

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING OF FEBRUARY 25, 2025**  
**OF**  
**PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1**  
**OF**  
**THURSTON COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

The second regular meeting for February 2025 of the Commissioners of Public Utility District No. 1 of Thurston County was called to order on February 25, 2025. The meeting commenced at 5:00 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 (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 Director (FD)
- Kurin Miller, Administrative Services Coordinator (ASC) and Clerk to the Board
- Kalelia Gipson, Customer Service Representative and Associate Clerk to the Board
- Mariah Montague, Customer Service Supervisor
- Joseph A. Rehberger, Chief Legal Counsel

**Call to Order:**

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

**Approval of Agenda:**

**Commissioner Olsen 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 4, 2025, February 11, 2025

Prequalification of Contractors: None

Correspondence: None

Voucher Approval:

- 1) Accounts Payables: February 12, 2025, February 19, 2025
- 2) Payroll: February 20, 2025

Other:

- 1) Resolution 25-09, Discontinuance of Webster Hill DWSRF Surcharge
- 2) Reminder: WPUA Association Meetings – March 19-21, 2025

**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 in favor.**

**Public Comments:**

There were no members of the public present at the meeting, however GM Weidenfeller gave an update on correspondence with a Cooperfield 678 water system customer regarding PFAS contamination.

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

**Discussion – 2025 Customer Satisfaction Survey**

After a short discussion with District staff, the Board agreed to implement a one-time \$5.00 credit to customer who complete the 2025 customer satisfaction survey.

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading – Resolution 25-10, Policies and Procedures Update**

AGM Parker presented Resolution 25-10 which would adopt several changes to a few District policies. AGM Parker addressed the changes with the Board, and there was a lengthy discussion on take-home vehicles, private sector procedures, transportation, costs associated with the District's fleet, and compensatory time accrued by District staff.

**Action/Approval Item(s):**

**Resolution 25-05, Cedar Shores Generator Contract**

DPC Gubbe spoke briefly about Resolution 25-05. **Commissioner Olsen made a motion to adopt Resolution 25-05 as presented: Commissioner Oosterman seconded the motion; the motion passed with all in favor.**

**Resolution 25-07, DWSRF Contract for Pattison 500**

AGM Parker spoke briefly about Resolution 25-04. **Commissioner Olsen made a motion to adopt Resolution 25-07 as presented: Commissioner Oosterman seconded the motion; the motion passed with all in favor.**

**Presentations:**

GM Weidenfeller reported that he will be out of the office on vacation, returning on March 17, 2025. The GM also reported on a few other issues, including water system acquisitions, state and federal funding for PFAS remediation projects, meetings with Tanglewilde Board of Commissioners and community, and an upcoming public meeting regarding a few projects at the Tanglewilde-Thompson Place 600 water system. Commissioner Stearns asked about the February all staff meeting, scheduled on February 27, 2025.

AGM Parker spoke briefly about the Project Help Customer Support program and helping more customers recently than in the past through this program. The Commissioners spoke about the rising cost of living. A lengthy discussion ensued on this topic and the potential acquisition of the Dana Passage water system.

DFO Campbell briefly addressed the work that Field Operations has recently completed. Commissioner Oosterman asked for after photos of drones cleaning a District-owned reservoir. Commissioner Stearns asked about a recent replacement performed at the Meadows 690 water system. DFO Campbell addressed both Commissioners' questions.

DPC Gubbe gave updates on several projects including the installation of a new reservoir at the Pattison 500 water system, the Green Cove Creek culvert replacement, consolidation projects, and PFAS remediation and treatment system funding. Commissioner Stearns asked about communications to customers during consolidation projects; the DPC addressed the Commissioner's question.

Commissioner Olsen asked about the trend of other PUDs and municipalities charging their customers for credit card processing fees. The Board discussed this topic briefly with District staff.

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

Commissioner Olsen did not have a report. Commissioner Oosterman spoke about candidates running for Olympia City Council.

Commissioner Stearns attended the WPUDA Association meetings earlier in the month. The Commissioner spoke about the topics reported on during those meetings. The Board briefly discussed the Bonneville Power Administration.

Commissioner Stearns announced that the Board would break starting at 5:54 p.m. At 6:04 p.m., the regular meeting resumed.

**Executive Session: At 6:04 p.m., Commissioner Stearns announced that the Board would enter into an Executive Session 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, in accordance with the provisions of RCW 42.30.110 (1)(i), for 35 minutes until 6:39 p.m. At 6:39 p.m., it was announced that the Executive Session would be extended for 30 more minutes until 7:09 p.m.**

Commissioner Stearns announced that the Board would break starting at 7:09 p.m. At 7:18 p.m., the Executive Session resumed.

**At 7:18 p.m., it was announced that the Executive Session would be extended for 20 more minutes until 7:38 p.m. At 7:38 p.m., the Executive Session concluded, and the regular meeting resumed. The District's attorney was present for the Executive Session, though no action was taken during the Executive Session.**

**Adjournment: Commissioner Olsen made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Commissioner Oosterman seconded the motion; the motion passed with all in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.**

**Assignments:**

- 1) Commissioner Oosterman requested that District staff include an article on conservation tips in the April newsletter, organized by importance.

*Christopher Stearns*

Christopher Stearns (Mar 26, 2025 00:01 PDT)

Christopher Stearns, Commissioner and President

Attest:

*Linda Oosterman*

Linda Oosterman (Mar 17, 2025 14:36 PDT)

Linda Oosterman, Commissioner and Secretary









# Minutes 02252025

Final Audit Report

2025-03-26

Created:	2025-03-13
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