

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING OF AUGUST 12, 2025
OF
PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1
OF
THURSTON COUNTY, WASHINGTON

The first regular meeting for August 2025 of the Commissioners of Public Utility District No. 1 of Thurston County was called to order on August 12, 2025. The meeting commenced at 5:00 p.m. Commissioners 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)
- 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

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 Stearns seconded the motion; the motion passed with all in favor.

Consent Calendar:

Approval of Minutes: July 22, 2025

Prequalification of Contractors: None

Correspondence: None

Voucher Approval:

- 1) Accounts Payables: July 23, 2025, July 30, 2025, August 6, 2025
- 2) Payroll: August 5, 2025

Other:

- 1) Resolution 25-20, Moratorium on Exempt Wells Within Pattison 500 Water System Boundary
- 2) Resolution 25-22, Lewis County Hazard Mitigation Plan

Approval of Consent Calendar:

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

Public Comments:

Samantha Smithingell, an applicant for the District No. 1 Commissioner position, introduced herself and discussed her background with the Board.

GM Weidenfeller informed the Board of a recent request to drill an exempt well within the District's service area; the request was denied.

Information or Discussion of Operations/Policy Issues:

Discussion – Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Casebolt Well

GM Weidenfeller presented information on the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Casebolt well at the District's Pattison 500 water system at 2:30 p.m. on September 9, 2025.

Discussion – Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Green Cove Creek Project Site

GM Weidenfeller and AGM Parker presented information on the ribbon cutting ceremony for the Green Cove Creek culvert replacement project on 12:00 p.m. on August 27, 2025. This event will be hosted by the Thurston County Public Works Department. Commissioner Stearns will attend the event along with District staff.

1st Reading – Resolution 25-23, Policies and Procedures Update

AGM Parker presented Resolution 25-23, and she elaborated on the changes proposed to District Policy 400-006 Employee Leaves. Commissioner Stearns clarified with District staff that Commissioners do not receive sick or vacation leave.

Action/Approval Item(s):

Authorization to Purchase Vehicle

AGM Parker presented background information on staff's request to purchase an additional vehicle. Commissioner Olsen asked about funding for the new vehicle if approved; AGM Parker addressed the Commissioner's question. **Commissioner Olsen made a motion to authorize the General Manager to purchase one vehicle for a cost up to \$50,000; Commissioner Stearns seconded the motion; the motion passed with all in favor.**

Resolution 25-18, Water Service Policy Manual Update

AGM Parker briefly presented Resolution 25-18. Commissioner Stearns spoke about a customer's responsibility regarding service line leaks. **Commissioner Olsen made a motion to adopt Resolution 25-18 as presented; Commissioner Stearns seconded the motion; the motion passed with all in favor.**

Resolution 25-21, Establish EPA/WA State Emerging Contaminants Fund

AGM Parker presented Resolution 25-21, and she spoke about PFAS remediation now and in the future including expected costs. Commissioner Olsen asked about safeguarding the new fund from future Boards borrowing against this fund; Commissioner Stearns asked about PFAS contamination for Group A versus Group B water systems. GM Weidenfeller and AGM Parker addressed the Commissioners' questions and held a lengthy discussion with the Board on this topic. Commissioner Olsen highlighted his concerns about the differing expectations at federal and state levels, utilization of the funds for their created purpose, and District customers potentially bearing the burden of pollution traced back to profit-making entities. Commissioner Stearns spoke about his concern with how remediation costs will affect rates, fees, and charges; GM Weidenfeller addressed the Commissioner's concerns.

Commissioner Stearns made a motion to adopt Resolution 25-21 as presented; Commissioner Olsen seconded the motion with reservations; the motion passed with all in favor, though Commissioner Olsen voted in favor with reservations.

Presentations:

GM Weidenfeller reported on several topics, including several potential water system acquisitions, the transfer of unused funding for the Green Cove Creek culvert replacement project to PFAS remediation

for District water systems, and progress on the appointment process for the Commissioner position for District No. 1. Commissioner Stearns asked for an update on the projects at the Pattison 500 water system; GM Weidenfeller addressed the Commissioner's question.

AGM Parker reported on increased use of funding for income-eligible customers as part of the Project Help Customer Support Program. The AGM also reported on the start date of the new GIS Intern, whose position was recently filled.

Commissioner Topics, Discussions, and Reports:

Commissioner Olsen did not have a report to share.

Per Commissioner Stearns's request, GM Weidenfeller spoke about the information shared at the Water Resources Advisory Committee (WRAC) meeting earlier in the week.

Executive Session: None

Adjournment: Commissioner Olsen made a motion to adjourn the meeting: Commissioner Stearns seconded the motion; the motion passed with all in favor. The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Assignments:

- 1) Post a notice of potential quorum for the ribbon cutting ceremony at the Pattison 500 water system on September 9, 2025.

Christopher Stearns
Christopher Stearns (Aug 26, 2025 11:41:47 PDT)

Christopher Stearns, Commissioner and President

Attest:

Russell E. Olsen
Russell E. Olsen (Aug 26, 2025 20:28:47 PDT)

Russell E. Olsen, Commissioner and Vice President









Minutes 08122025

Final Audit Report

2025-08-28

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