

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, May 4, 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: John Bennett IS Manager; Communications & Government Relations Manager Lynn Eaton; Director of Business Operations Michelle Endicott; Customer Service Manager Diane Hennessy; Network Systems & Cyber Security Administrator Joel Moore; Power Manager Michele Patterson; Purchasing Manager Jennifer Renecker; Joint Use Administrator Brian Schneidmiller; Administrative Services Manager Mary Taylor-Monger (recorded minutes).

Member of the public in attendance (video conference) was Ron Bock of Alderbrook

MODIFICATION AND/OR APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as presented.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- |    |   |              |                      |
|----|---|--------------|----------------------|
| a. | Minutes of the April 27, 2021 regular commission meeting.   |              |                      |
| b. | Voucher Nos. (May 4, 2021) 157547 through 157596<br>(Includes electronic funds transfer payment Nos. 27774-27789) | \$           | 275,987.12           |
|    |   | <b>Total</b> | <b>\$ 275,987.12</b> |
| c. | Governance Policy Expense Approval  |              |                      |
| d. | Accounts to write off-deceased customers with no assets and bankruptcies totaling \$1,217.04                      |              |                      |
| e. | Void accounts payable checks for the week ending April 30, 2021 in the amount of \$180.07                         |              |                      |

\*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 given.

## ACTION ITEM

Recommendation was made to approve Resolution No. 1769, A Resolution Authorizing the Annexation of Territory into Mason County Public Utility District No. 1 Pursuant to RCW 54.04.035- Alderbrook.

Mrs. Creekpauam stated that the Alderbrook Community is located within the boundary of Mason County PUD 3 but is served by the electricity and water of Mason County PUD 1. Members of the Alderbrook Community have filed a petition with Mason County requesting that the community be annexed back into PUD 1 territory so its citizens can vote in PUD 1 elections. The Mason County Auditor has certified that the signatures meeting the requirements for annexation have been received. PUD 3 and PUD 1 commissioners must agree on the annexation through identical resolutions. PUD 3 has no assets or obligations in the area to be annexed and will equally be sharing the election cost with PUD 1. At Mrs. Creekpauam's request, Mr. Johnson reported on the annexation process. He stated that once both commission boards agree, the signed resolutions will be forwarded to the county. Mason County PUD 1 will select a special election date to be held in August 2021. If 50 percent approval is received, then the area shall be annexed. This will require the area to be redistricted.

Ms. Gott moved, the motion was seconded by Mr. Farmer to adopt Resolution No. 1769, Authorizing the Annexation of Territory into Mason County Public Utility District No. 1 Pursuant to RCW 54.04.035. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

## STAFF REPORT

Mrs. Creekpauam reported on the current COVID-19 efforts. As of May 3, 2021, there are 2,024 confirmed COVID-19 cases, and thirty (30) COVID related deaths in Mason County. There were 103 new confirmed cases in the last fourteen (14) days and 159 confirmed cases per 100,000 tested. Washington State has 377,019 confirmed COVID-19 cases, 5,507 COVID related deaths, and 5.6 million vaccinations given.

At Mrs. Creekpauam request, Mrs. Speaks provided commission with an update on past due customer balances. Mrs. Speaks reported that in April of 2020 past due customer balances totaled \$426,000 compared to \$984,000 in 2021. The number of customers past due 60 days in April 2020 was 441 compared to 916 in 2021. The 90 days past due totaled 75 customers compared to 602 customers in 2021. The average past due amount in April 2020 was an average of \$182 and is \$475 in 2021. She stated that COVID-19 has had a significant impact on customers over the last year.

Mrs. Creekpauam said that discussions continue with Mason County regarding the funding of the Treasury Rent Assistance Program (TRAP) which will assist PUD 3 customers who are in arrears. She noted that the low-income home energy assistance program (LIHEAP) funding is also available for customers to apply for assistance.

Mrs. Creekpauum stated that four (4) bids were received for the pole inspect test and treat (PITT) program bid opening. They ranged from \$20.96 to \$47.95 for the weighted average based on 14 determinants of the bid. The low bidder being awarded is Pacific Pole Inspector, LLC.

Mrs. Creekpauum reported that the \$2.4 million reconnect funds that were awarded to PUD 3 in January 2020 has been approved for release. This project requiring completion in 5 years, can now begin in the Three fingers area of Grapeview.

Mrs. Creekpauum provided commission with a Telecom update. She reported that new construction applications for April 2021 are 47 and year to date are 202, compared to 164 in 2020. New service zones construction completed totals 161 and active construction totals 403. Retailer requests are on the rise with 311 year to date versus 151 in 2020.

### COMMISSIONERS' REPORT

Mr. Farmer reported that he attended the virtual WPAG meeting.


### GOOD OF THE ORDER

With no further business appearing, the commission meeting adjourned at 10:23 a.m.

  
THOMAS J FARMER (May 25, 2021 12:00 PDT)  
Thomas J Farmer, President

  
Linda R. Gott (May 25, 2021 15:05 PDT)  
Linda R. Gott, Vice President

ATTEST:

  
Bruce E. Jorgenson (May 25, 2021 15:07 PDT)  
Bruce E. Jorgenson, Secretary