# MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 9, 2025

OF

## **PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1**

OF

# THURSTON COUNTY, WASHINGTON

The first regular meeting for September 2025 of the Commissioners of Public Utility District No. 1 of Thurston County was called to order on September 9, 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)
- 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

## 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: August 26, 2025 Prequalification of Contractors: None

Correspondence: None Voucher Approval:

- 1) Accounts Payables: August 27, 2025, September 3, 2025
- 2) Payroll: September 5, 2025

### Other:

- 1) Reminder: September 17-19, 2025 WPUDA Association Meetings (Moses Lake/Ephrata)
- 2) Reminder: September 24-26, 2025 WPUDA Water Workshop (Leavenworth)
- 3) Phone System Upgrade Contract Privacy Policy and Terms and Conditions

# **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:**

There were no members of the public present at the meeting.

Public Hearing – 2026 Proposed Budgets, Rates, Fees, Charges, Surcharges, and 2026 Proposed Ad Valorem Assessment

At 5:02 p.m., Commissioner Stearns opened the Public Hearing on the 2026 Proposed Budgets, Rates, Fees, Charges, Surcharges, and 2026 Proposed Ad Valorem Assessment. The District received written

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testimony from two customers, but there were no members of the public present to provide testimony in person. Commissioner Stearns closed the Public Hearing at 5:03 p.m., and the regular meeting resumed.

Information or Discussion of Operations/Policy Issues: None

# Action/Approval Item(s):

# Appointment of PUD Commissioner for District No. 1

GM Weidenfeller spoke with the Board about this topic as well as succession planning for the Director of Field Operations position. Commissioner Olsen made a motion to appoint James Campbell to the position of Commissioner of District No. 1 of the Public Utility District No. 1 of Thurston County with the appointment to become effective upon Mr. Campbell taking the oath of office: Commissioner Stearns seconded the motion; the motion passed with all in favor.

Resolution 25-28, DWSRF Contract for Lazy Acres 351, PFAS Treatment Construction Project GM Weidenfeller presented Resolution 25-28, adoption of which would award the contract for the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) PFAS treatment construction project for the Lazy Acres 351 water system. Commissioner Olsen made a motion to adopt Resolution 25-28 as presented: Commissioner Stearns seconded the motion; the motion passed with all in favor.

Authorization to Purchase Waterworth Software, Continuous Utility Rate Management
AGM Parker introduced information on software by Waterworth called *Continuous Utility Rate*Management and spoke to the Board about this topic briefly. Commissioner Olsen made a motion to
authorize the purchase Waterworth software, Continuous Utility Rate Management: Commissioner
Stearns seconded the motion; the motion passed with all in favor.

#### **Presentations:**

GM Weidenfeller reported on the work recently performed at the Dana Passage water system in preparation for acquisition. Commissioner Stearns asked about this work; GM Weidenfeller spoke at length with the Commissioner regarding the work performed, acquisition of water systems for which infrastructure repairs are needed, and communication between the District and onboarding water systems for acquisition.

AGM Parker reported on a payment received from the PFAS settlement claim.

DFO Campbell reported on the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Casebolt well dedication that occurred earlier in the day. Upon Commissioner Stearns's request, the DFO spoke about the work performed at the Crescent Park 355 water system. Commissioner Stearns spoke about the history of this water system.

FD Tartt gave a brief overview on her report.

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

Commissioner Olsen asked for clarification on budget adoption for the next Commission meeting; GM Weidenfeller addressed the Commissioner's question. Commissioner Olsen was asked by WPUDA to

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support the budget committee on the review of their executive budget. The Board briefly discussed this topic. Lastly, the Commissioner asked for clarification on the next Utility Rate Advisory Committee (URAC) meeting.

Commissioner Stearns spoke about two ribbon cutting ceremonies he recently attended: one for the Green Cove Creek fish passage project and another for the District's new Casebolt well earlier in the day. The Commissioner also attended the most recent Thurston Regional Planning Council (TRPC) meeting, so he spoke to the topics discussed at that meeting.

**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 5:39 p.m.

## **Assignments:**

1) Schedule a request to the Board to authorize James Campbell to retain PUD clothing and equipment upon his transition to the PUD Commissioner for District No. 1.

Christopher Steams
Christopher Steams, (Oct 13, 2025 08-46-23 PDT)

Christopher Stearns, Commissioner and President

Attest:

Russell E. Olsen
Russell E. Olsen
Russell E. Olsen (Oct 1, 2025 10-48-28 PDT)

Russell E. Olsen, Commissioner and Vice President

# Minutes 09092025

Final Audit Report 2025-10-13

Created: 2025-10-01

By: Julie Parker (julieparker@thurstonpud.org)

Status: Signed

Transaction ID: CBJCHBCAABAAiYWFZoO7j7Mr-t0Ff0H19voAUyY-HZEI

# "Minutes 09092025" History

- Document created by Julie Parker (julieparker@thurstonpud.org) 2025-10-01 0:46:52 AM GMT
- Document emailed to Christopher Stearns (cstearns@thurstonpud.org) for signature 2025-10-01 0:46:56 AM GMT
- Document emailed to Russell E. Olsen (rolsen@thurstonpud.org) for signature 2025-10-01 0:46:56 AM GMT
- Email viewed by Russell E. Olsen (rolsen@thurstonpud.org) 2025-10-01 5:48:14 PM GMT
- Document e-signed by Russell E. Olsen (rolsen@thurstonpud.org)

  Signature Date: 2025-10-01 5:48:28 PM GMT Time Source: server
- Email viewed by Christopher Stearns (cstearns@thurstonpud.org) 2025-10-13 3:45:53 PM GMT
- Document e-signed by Christopher Stearns (cstearns@thurstonpud.org)
  Signature Date: 2025-10-13 3:46:23 PM GMT Time Source: server
- Agreement completed. 2025-10-13 - 3:46:23 PM GMT