

MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING OF COMMISSIONERS
OF PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 3
OF MASON COUNTY, WASHINGTON

President Farmer called a regular teleconference meeting of the Mason County PUD No. 3 board of commissioners to order at 10:00 a.m. The meeting was held virtually using Microsoft Teams in Shelton, Washington, on Tuesday, August 11, 2020.

District officers present were: Commissioners, Thomas J. Farmer; Linda R. Gott; Bruce E. Jorgenson; Manager Annette Creekpaum; Attorney Robert Johnson; Risk Manager/Auditor Brian Taylor; Finance Manager/Treasurer Sherry Speaks.

The following PUD 3 personnel were present: Environmental & Admin Specialist Ali Burgess; Public Information & Government Relations Manager Lynn Eaton; Customer Service Manager Diane Hennessy; Director of Engineering & Utility Services Justin Holzgrove; Network Systems & Cyber Security Administrator Joel Moore; Power Manager Michele Patterson; Administrative Services Manager Mary Taylor-Monger (recorded minutes).

Members of the public in attendance were (teleconference) Randy Lewis of Shelton and *Dedrick Allan of Mason Web TV*

MODIFICATION AND/OR APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as presented

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 July 28, 2020 regular commission meeting.
- b. Voucher Nos. (August 4 ,2020) 154659 through 154713 \$ 249,410.26
(Includes electronic funds transfer payment Nos. 23303-23315)
- c. Voucher Nos. (August 11 ,2020) 154714 through 154658 \$ 3,111,673.74
(Includes electronic funds transfer payment Nos. 23316-23509)
- Total** \$ 3,361,084.00
- d. Void accounts payable checks for the week ending July 31, 2020 in the total amount of \$31.58 and the week ending August 7, 2020 in the total amount of \$71.86.
- e. Governance Policy Expense Approval

*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.

ACTION ITEM

Recommendation to Adopt Resolution No. 1757, “Declaring Distribution System Items Surplus (PCB and Non-PCB contaminate)”.

Mrs. Creekpaum stated that this is a housekeeping item consistent with policy and procedures when removing equipment from inventory for disposal.

Mr. Jorgenson moved, seconded by Ms. Gott to approve Resolution No. 1757 “Declaring Distribution System Items Surplus (PCB and Non-PCB contaminate)” MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

STAFF REPORT

Mrs. Creekpaum reported on the current COVID-19 efforts. As of August 10, 2020, there are 249 confirmed COVID-19 cases, seventy-six (76) active cases and one (1) COVID related death in Mason County. Washington State has 63,647 confirmed COVID-19 cases and 1,697 COVID related deaths. As of June 2020, the unemployment rate in Mason County was down to 10.4 percent from the May percentage of 14.7. Washington State was at 9.8 percent and the national average was 11.1 percent.

Mrs. Creekpaum said that Governor Inslee extended proclamation 20-23.7, Ratepayer Assistance and Preservation of Essential Services, to October 15, 2020. Proclamation 20-28.8, Open Public Meetings Act and Public Records Act is extended to September 1, 2020.

Mrs. Creekpaum reported that the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) Financial Reserves Policy (FRP) Surcharge has been suspended for the remainder of the BP-20 rate period. However, a onetime wind oversupply surcharge will be assessed and passed on to customers in September or October. Energy Northwest assisted with mitigating this cost.

At Mrs. Creekpaum’s request, Mrs. Speaks reported on the customer delinquency totals. As of August 1, 2020, there were 2,430 accounts over 30 days past due, an increase of 129 accounts since April 1, 2020. The past due totals were just under \$700,000, an increase of \$276,000 since April 1, 2020. The average past due amount was \$250 for residential accounts.

Mrs. Creekpaum reported that staff continues to prepare the 2021 budget.

Mrs. Creekpaum reported that the comprehensive economic development strategy (CEDS) report was submitted to the county. This enables the District to receive State and or Federal funding for future projects. The report includes broadband, dri-fi, substations, electric vehicle infrastructure and LED streetlighting.

Mrs. Creekpaum reported that BPA Administrator Elliot Mainzer announced his resignation from BPA. A search for his replacement is under way.

At Mrs. Creekpaum’s request, Mrs. Eaton provided commission with a legislative update. She stated that Derek Kilmer may be visiting PUD 3 in August to discuss rural broadband. A date is yet to be set. The Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was released. After evaluating the potential effects of the alternatives proposed in the draft on the multiple uses of the rivers system, the EIS identified a preferred alternative. The agencies concluded the best option for improving fish survival, while still

providing a reliable electric grid, and reaching the Northwest's clean energy goals was to keep the four Lower Snake River Dams (LSRD) intact but with adjusted operations. This includes flexible spill operations, closable floating orifice gates, and steelhead overshoots. The final EIS also calls for continued significant investments in habitat restorations as part of a holistic approach to helping the fish. Lastly, PUD 3 is partnering with PUD 1 and approaching City and County leadership to designate our community as a "clean energy community" asking both entities to pass resolutions, post signs near entrances, and commit to reducing their own carbon footprint through energy savings or some other measure. WPUDA will also be offering support as they are hoping to roll this out as a statewide campaign as well.

Mrs. Creekpau shared a compliment submitted by customers in the View Ridge area. They thanked the PUD for providing patient and courteous public employees. The quality of employees benefits the PUD and customers.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORT

Ms. Gott reported that she attended the Public Power Council (PPC) Member Forum and the OPEB quarterly meeting.

Mr. Farmer reported that he attended the PPC and Washington Public Agency Group (WPAG) meetings.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

With no further business appearing, the commission meeting adjourned at 10:28 a.m.



Thomas J Farmer (Aug 26, 2020 14:07 PDT)

Thomas J Farmer, President



Linda R. Gott (Aug 25, 2020 11:15 PDT)

Linda R. Gott, Vice President

ATTEST:



Bruce E. Jorgenson (Aug 26, 2020 16:36 PDT)

Bruce E. Jorgenson, Secretary