study on transferring audit responsibility to the Washington State Department of Ecology for the conservation program currently under the Washington State Department of Health purview, and proposed annexations by the City of Lacey. Commissioner Stearns asked about the water use efficiency program in terms of Group A and Group B water systems; GM Weidenfeller addressed the Commissioner's question, and they spoke about this topic at length.

AGM Parker spoke briefly about the celebration event with Congresswoman Strickland the previous week. DFO Campbell reported on the work the Field Operations staff has recently completed. Commissioner Oosterman asked about the workload for the Field Operations staff, and Commissioner Stearns commented on the Ridgewood 609 water system. DFO Campbell addressed the Commissioners' questions and comments.

DPC Gubbe gave an update on the lead service line inventory work completed to date. She also reported on the recruitment progress for an Administrative Assistant I.

FD Tartt submitted a monthly variance report for August 2024. Commissioner Stearns asked about the elevator at PUD Headquarters; FD Tartt addressed the Commissioner's question.

**Commissioner Topics, Discussions, and Reports:**

Commissioner Stearns recently attended a Thurston Regional Planning Council (TRPC) meeting, and he addressed the topics discussed at that meeting. Commissioner Stearns asked about the District's preparation in terms of equipment and supplies in light of the major storm season in the southeastern party of the country. GM Weidenfeller and DFO Campbell addressed the Commissioner's question.

Commissioner Oosterman spoke about the Goosmus Fire in Washington state, storms, and climate change affecting the nation.

**Executive Session: At 5:54 p.m., Commissioner Oosterman announced that the Board would enter into an Executive Session in accordance with the provisions of RCW 42.30.110 (1) (i), to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency matters relating to agency enforcement actions, or to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency litigation or potential litigation to which the agency, the governing body, or a member acting in an official capacity is, or is likely to become, a party, when public knowledge regarding the discussion is likely to result in an adverse legal or financial consequence to the agency, for 20 minutes until 6:14 p.m. At 6:14 p.m., it was announced that the Executive Session would be extended for five more minutes until 6:19 p.m. At 6:19 p.m., the Executive Session 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 Olsen made a motion to adjourn: Commissioner Stearns seconded the motion; the motion passed with all present in favor. The meeting adjourned at 6:19 p.m.**

**Assignments:**

- 1) Cancel the Board's Strategic Planning Session in November, previously scheduled for Tuesday, November 5, 2024. Advertise for a special Commission meeting on Tuesday, December 3, 2024. The agenda should include an Executive Session to review the performance of a public employee, as authorized by RCW 42.30.110 (1)(g).
- 2) Reschedule the discussion items planned for the Strategic Planning Session on November 5, 2024, so that these items are discussed at regular Commission meetings before the end of the year.
- 3) Advertise for the PUD Winter Celebration event scheduled for Friday, December 13, 2024, beginning at 2:00 p.m. at PUD Headquarters.
- 4) Add Resolutions 24-44, 24-45, 24-46, and 24-47 to the Consent Calendar for the regular Commission meeting on October 22, 2024.
- 5) Follow up with Chief Legal Counsel regarding Resolution 24-49 and update the resolution, per Commissioner Stearns' request.
- 6) Cancel the regular Commission meeting scheduled on Tuesday, December 24, 2024. Advertise accordingly.

*Linda Oosterman*

Linda Oosterman (Oct 23, 2024 16:22 PDT)

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Linda Oosterman, Commissioner and President

Attest:

*Christopher Stearns*

Christopher Stearns (Oct 24, 2024 14:56 PDT)

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Christopher Stearns, Commissioner and Secretary











# Minutes 10082024

Final Audit Report

2024-10-24

Created:	2024-10-23
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-  Document created by Julie Parker (julieparker@thurstonpud.org)  
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-  Document emailed to loosterman@thurstonpud.org for signature  
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-  Email viewed by loosterman@thurstonpud.org  
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-  Signer loosterman@thurstonpud.org entered name at signing as Linda Oosterman  
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