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, July 27, 2021.

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

The following PUD 3 personnel were present: John Bennett IS Manager; Safety and Environmental Programs Coordinator Ali Burgess; Communications & Government Relations Manager Lynn Eaton; Director of Business Operations Michelle Endicott; Director of Engineering & Utility Services Justin Holzgrove; Energy Services Manager Koral Miller; 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 (video conference were Dedrick Allen of *Mason Web TV* and Randy Lewis of Shelton.

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 July 13, 2021, regular commission meeting.
- b. Voucher Nos. (July 20, 2021) 158223 through 158291 \$ 2,847,398.93 (Includes electronic funds transfer payment Nos. 28905-28931)
- c. Voucher Nos. (July 27, 2021) 158292 through 158349 \$1,161,007.81 (Includes electronic funds transfer payment Nos. 28932-29119)

Total \$ 4,008,406.74

- d. Governance Policy Expense Approval
- e. Void accounts payable checks for the week ending July 23, 2021, in the amount of \$500.00.

^{*}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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PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comment was given.

ACTION ITEM

Recommendation was made to approve an Interlocal Agreement between the Jefferson County PUD No. 1 and Public Utility District No. 3 of Mason County. At Mrs. Creekpaum's request, Mr. Holzgrove explained the details of the agreement. He stated that the discussion of taking a fiber line from Olympia up the Peninsula began years ago with the Bonneville Power Administration but due to exorbitant cost, it was not feasible to do at that time. As previously discussed in the BPA agreement presentation, the official agreement is between BPA and Jefferson County PUD and Mason PUD 3 is named in the agreement. It outlines the shared costs and route between Potlach and Duckabush where the utilities interconnect.

Ms. Gott motioned, seconded by Mr. Jorgenson to approve the Interlocal Agreement between the Jefferson County PUD No. 1 and Public Utility District No. 3 of Mason County. After a brief discussion, MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Recommendation was made to approve Resolution No. 1773, Addition of Life Insurance Benefit with Long Term Care Rider. Mrs. Creekpaum stated that this is a compliance requirement for the state of Washington for a long-term care benefit. The best option is to offer a life insurance policy with a long-term care rider. A group plan is more accessible and comprehensive as a group benefit. The Governor signed the bill in April 2021 and private insurance companies were not able to quote until after July 2021. The binding with individual employees must be complete by October 2021 so the state can be notified by November 1, 2021, if employees are taking advantage of the onetime opt out of the state policy. Quotes are expected this week and are being evaluated. Mrs. Creekpaum concluded by stating that we set ourselves apart to attract employees and we do value our employees, especially during this difficult hiring environment.

After a brief discussion, Mr. Farmer motioned, seconded by Mr. Jorgenson to approve Resolution No. 1773, Addition of Life Insurance Benefit with Long Term Care Rider. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

STAFF REPORT

Mrs. Speaks reviewed the status of the budget as of June 30, 2021, with the commissioners. The monthend receipts for June were \$6.2 million, expenditures were \$5.6 million. Finishing the month of June with a positive year to date budget balance of \$589,178.

Mrs. Speaks then provided the treasurer's report of funds through June 2021. The opening cash balance for June was \$8.3 million and was \$3.7 million at month's end. The total of all funds at month-end were \$33.4 million.

Mrs. Creekpaum reported on the current COVID-19 efforts. As of July 25, 2021, there are 2,368 confirmed COVID-19 cases, and thirty-seven (37) COVID related deaths in Mason County. There were 36 new confirmed cases in the last fourteen (14) days and 55 confirmed cases per 100,000 tested.

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Washington State, as of July 25, 2021, has 429,337 confirmed COVID-19 cases, 6,089 COVID related deaths, and 8.1 million vaccinations given.

At Mrs. Creekpaum's request, Mrs. Eaton provided a presentation on the Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA) and requirements. There are two requirements currently being worked on. The first being Clean Energy Implementation Plan (CEIP), which is being reported on today and the Energy Assistance Assessment Requirements which PUD 3 is already compliant with the current program and are working on the next compliance deadline of February 2022. The PUD is required to create a plan every four (4) years to meet the CETA requirements for clean energy and equity. Public input is required during the development of the plan. The plan includes identifying organizations that work with vulnerable populations. A 3-minute video describing the law and CEIP process has been created and will be sent to our community partners, along with a survey to help us identify the vulnerable populations in Mason County. Once the survey is completed, a smaller group of organizations will participate in a discussion to deep dive into different aspects of the plan. The plan will be approved by commission prior to being sent off to Congress. Mrs. Eaton shared the 3-minute video with commissioners.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORT

Mr. Jorgenson reported that he attended the WPUDA meeting held in Skamania, WA.

Mrs. Gott reported that she attended the Energy Northwest CEO interviews on July 13 and 14. She expects an announcement of the new CEO of Energy Northwest soon.

Mr. Farmer reported that he attended a presentation by the North Mason School Board where a proposal was made to provide wireless internet access to North Mason students for remote learning.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

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

Thomas J Farmer (Aug 10, 2021 16:09 PDT)

Thomas J Farmer, President

Linda R. Gott (Aug 11, 2021 23:15 MDT)

Linda R. Gott, Vice President

ATTEST:

Bruce E. Jorgenson, Secretary