

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING OF MAY 12, 2026**  
**OF**  
**PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1**  
**OF**  
**THURSTON COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

The first regular meeting for May 2026 of the Commissioners of Public Utility District No. 1 of Thurston County was called to order on May 12, 2026. The meeting commenced at 5:00 p.m. Commissioners Jim Campbell, 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)
- TaSeana Tartt, Finance Director (FD)
- David Gruver, Acting Director of Field Operations (ADFO)
- 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 Olsen called the regular meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Approval of Agenda:**

**Commissioner Campbell 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: April 14, 2026, April 21, 2026, May 5, 2026

Prequalification of Contractors: None

Correspondence: None

Voucher Approval:

- 1) Accounts Payables: April 22, 2026, April 29, 2026, May 6, 2026
- 2) Payroll: May 5, 2026

Other:

- 1) Authorization for WPUA Building Costs \$12,069 to be Paid from General Fund

**Approval of Consent Calendar:**

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

**Public Comments:**

Two members of the public were present for the meeting: one in person attendee and a virtual attendee. Neither attendee provided public comment.

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

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading – Resolution 26-08, 1<sup>st</sup> Amended 2026 Capital Budget**

FD Tartt presented Resolution 26-08, adoption of which would incorporate several changes to the District's Capital Budget for 2026. Commissioner Stearns asked about the location of the manganese

remediation noted in the Capital Budget; Commissioner Campbell asked about which agencies funding for remediation may available through. DPC Gubbe and AGM Parker addressed the Commissioner's question.

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading – Resolution 26-22, Authorization to Surplus Equipment**

FD Tartt presented Resolution 26-22, adoption of which would authorize District staff to surplus several pieces of equipment.

**Discussion – Commission Strategic Goals 2026**

Commissioner Olsen started the discussion with the Board about budget preparation, strategic approaches to getting monies out to communities, and challenging economic times that everyone is currently experiencing. Commissioners Campbell and Stearns also addressed their fellow Board members, and District staff also spoke during this discussion topic.

**Discussion – Review of Commission Strategic Plan**

AGM Parker presented the proposed changes to the Commission Strategic Plan. The Board discussed proposed updates to the strategic plan for adoption at a subsequent Commission meeting.

**Discussion – 2027 Budget Priorities**

AGM Parker presented the 2027 Budget priorities noted by District staff. The Board discussed this topic with staff at length.

**Discussion – 2027 Budget Process Overview**

AGM Parker went through the tentative schedule for the 2027 Budget process.

**Action/Approval Item(s): None**

**Presentations:**

GM Weidenfeller reported on several topics, including the potential acquisition of the Shadow Creek water system, other potential water system acquisitions, and potential groundbreaking or ribbon cutting ceremonies for projects at the Tanglewilde-Thompson Place 600 water system. The Board further discussed funding for contaminants with GM Weidenfeller. The GM also reported about a change to the water rights self-assessment form, intended as notification to the Squaxin Island Tribe; this topic was also discussed by the Board.

AGM Parker provided an update on funding received from the PFAS contaminant settlement cases. The AGM spoke about PFAS contamination and additional cost recovery with GM Weidenfeller and the Board. AGM Parker also reported on a concern and request received from a customer regarding radio read meters and electromagnetic fields generated by these devices, and an inquiry received from a customer that previously submitted a claim for damages related to an outage at the customer's water system.

DFO Gruver provided highlights from his written report. Commissioner Campbell asked about the newly replaced generator at the Ridgewood 609 water system; Commissioner Stearns asked about a shut-off valve replaced at the Boots and Saddles 662 water system. DFO Campbell and GM Weidenfeller

addressed the Commissioners' questions. The DFO also reported on his and his staff's attendance at the recent PNWS-AWWA 2026 Section Conference in Tacoma.

DPC Gubbe provided updates for project 1 of mainline replacement at the Tanglewilde-Thompson Place 600 water system and the next phase of mainline replacement at the same system. DPC Gubbe also provided updates for the Pattison 500 water system, PFAS treatment for the Lazy Acres 351 water system, and starting sanitary surveys for District water systems. Commissioner Stearns asked about the quantity of bidders for upcoming projects; DPC Gubbe addressed the Commissioner's question.

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

Commissioner Campbell recently attended the WPUDA Annual Conference in Suquamish.

Commissioner Stearns recently attended the joint WPUDA and WWUC meeting and the WPUDA Annual Conference with GM Weidenfeller.

Commissioner Olsen reported on a personal matter. The Commissioner will be out of town at the end of the week due to his work with the local golf community.

At 6:32 p.m., Commissioner Olsen announced the Board would break for five minutes.

**Executive Session: At 6:37 p.m., Commissioner Olsen announced that the Board would enter into an Executive Session to consider the selection of a site or the acquisition of real estate by lease or purchase when public knowledge regarding such consideration would cause a likelihood of increased price, in accordance with the provisions of RCW 42.30.110 (1)(b), and to review the performance of a public employee, in accordance with the provisions of RCW 42.30.110 (1)(g), for 13 minutes until 6:50 p.m.**

**Adjournment: Commissioner Stearns made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion; the motion passed with all in favor. The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.**

**Assignments:**

- 1) Update the Commission Strategic Plan, per the Board's direction. Schedule the updated plan for approval at a subsequent Commission meeting.

*Russell E. Olsen*  
Russell E. Olsen (May 27, 2026 16:35:45 PDT)

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Russell E. Olsen, Commissioner and President

Attest:

*Christopher Stearns*  
Christopher Stearns (May 29, 2026 11:47:01 PDT)

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Christopher Stearns, Commissioner and Secretary









# Minutes 05122026

Final Audit Report

2026-05-29

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