President Farmer called a regular meeting of the Mason County PUD No. 3 board of commissioners to order at 10:00 a.m. The meeting was held in the PUD 3 auditorium, at 2621 East Johns Prairie Road in Shelton, Washington, on Tuesday, February 26, 2013.

District officers present were: Commissioners Thomas J. Farmer, Linda R. Gott, and Bruce E. Jorgenson; Manager Wyla Wood; Finance Manager/Auditor Annett Creekpaum; Treasurer Sherry Speaks; and Attorney Robert Johnson.

The following PUD 3 personnel were present: Customer Service Manager Diane Archer; IS Manager John Bennett; Maintenance Engineering Supervisor Nick Earsely; Executive Assistant / Records Program Administrator Lynn Eaton; Belfair Line Superintendent Chris Miller; Public Information & Government Relations Manager Joel Myer; Engineering Manager Terry Peterson; Operations Manager Scott Peterson; Power Supply Manager Matt Samuelson; Risk Manager Bob Smith; Shelton Line Superintendent Mike Speaks; Human Resources & Labor Relations Manager Michelle Wicks; and Administrative Services Manager Nancy Bolender (recorded minutes).

Members of the public in attendance were Natalie Johnson of The Mason County Journal and Dedrick Allen of MasonWebTV.

MODIFICATION AND/OR APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved with Mr. Farmer pointing out that an executive session for the purposes of evaluating an applicant for public employment RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) is scheduled. It will last approximately 20 minutes and no action will be taken following.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Farmer reviewed the items listed on the consent agenda. Mr. Jorgenson moved, motion seconded by Ms. Gott, to adopt the consent agenda. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. By adopting the consent agenda, the following items were approved:

A. Minutes of the February 12, 2013, regular commission meeting.
B. * Voucher numbers: (dated February 19, 2013) 121037 through 121114 $ 3,022,399.48
   (Includes electronic funds transfer payment Nos. 842-850.)
   Voucher numbers (dated February 26, 2013) 121115 through 121205 $ 701,658.53
   (Includes electronic funds transfer payment No. 851.)
   TOTAL $ 3,724,058.01

* Vouchers audited and certified by the district auditing officer as required by RCW 42.24.080, and those expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090, have been recorded on a listing which has been made available to the board.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mr. Farmer welcomed those present and stated comments would be accepted throughout the meeting.

STAFF REPORTS

Mr. Samuelson reported that staff is watching and participating in the Bonneville Power Administration’s (BPA) rate case through the Western Public Agencies Group (WPAG) representation. He also noted he has been reviewing proposed state legislation as bills are introduced and heard.

Mrs. Wood informed the commissioners that the sale of the Olympic Highway North and “K” Street warehouse property has closed and the money from its sale is in the bank. The property was sold to Mr. Dusty Watz for the sale price of $600,000. Mr. Watz will be using the site for his business, JX Construction, LLC.

Mrs. Wood presented commissioners with a video explaining the installation of a new electrical and fiber optic cable that was extended across the Harstine Island bridge February 18. The project will be completed following a planned power outage scheduled for March 6, 2013.

The new power line will eliminate the threat of a single point of failure for the electrical service to Harstine Island and provide the opportunity for high speed fiber in the future. It allows the PUD to separate the island into two circuits, delivering a better balancing of the electrical feed to the island. It will also help speed recovery during outages by taking the entire load for the island off one line and providing an additional power feed for customers.
The project was not without its challenges as sometime in late January thieves cut up to 40 feet of the cable on the mainland side of the crossing on East Harstine Bridge Road. The cable was sawed off at ground level where it came out of conduit that led to the bridge. PUD linemen and engineers were able to find an alternative way of connecting the lines to the distribution system and salvage the work. The repair cost is estimated at $30,000. PUD staff is working with law enforcement officers to investigate the incident and hopefully find those responsible for the damage and theft.

COMMISSIONERS’ REPORTS

Ms. Gott stated that she had attended the NoaNet board of directors meeting on February 13th during which a report was provided on the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) activities. NoaNet added some anchor institutions to the network including libraries and hospitals.

Ms. Gott reported she had also attended the Washington PUD Association telecom and board meetings the same week.

Mr. Farmer reported on his attendance at the North Mason Chamber of Commerce annual awards meeting and will be attending the February 27th monthly meeting.

He also noted that the Twanoh Grange’s annual potato/taco dinner was coming up, as is a public meeting on March 8th regarding the possible closure of the Tahuya post office.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

A discussion took place about the cancellation of the March 12th regular commission meeting due to a lack of a quorum (American Public Power Association legislative rally and workshops) and rescheduling a special meeting.

Ms. Gott moved to cancel the March 12th regular commission meeting and hold a special meeting on March 5th. Mr. Jorgenson seconded the motion and the MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Farmer recessed the regular meeting at 10:19 a.m. for seven minutes and the board reconvened into an executive session at 10:26 a.m. The executive session was scheduled to last approximately 20 minutes and was to evaluate an applicant for public employment. The executive session adjourned at 10:46 a.m. and the regular session reconvened. The regular meeting immediately recessed and reconvened at 10:51 a.m.

At the commissioners’ request, Mrs. Bolender proceeded with the first reading of Resolution No. 1591, “A Resolution Accepting the Resignation and Retirement of Wyla Wood as Manager of Public Utility District No. 3 of Mason County,” and Resolution No. 1592, “A Resolution Appointing Annette Creekpaum as Manager of Public Utility District No. 3 of Mason County.”

The resolutions will be considered for adoption at the next regular commission meeting on March 26, 2013.

With no further business appearing, the commission meeting adjourned at 10:59 a.m.

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Thomas J. Farmer, President

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Bruce E. Jorgenson, Vice President

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Linda R. Gott, Secretary