

MINUTES OF REGULAR 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, September 22, 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; Director of Business Operations Michelle Bursleson; Customer Service Manager Diane Hennessy; Conservation Manger Koral Miller; 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).

A member of the public in attendance (teleconference) was Randy Lewis of Shelton.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was given.

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:

*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.

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|----|---|--------------|-------------------|
| a. | Minutes of the September 8, 2020 public hearing and regular commission meeting. | | |
| b. | Voucher Nos. (September 8 ,2020) 154959 through 155254 | \$ | 527,313.83 |
| | (Includes electronic funds transfer payment Nos. 23736-23811 | | |
| c. | Voucher Nos. (September 15, 2020) 155255 through 155440 | \$ | 3,411,115.80 |
| | (Includes electronic funds transfer payment Nos. 23812-23997 | | |
| d. | Voucher Nos. (September 22, 2020) 155441 through 155502 | \$ | <u>536,227.23</u> |
| | (Includes electronic funds transfer payment Nos. 23998-24019 | | |
| | | Total | \$ 4,474,656.86 |
| e. | Governance Policy Expense Approval | | |
| f. | Void accounts payable checks for the week ending September 4, 2020 in the total amount of \$585.64. | | |

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

No public comment was given.

STAFF REPORT

Mrs. Speaks reviewed the status of the budget as of August 31, 2020, with the commissioners. The month-end receipts for August were \$5.5 million, expenditures were \$5.7 million. Finishing the month of August with a negative budget balance of \$263,000.

Mrs. Speaks then provided the treasurer's report of funds through August 2020. The opening cash balance for August was \$4.6 million and was \$4.4 million at month's end. The total of all funds at month-end were \$34.7 million.

Mrs. Creekpau reported on the current COVID-19 efforts. As of September 21, 2020, there are 401 confirmed COVID-19 cases, twenty-four (24) active cases and three (3) COVID related death in Mason County. Washington State has 86,317 confirmed COVID-19 cases and 2,131 COVID related deaths.

Mrs. Creekpau reported that Governor Inslee announced Proclamation 20-28.10, Open Public Meetings Act and Public Records Act, has been amended to include allowing public meetings for fire-stricken counties that have no access to telecom services.

At Mrs. Creekpau's request, Mrs. Speaks provided an update on residential past due accounts. Currently, there are 2,063 residential customers past due, totaling \$572,000, with an average \$277.00. For accounts greater than \$75.00 past due, there are 1,500 customers totaling \$551,000 with an average of \$364.00. For accounts less than \$75.00 past due, there are 555 customers totaling \$23,000 past due, averaging \$41.00.

Mrs. Creekpau stated that PUD 3 continues to pursue CARES Act (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) funding for COVID-19 related costs. This provides financial assistance for customer billings and the material costs for the installation of the Wi-Fi hot spots.

At Mrs. Creekpau's request, Mr. Holzgrove provided a Wi-Fi and engineering update. He stated that all twenty-nine (29) hotspots are installed and operational with over 8,000 unique users. New service applications continue to increase each month, with 418 applications through the end of August 2020. This is a 230 percent increase since 2015. The Totten substation was energized in June 2020 and there are currently five (5) additional substations, two (2) with switching, planned in coming years to accommodate the residential and commercial growth in Mason County.

Mrs. Creekpau reported that Mason PUD 3 has submitted its application to the Public Works Board. A total of \$91 million was applied for statewide. Mason PUD 3's request totals \$3.1 million for the Cloquallum area fiber project.

At Mrs. Creekpau's request, Ms. Patterson provided a purchase power statement explaining that the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) wind surcharge has been determined. Mason PUD's portion is just under \$15,000 which will be passed along to customers on their October billings at the amount of

\$0.47 per account. Low income seniors and disabled are exempt from this charge. Ms. Patterson also provided an update on the Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA) rulemaking.

Mrs. Creekpauum stated that a PUD 3 crew, with dirt crew assistance, was sent to Douglas PUD for five (5) days to assist with power restoration after extensive fires in their area.

At Mrs. Creekpauum's request, Mrs. Miller provided an update on incentive payments for the State's net-metering program. Mrs. Miller stated that PUD 3 is a pass-through agency between the state and consumer for production incentives. The Conservation staff manually read the customer-owned, production meters in the field at the end of June. Readings are documented and reported to the WSU Energy Program. Mason PUD 3 is given the authority to process, prepare, and mail checks directly to the participating customers.

At Mrs. Creekpauum's request, Mrs. Hennessey provided an update on Project Share program. There are 974 customers donating monthly, an increase of 125 customers since 2019, and 65 customers made a one-time donation in August. She noted that the Shuck and Share for October 2020 was cancelled due to COVID-19 so other fundraising opportunities are being evaluated.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORT

Ms. Gott reported that she attended many virtual meetings including, NoaNet, NWPPA, WPUDA, and the APPA Policy Makers. She stated that NoaNet has a proposed bond sale to refinance existing and future capital projects. Nine (9) of the ten (10) members approve.

Mr. Farmer reported that he attended the State of Community by Ports and Public Power. He also attended the WPUDA and NoaNet virtual meetings.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Ms. Gott and Mr. Farmer thanked Lynn Eaton for an exceptional presentation on the "State of the PUD" at the Mason County Chamber meeting.

With no further business appearing, the commission meeting adjourned at 10:38 a.m.


Thomas J. Farmer (Oct 16, 2020 11:33 PDT)

Thomas J Farmer, President


Linda R. Gott (Oct 19, 2020 18:37 PDT)

Linda R. Gott, Vice President

ATTEST:


Bruce E. Jorgenson (Oct 21, 2020 14:25 PDT)

Bruce E. Jorgenson, Secretary