# MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 10, 2019 OF PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 OF THURSTON COUNTY, WASHINGTON

The first regular meeting for September 2019 of the Commissioners of Public Utility District No. 1 of Thurston County was called to order on Tuesday, September 10, 2019, at the Lacey Community Center located at 6729 Pacific Avenue SE, Lacey, Washington 98503, commencing at 7:00 p.m. Commissioners Russell E. Olsen, Linda Oosterman, and Chris Stearns were present for the meeting. Utility Rate Advisory Committee (URAC) members Robert B. Berschauer, Gerald E. Smith, and John Pirie were present. The following District employees were present:

- John Weidenfeller, General Manager (GM)
- Julie Parker, Assistant General Manager (AGM)
- Jim Campbell, Director of Field Operations (DFO)
- Ruth Clemens, Administrative Services Manager (ASM)
- TaSeana Tartt, Finance and Customer Service Manager (FCSM)
- Cathy Easton, Customer Service Supervisor
- Staci Mozee-Ramos, Customer Service Representative
- Raven Thomas, Lead Customer Service Representative
- Cathy Wise, Customer Service Representative
- Mariah Rodocker, Customer Service Representative
- Brian Wilson, Operations Specialist II
- Kurin Miller, Clerk to the Board

Call to Order: Commissioner Olsen called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda: Commissioner Oosterman made a motion to approve the agenda as presented: Commissioner Stearns seconded the motion; all in favor.

### **Consent Calendar:**

Approval of Minutes: August 27, 2019 Prequalification of Contractors: None

SMA Contracts: None Correspondence: None Voucher Approval:

1) Accounts Payables: August 28, 2019, September 5, 2019

2) Payroll: September 5, 2019

Other: None

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

**2020** Proposed Budget, Rates, Fees, Charges, and Capital Surcharges Overview: GM Weidenfeller gave an overview of the 2020 Proposed Budget, rates, fees, charges and surcharges in a short presentation.

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Public Hearing – 2020 Proposed Budget, Rates, Fees, Charges, and Capital Surcharges Commissioner Olsen opened the Public Hearing at 7:13 p.m. Several members of the public were present. URAC members Robert B. Berschauer and Gerald E. Smith spoke at the hearing. A total of five individuals spoke on record: one customer from the Countrywood water system, one customer from the Deerfield Park 2 water system, one customer from the Deerfield Park 1 water system, one customer from the Riverlea water system, and one customer from the Fir Tree 2 water system. Commissioner Olsen closed the Public Hearing at 7:32 p.m.

Due to the concerns raised by attendees, Commissioner Olsen asked for a question/answer portion during the meeting to allow for dialogue between Commissioners/staff and members of the public. GM Weidenfeller led the discussion in regard to questions posed by a few attendees; AGM Parker also addressed the audience.

# Information or Discussion of Operations/Policy Issues:

Discussion – Resolution 19-34, Operating Budget, Resolution 19-35, 2020 Rates, Fees, and Surcharges, and Resolution 19-36, 2020 Capital Budget

The Commissioners did not discuss these resolutions at the meeting.

Action / Approval Item(s): None

**Commissioner Signatures/Break:** None – Commissioners signed documents during the meeting.

### **Presentations:**

Staff reports were included in the agenda packets, but these reports were not addressed at the meeting.

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

Commissioner Stearns thanked the Utility Rate Advisory Committee (URAC) members present at the meeting. He spoke to the audience about the Asset Management Plan (AMP) and the requirements from staff.

Commissioner Oosterman addressed the public about changing regulations on the water industry. She thanked those members of the public that attended. She also spoke about serving as a Commissioner.

Commissioner Olsen spoke to the attendees about issues facing water systems today as well as the reasoning behind the proposed increases to utility rates, fees, charges, and surcharges. He also implored members of the public to get involved with the District.

**Executive Session:** None

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Adjournment: Commissioner Oosterman made a motion to adjourn the meeting: Commissioner Stearns seconded the motion; all in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Assignments: None

Russell E. Olsen, Commissioner and President

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Attest:

Chris Stearns, Commissioner and Secretary