

**PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT No. 1  
of Whatcom County**

Agenda for the Regular Meeting of May 27, 2025  
8:15 a.m. at the PUD Office  
(Zoom, & Teleconference)

1. Call to Order | Pledge of Allegiance
2. Approval of Agenda (2 minutes)
3. Consent Agenda (5 minutes)
  - a) Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 13, 2025 and the Special Meetings of May 16, 2025 and May 23, 2025
  - b) Approval of Claims for May 27, 2025
4. Public Comment (10 minutes – Individual speakers: 3 minutes)
5. General Manager Report (20 minutes)
6. Operations Report (10 minutes)
7. Old Business (30 minutes)
  - a) Broadband Update
  - b) Adjudication Update
  - c) Geothermal Update
  - d) Strategic Plan Update
8. New Business (10 minutes)
  - a) Action 1: Approval of 2026 Budget Schedule
9. Commissioner Reports (10 minutes)
  - a) Upcoming Per Diem Requests  
Commissioner Arnett: None as of publication  
Commissioner Ury: None as of publication  
Commissioner Deshmane: None as of publication
10. Public Comment (10 minutes– Individual speakers: 3 minutes)
11. Executive Session: Performance Review (30 Minutes)
12. Adjourn (Estimated 11:00 AM)

**Notice:**

All Commissioners will participate either via Zoom/internet or teleconference.

**The public meeting can be accessed;**

**By internet:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89931801183>

**NOTE: IF ATTENDING VIA ZOOM WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR FULL NAME FOR THE COMMISSION RECORD THOUGH IT IS NOT REQUIRED**

**Or telephone:** Dial 1 (253) 215 8782 or 1 (253) 205 0468

**Webinar ID:** 899 3180 1183

**Next Commission Meetings**

May 27, 2025 |8:15 a.m.| Regular Meeting

May 30, 2025 |1:00 p.m.| Special Meeting

June 8, 2025 |8:15 a.m.| Regular Meeting

Meetings to be held at the District Office

1705 Trigg Road, Ferndale, WA 98248

*or other location announced*

Contact: Chris Heimgartner, General Manager (360) 384-4288 x 119

[info@pudwhatcom.org](mailto:info@pudwhatcom.org)

[www.pudwhatcom.org](http://www.pudwhatcom.org)

**Public Utility District No. 1 of Whatcom County  
Commission Meeting Attendance Sheet**

**Date of Meeting:** May 13, 2025 Platform: Hybrid In Person Zoom

Start Time: 8:15 AM Adjourn: \_\_\_\_\_

Adjourn to Executive Session \_\_\_\_\_ *if applicable*

In Attendance:  
Initial Please:

- AD Atul Deshmane, Commissioner
- JA Jaime Arnett, Commissioner
- X Eddy Ury, Commissioner
- X Jon Sitkin/Peter Ruffatto, Legal Counsel
- X Chris Heimgartner, General Manager
- X Aaron Peterson, IT/SCADA Technician
- X Andrew Entrikin, Director - Broadband and New Power Supply
- \_\_\_\_\_ Annette Smith, Finance Director
- \_\_\_\_\_ Devin Crabtree, Chief Water Operator
- X Garrett Love-Smith, Engineering Manager
- \_\_\_\_\_ Jacob Wittmer, Automation Technician
- \_\_\_\_\_ Jon Littlefield, Electric System Supervisor
- \_\_\_\_\_ Joe McKenna, Project Manager
- X Joseph Shay, Clerk of the Board / Records
- X Kurt Wank, Assistant General Manager
- X Lisa Moeller, Director - HR & Communications
- X Mike Macomber, IT/SCADA Technician
- \_\_\_\_\_ Paul Siegmund, Automation & Technology Manager
- X Rebecca Schlotterback, Contracts & Regulatory Compliance Manager
- X Stephanie Hooper, Accountant I

Also in Attendance:

Name/Organization	Name/Organization
Sarah Mack	Foster Garvey PC
Sara Frase	CSD Law
Stephan Jilk	Consultant
Matt Wells	Foster Garvey PC
Dave Olson	Citizen

Name (original name)	Join time	Leave time	Duration († Guest	Recording	In waiting room
Mike M.   Whatcom PUD - IT	5/13/2025 8:03	5/13/2025 11:02	179 No	OK	No
stephanieh	5/13/2025 8:03	5/13/2025 9:22	79 Yes	No Respor	No
Whatcom PUD	5/13/2025 8:04	5/13/2025 8:04	1 No	No Respor	No
Whatcom PUD	5/13/2025 8:04	5/13/2025 11:02	178 No	No Respor	No
Michael	5/13/2025 8:07	5/13/2025 11:02	176 Yes	No Respor	No
Rebecca Schlotterback	5/13/2025 8:07	5/13/2025 11:02	175 No	No Respor	No
Aaron Peterson	5/13/2025 8:10	5/13/2025 8:10	1 No	No Respor	No
Aaron Peterson	5/13/2025 8:12	5/13/2025 11:02	170 No	OK	No
Kurt Wank	5/13/2025 8:12	5/13/2025 11:02	170 No	No Respor	No
Dave Olson	5/13/2025 8:12	5/13/2025 11:02	170 Yes	No Respor	No
Garrett Love	5/13/2025 8:23	5/13/2025 8:53	30 No	No Respor	No

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR  
MEETING OF THE COMMISSION  
May 13, 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
Chris Heimgartner	General Manager
Jon Sitkin	General Counsel, CSD Attorneys at Law
Aaron Peterson	IT/SCADA Technician
Andrew Entrikin	Director – Broadband and New Power Supply
Garrett Love-Smith	Engineering Manager
Joseph Shay	Clerk of the Board / Records
Kurt Wank	Assistant General Manager
Lisa Moeller	Director – HR & Communications
Mike Macomber	IT/SCADA Technician
Rebecca Schlotterback	Contracts and Regulatory Compliance Manager
Stephanie Hooper	Accountant I

**VISITORS**

Sarah Mack	Foster Garvey PC
Matt Wells	Foster Garvey PC
Sara Frase	CSD Law
Stephan Jilk	Consultant
Dave Olson	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 the Regular Meeting of April 22, 2025 & Approval of the Claims of May 13, 2025:**

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

**Claims of April 8, 2025:**

ALUMICHEM CANADA INC (formerly WATERHOUSE ENV.)	61,287.20
APPLIED DIGITAL IMAGING	91.56
INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY, INC	53.04
ASPEN, INC.	4,802.00
ASTOUND BUSINESS SOLUTIONS	555.85
AT&T MOBILITY	1,847.88
COMPLETE DESIGN INC	53,990.87
CORNERSTONE MANAGEMENT, INC.	1,250.49
CRINA HOYER CONSULTING	390.70
CULLIGAN NORTHWEST	241.49

DESHMANE, ATUL	21.30
DLT SOLUTIONS, LLC	1,394.71
EAGLE-EYE AERIAL SOLUTIONS, LLC	37,950.00
EUROFINS ENVIRONMENT TESTING	450.00
EXACT SCIENTIFIC SERVICES INC.	30.00
FASTENAL	44.98
FEDERAL EXPRESS	54.33
FERNDALE ACE HARDWARE	177.79
FERNDALE AUTO PARTS	5.86
FERNDALE CITY OF	305.98
FOSTER GARVEY PC	13,200.50
FRONTIER PRECISION, INC.	538.57
GOODWIN, CHRISTOPHER	87.00
GRAY MATTER SYSTEMS, LLC	5,400.00
GUARDIAN SECURITY SYSTEMS, INC	3,260.23
HACKER, RONALD G	100.87
HARDWARE SALES, INC .	187.06
HD FOWLER CO, INC	2,549.59
HEALTH PROMOTIONS NORTHWEST	150.00
HEIMGARTNER, CHRIS	1,303.64
HOOPER, STEPHANIE	53.20
MILLS ELECTRIC	2,548.64
NEL/SON DISTRIBUTING DBA NELSON-REISNER	1,644.95
NORTH COAST ELECTRIC COMPANY	89,765.58
NORTHWEST CASCADE, INC.	343.50
NORTHWEST FIBER DBA ZIPLY FIBER	868.91
ODP BUSINESS SOLUTIONS LLC	329.68
P&P EXCAVATING, LLC	289,743.75
PACIFIC POWER BATTERIES	642.01
PLATT ELECTRIC SUPPLY CO	1,428.33
POWER DISTRIBUTION MAINTENANCE	11,327.05
PROSCAPES	5,298.56
PUD #1 OF WHATCOM COUNTY	2.68
PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC	6,145.40
REGENCE BLUE SHIELD	43,645.20
RICOH USA	153.74
SSC - SANITARY SERVICE COMPANY	675.24
TEAMSTER LOCAL #231	837.00
ULINE, INC.	9,398.73
UNITED WAY OF WHATCOM COUNTY	475.00
UTILITIES UNDERGROUND LOCATION	24.30
VALVOLINE	70.27
WASHINGTON ALARM, INC.	511.36
WASHINGTON DENTAL SERVICE	3,033.80
WASHINGTON TEAMSTERS WELFARE	16,048.80
WHATCOM FARMERS CO-OP	211.11
WHATCOM JANITORIAL	1,575.00
WONDERWARE PACWEST	29,006.08
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 707,531.36</b>

**4. Public Comment – None**

**5. General Manager’s Report** – Chris Heimgartner, General Manager reported to the commission that the Washington State Public Works Board was seeking a nomination for someone for the board. The General Manager requested the commission consider a motion to nominate Andrew Entrikin for consideration to be on the Public Works Board. Commissioner Arnett made a

motion to nominate Andrew Entrikin for consideration to be appointed to the Washington State Public Works Board. Commissioner Ury seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The General Manager also reported to the commission that Bonneville Power Administration has officially joined SPP Markets Plus. He stated Puget Power has also joined SPP Markets Plus.

The General Manager also informed the commission he will be attending three meetings in the upcoming months. May 30<sup>th</sup> he will be at a WPUA Meeting regarding municipal water law, July 22<sup>nd</sup> he will be at the NWPPA E&O steering committee meeting to discuss fusion and August 20<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> he will be at a meeting regarding power transmission in the Western United States.

6. **Operations Report** – Kurt Wank, Assistant General Manager reported to the commission on several projects the PUD operations crew have been working on. Firstly, Mr. Wank noted a drone inspection of the PUD’s transmission line has been completed. Secondly, he reported the PUD is working with a firm to perform pole strength testing on the PUD’s power poles. Thirdly, annual vegetation management has begun. Lastly, operation and maintenance staff pulled and refurbished an intake pump at Plant 2.

## 7. Old Business

a) **Broadband Update** – Andrew Entrikin, Director of Broadband and New Power Supply reported to the commission on the Point Roberts project noting that the entirety of Point Roberts has been designated a culturally significant site and therefore the project needs to be rescoped. Washington State has approved funds to offset the costs of the rescoping. Because of the designation the project will have to be completed with no ground disturbance, which will mean replacing poles in their existing locations. Mr. Entrikin also reported on round 2 of the BEAD grant and noted it ends this Friday. The Port, as lead agency, is working with four partners to submit applications for funding.

b) **Adjudication Update** – Jon Sitkin, Legal Counsel reported the steering committee has been working through the slow process of sorting out details of the adjudication rules.

d) **Geothermal Update** – Andrew Entrikin, Director of Broadband and New Power Supply reported there are no new updates on the project.

e) **Strategic Plan Update** – Chris Heimgartner, General Manager informed the commission there will be meetings on the vision and the strategic plan over the next two Fridays, with tentative plans for a follow up meeting regarding visioning on the third Friday if necessary.

## 8. New Business

Commissioner Arnett made a motion to approve an interlocal agreement with Mason County PUD 3 and the transfer of \$378,000 in BPA EEI budget listed in Exhibit A to the Agreement. Commissioner Ury seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## 9. Commission Reports/Per Diem Requests:

Commissioner Arnett talked about attending a recent WPUA meeting and noted she had met with the new WPUA Board President.

Commissioner Ury reported he will be attending the upcoming Whatcom Council of Governments meeting.

Commissioner Deshmane reported he had recent meetings regarding broadband. He noted meeting with local elected officials to discuss BEAD. He also noted attending the most recent EDI meeting and the most recent PPC meeting.

## 10. Public Comment – None

## 11. Executive Session

An executive session was had to discuss adjudication. No action was taken. The session began at 9:30 AM and concluded at 11:00 AM with the regular commission meeting resuming after the conclusion of the executive session.

**12. Adjourn**

There being no further business Commissioner Deshmane adjourned the meeting at 11:02 a.m.

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Atul Deshmane, President/Commissioner

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Jaime Arnett, Vice President/Commissioner

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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/>



Topic	ID	Host	Duration (minutes)	Start time	End time	Participants
May 16, 2015 - Special PUD Com	88332826008	Mike M.   Whatcom	168	#####	#####	8

Name (original name)	Join time	Leave time	Duration (Guest	Recording	In waiting room
Mike M.   Whatcom PUD - IT	5/16/2025 12:58	5/16/2025 15:40	162 No	OK	No
Whatcom PUD	5/16/2025 12:59	5/16/2025 12:59	1 No	No Respor	No
Joseph Shay	5/16/2025 12:59	5/16/2025 15:46	168 No	No Respor	No
Whatcom PUD	5/16/2025 12:59	5/16/2025 15:46	168 No	No Respor	No
Michael	5/16/2025 13:03	5/16/2025 15:46	164 Yes	No Respor	No
Aaron Peterson	5/16/2025 13:09	5/16/2025 15:46	158 No	OK	No
Chris Heimgartner	5/16/2025 13:29	5/16/2025 15:43	135 Yes	No Respor	No
Mike M.   Whatcom PUD - IT	5/16/2025 15:40	5/16/2025 15:46	7 No	No Respor	No

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL  
MEETING OF THE COMMISSION  
May 16, 2025**

**1. Call to Order | Pledge of Allegiance**

The special meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Public Utility District No. 1 of Whatcom County was called to order at 1:17 p.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
Chris Heimgartner	General Manager
Jon Sitkin	General Counsel, CSD Attorneys at Law
Aaron Peterson	IT/SCADA Technician
Andrew Entrikin	Director – Broadband and New Power Supply
Garrett Love-Smith	Engineering Manager
Joseph Shay	Clerk of the Board / Records
Kurt Wank	Assistant General Manager
Lisa Moeller	Director – HR & Communications
Mike Macomber	IT/SCADA Technician
Paul Siegmund	Automation & Technology Manager
Rebecca Schlotterback	Contracts and Regulatory Compliance Manager
Stephanie Hooper	Accountant I

**VISITORS**

Crina Hoyer	Crina Hoyer Consulting
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**2. Agenda**

The purpose of the Special Meeting was to: Hold a Vision Workshop to work on the PUD’s vision and mission statements. The Commission and General Manager met with Crina Hoyer of Hoyer Consulting to present their individual plans and ideas for the mission and vision statements of PUD No. 1 of Whatcom County, A lively and informative discussion was had with ideas from all three commissioners and the general manager being presented and considered for the mission and vision statements for the PUD.

The Commission called for public comment twice in the meeting receiving none either time. After their discussion of the ideas brought forth at the meeting, the Commission requested that Crina take all the information given and workshop it into sample vision and mission statements for the commission to review and the next special commission meeting with Crina on June 26<sup>th</sup>.

**3. Adjourn**

There being no further business Commissioner Deshmane adjourned the meeting at 3:46 p.m.

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Atul Deshmane, President/Commissioner

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Jaime Arnett, Vice President/Commissioner

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Eddy Ury, Secretary/Commissioner

**Commission Clerk Note:**

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# May 23, 2025 Special Commission Meeting Minutes

**Note:** The minutes of the May 23, 2025 Special Commission Meeting will be added to this packet for approval at the May 27, 2025 Commission Meeting after the conclusion of the May 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting. A revised packet including the May 23<sup>rd</sup> minutes will be sent out at that time.

# Action Memo

**To:** Commissioners Deshmane, Arnett, and Ury

**From:** Annette Smith, Director of Finance

**Date:** May 27, 2025

**Re:** Approval of 2026 Budget Schedule

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**Requested Action:** Approve the schedule for the development of the 2026 District operating and capital budget.

**Background:** Below is the proposed schedule for the 2026 budget:

<b>2026 BUDGET SCHEDULE</b>	
Commission receives 2025 First Half Financial Report	August 12, 2025
Commission Work Session to discuss budget parameters for 2026	September 9, 2025
Draft 2026 Budget presented to Commission	October 28, 2025
Customer Meetings on Draft 2026 budget	November 3-5, 2025
Revised budget presentation, Public Hearing on 2026 budget	November 25, 2025
2026 Budget/Rates approved	December 9, 2025

The proposed schedule allows time for:

- Work session by the Commission before adopting the final budget and rates;
- Meetings with the different customer groups;
- A public hearing that allows for public/customer input to the Commission for the 2026 budget and rates

**Fiscal Impact:** None

**Recommended Action:** Approve the schedule for the development of the 2026 District operating and capital budget.