

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR
MEETING OF THE COMMISSION
February 25, 2025**

1. Call to Order | Pledge of Allegiance

The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Public Utility District No. 1 of Whatcom County was called to order at 8:15 a.m. by Commissioner Atul Deshmane. Said meeting was open to the public and notice thereof had been given as required by law.

Those present at the meeting included:

COMMISSION AND STAFF

Atul Deshmane	Commissioner
Jaime Arnett	Commissioner
Eddy Ury	Commissioner
Jon Sitkin	Legal Counsel
Aaron Peterson	IT/SCADA Technician
Andrew Entrikin	Director – Broadband and New Power Supply
Paul Siegmund	Manager - Automation & Technology Services
Annette Smith	Director of Finance
Brian Walters	Assistant General Manager
Garrett Love-Smith	Engineering Manager
Devin Crabtree	Chief Water Operator
Jon Littlefield	Electrical Systems Supervisor
Joseph Shay	Clerk of the Board / Records
Kurt Wank	Assistant General Manager
Rebecca Schlotterback	Contracts and Regulatory Compliance Manager
Stephanie Hooper	Accountant I

VISITORS

Dave Olson	Citizen
Tyler McDevitt	Citizen
Todd Lagestee	Citizen

2. Approval of Agenda

ACTION:

Commissioner Arnett made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Ury seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Approval of Consent Agenda

a) Approval of the Minutes of Regular Commission Meeting of February 11, 2025 & Approval of the Claims of February 25, 2025:

Commissioner Arnett made a motion to approve the consent agenda as a whole including both the minutes and the claims. Commissioner Ury seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

February 25, 2025 - JRS (COB)

Claims of ~~January 14, 2025~~:

ADP RESOURCES LLC	28,857.20
ALUMICHEM CANADA INC (formerly WATERHOUSE ENV.)	31,367.80
ANVIL CORPORATION	745.00
BIRCH EQUIPMENT COMPANY	14,904.11
BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION	625,534.00
CENTRAL WELDING SUPPLY	105.53
CHMELIK SITKIN & DAVIS	14,844.00
COMCAST	322.09
COMCAST - NWRC	300.00
COMPLETE DESIGN INC	400.00
CRITICAL INSIGHT INC	7,250.00

CULLIGAN NORTHWEST	306.57
ESRI	2,806.75
FEDERAL EXPRESS	66.39
FERNDAL ACE HARDWARE	5.00
GATEWAY CONTROLS	1,745.09
GUARDIAN SECURITY SYSTEMS, INC	242.38
HARDWARE SALES, INC .	170.20
HEIMGARTNER, CHRIS	459.74
INDUSTRIAL RESOURCES, INC	2,000.00
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	27,426.61
MALLORY SAFETY & SUPPLY LLC	426.99
MASSMUTUAL RETIREMENT SVCS LLC	11,960.00
NEL/SON DISTRIBUTING DBA NELSON-REISNER	1,736.54
NORTHWEST FENCE, INC	32,487.68
NORTHWEST FIBER DBA ZIPLY FIBER	868.40
ODP BUSINESS SOLUTIONS LLC	564.10
P&P EXCAVATING, LLC	1,871.36
PAYLOCITY	470.64
PAYROLL	294,294.79
PITNEY BOWES GLOBAL FINANCIAL SERVICES LLC	201.92
PLATT ELECTRIC SUPPLY CO	895.89
PORTAL WAY FARM & GARDEN	132.96
PUBLIC UTILITY RISK MANAGEMENT SERVICES	5,535.86
PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC	955.22
STAR RENTALS	1,708.88
ULINE, INC.	105.64
WA FEDERAL VISA CARD MEMBER SERVICES	14,123.68
WA ST DEPT OF REV PRIVLGE	232,581.47
WA ST DEPT OF REVENUE - EXCISE TAX	98,111.54
WASHINGTON ALARM, INC.	190.59
WESTERN CONFERENCE OF TEAMSTERS	10,048.50
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 1,469,131.11

4. **Public Comment** – None

5. **General Manager’s Report** – Kurt Wank, Assistant General Manager reported that a declaration of emergency was issued in regard to the 115kv transmission line. During a routine inspection there were hot spots found at the 3-way switch for the line. Mr. Wank informed the commission that staff is reaching out to the proper firms to correct the issue.

6. **Operations Report** – Kurt Wank, Assistant General Manager reported that the PUD has made it out of frazil ice season. The Assistant General Manager noted that staff had rented equipment just in case it was needed to combat frazil ice buildup. During the recent cold snap there was only one day where the temperature of the river got close enough for ice to form but luckily it did not and the PUD was able to avoid issues with frazil ice on the intakes.

7. **Old Business**

a) **Bond Sale Report** – Annette Smith, Director of Finance reported that the bond sale went well and that the PUD is in the final stages of rapping up the bond process.

b) **Broadband Update** – Andrew Entrikin, Director of Broadband and New Power Supply reported to the commission regarding the progress at the Point Roberts project and the progress on the BEAD grant process. Mr. Entrikin noted that staff are just waiting on final permitting packages and the IRU from Whidbey Telecom to continue moving forward with the Point Roberts Project. Mr. Entrikin also reported that WSBO has begun reaching out to agencies who submitted BEAD grants during the first round. He believes the Port has been in contact with WSBO this week and he will be following up with them to report back at the next regular commission meet.

c) **Adjudication Update** – John Sitkin, Legal Counsel updated the commission on the recent developments related to the upcoming adjudication proceedings.

d) **Geothermal Update** – No updated information since the previous meeting.

e) **Strategic Plan Update** – No updated information since the previous meeting.

8. New Business

a) Action 1: Approval Action 1: Approve Work Order No.4 with Complete Design Inc for Engineering Services Related to the District’s Intalco and PetroGas Isolation Valves. Commissioners and staff discussed the work order proposed by Complete Design, Inc. Commissioner Arnett made a motion to approve the work order. Commissioner Ury seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

b) Resolution 1: Approve Resolution No. 872 Authorizing Cancellation Of Warrant For Consor North America Inc. Commissioner Arnett made a motion to approve Resolution No. 872. Commissioner Ury seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

9. Commission Reports/Per Diem Requests:

Commissioner Arnett reported on that WRIA 1 was cancelled. Commissioner Arnett reported on her attendance at the recent WPUDA meetings. She expressed her concerns about the recent staffing cuts to BPA from DOGE. Discussion was had regarding those cuts and what potential action the commission would take. The Commission requested the scheduling of a Special Commission Meeting for March 7th 2025 at 3:00 PM via zoom to discuss the issues at BPA as well as other upcoming state and federal legislation that may impact PUD No. 1 of Whatcom County.

Commissioner Ury reported on his attendance at the recent WPUDA meetings and Lobby Day on the hill. Commissioner Ury also reported concerns on upcoming legislation that he would like to see discussed at the Special Commission Meeting.

Commissioner Deshmane reported on his attendance at WPUDA and noted legislation that he would like to discuss at the special meeting.

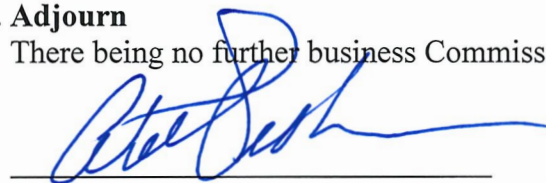
10. Public Comment – None

11. Executive Session

None.

12. Adjourn

There being no further business Commissioner Arnett adjourned the meeting at 9:21 a.m.



Atul Deshmane, President/Commissioner



Jaime Arnett, Vice President/Commissioner



Eddy Ury, Secretary/Commissioner

Commission Clerk Note:

Video recordings of the Whatcom PUD Commission Meetings are available online at the following link on the PUD’s Website: <https://www.pudwhatcom.org/the-commission/agenda-packets-meeting-minutes-recordings/>

