

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, March 23, 2021.

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: IS Manager John Bennett; Communications & Government Relations Manager Lynn Eaton; Director of Business Operations Michelle Endicott; Customer Service Manager Diane Hennessy; Director of Engineering & Utility Services Justin Holzgrove; Conservation Manager Koral Miller; Network Systems & Cyber Security Administrator Joel Moore; Power Manager Michele Patterson; Purchasing Manager Jennifer Renecker (arrived at 10:02); Environmental & Admin Specialist Ali Burgess (recorded minutes).

Members of the public in attendance (video conference) were Randy Lewis of Shelton and Dedrick Allen 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 March 9, 2021 regular commission meeting.
- b. Voucher Nos. (March 16, 2021) 157116 through 157204 \$ 4,066,765.43  
(Includes electronic funds transfer payment Nos. 26726-26928)
- c. Voucher Nos. (March 23, 2021) 157205 through 157249 \$ 320,532.58  
(Includes electronic funds transfer payment Nos. 26929-27041)
- Total \$ 4,387,298.01
- d. Governance Policy Expense Approval
- e. Accounts to write off deceased customers with no assets and bankruptcies in the total amount of \$530.09.
- f. Void accounts payable checks for the week ending March 12, 2021 in the amount of \$15.57.

\*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.

## PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comment was provided.

## ACTION ITEMS

No action items were presented.

## STAFF REPORT

Mrs. Speaks reviewed the status of the budget as of February 28, 2021, with the commissioners. The month-end receipts for February were \$6.9 million, expenditures were \$7.9 million. Finishing the month of February with a negative budget balance of \$1 million. Mrs. Speaks noted that the one-time payment for privilege taxes were paid in February, contributing to the increased negative balance.

Mrs. Speaks then provided the treasurer's report of funds through February 2021. The opening cash balance for January was \$6.8 million and was \$7 million at month's end. The total of all funds at month-end were \$32.3 million.

Mrs. Creekpau reported on the current COVID-19 efforts. As of March 22, 2021, there are 1,763 confirmed COVID-19 cases, and twenty-seven (27) COVID related deaths in Mason County. There were 45 new confirmed cases in the last fourteen (14) days and 69 confirmed cases per 100,000 tested. As of March 22, 2021, Washington State has 334,392 confirmed COVID-19 cases, 5183 COVID related deaths, and 2,824,937 vaccinations given. Mason PUD 3 worked closely with the Mason County Health Department to qualify under Phase 1B, Tier II, of the State's vaccination phases, as part of the Essential Workforce, defined under Governor Inslee's Proclamation 20-25, which specifies "*Workers-including contracted vendors, who maintain digital systems infrastructure supporting law enforcement and emergency service operations,*" because of the PUD's support of the county's emergency 9-1-1 system through its fiber optic network and the requirement for any or all employees to be called into a congregate setting during emergency outages. PUD 3 was able to coordinate and host a vaccine clinic with Mason Health for employees on March 4, 2021. The second vaccine clinic will be scheduled for April 7, 2021.

Mrs. Creekpau reported that Governor Inslee extended Proclamation 20-23.15, Ratepayer Assistance and Preservation of Essential Services, until July 31, 2021 or until a State of Emergency has ceased, whichever comes first.

Mrs. Creekpau reported that the Federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 passed congress and was signed by President Joe Biden on March 11, 2021. The Act includes utility and rental assistance.

At Mrs. Creekpau's request, Ms. Patterson gave the February 2021 purchase power statement.

At Mrs. Creekpau's request, Mrs. Eaton gave a legislative update. She provided updates on the status of several bills at the state legislature which could possibly impact Mason PUD 3. Two bills tied to the PUDs legislative priorities, HB 1336 and SB 5383, are scheduled for hearings this week.

Mrs. Creekpau noted several positive customer comments received commending the excellence of PUD 3 staff.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORT

Ms. Gott reported that she attended the NoaNet meeting, when Craig Nelson was named Acting CEO beginning in April. She also attended several Washington Public Utility District Association (WPUDA) meetings. She commended Mrs. Eaton and Mr. Holzgrove for their Electricity 101 presentation.

Mr. Farmer reported that he also attended the WPUDA meetings and applauded Mrs. Eaton and Mr. Holzgrove for their presentation.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

With no further business appearing, the commission meeting adjourned at 10:24 a.m.



THOMAS J FARMER (Apr 13, 2021 13:47 PDT)

Thomas J Farmer, President



Linda R. Gott (Apr 13, 2021 14:08 PDT)

Linda R. Gott, Vice President

ATTEST:



Bruce E. Jorgenson (Apr 13, 2021 14:19 PDT)

Bruce E. Jorgenson, Secretary