

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR
MEETING OF THE COMMISSION
May 27, 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
Annette Smith	Finance Director
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

Robin Dexter	Citizen
Todd Lagestee	Citizen
Dave Olson	Citizen

2. Approval of Agenda

ACTION:

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

3. Approval of Consent Agenda

a) Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 13, 2025, the Special Meetings of May 16 and May 23, 2025 & Approval of the Claims of May 27, 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.

Claims of May 27, 2025:

INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY, INC	180.07
BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION	815,189.00
CENTRAL WELDING SUPPLY	105.53
CESCO NEW CONCEPT CHEMICAL PRODUCTS	123.39
CHMELIK SITKIN & DAVIS	15,635.72
COMCAST	322.09
DESHMANE, ATUL	724.28
FOSTER GARVEY PC	10,650.00
GUARDIAN SECURITY SYSTEMS, INC	242.38
HARDWARE SALES, INC	255.31
HD FOWLER CO, INC	412.96

HDR ENGINEERING, INC.	29,887.04
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	26,458.40
MASSMUTUAL RETIREMENT SVCS LLC	16,960.00
MAUL FOSTER & ALONGI	13,951.25
NEL/SON DISTRIBUTING DBA NELSON-REISNER	554.80
NESS CRANE SERVICE, INC	10,651.43
PACIFIC SURVEY & ENGINEERING	10,106.25
PAYLOCITY	421.64
PAYROLL	279,738.42
PITNEY BOWES GLOBAL FINANCIAL SERVICES LLC	201.92
PLATT ELECTRIC SUPPLY CO	8,587.40
PORTAL WAY FARM & GARDEN	22.87
POWER DISTRIBUTION MAINTENANCE	9,960.74
PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY	787.88
PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC	1,323.62
SHAY, JOSEPH	389.20
SMITH MECHANICAL	1,334.76
STAR RENTALS	1,708.88
TOTH AND ASSOCIATES, INC	2,552.50
URY, EDWARD	1,840.92
US BANK	1,052,986.32
VALVOLINE	224.68
WA FEDERAL VISA CARD MEMBER SERVICES	13,576.76
WA PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION	75.00
WA ST DEPT OF REVENUE - EXCISE TAX	102,621.03
WASHINGTON ALARM, INC.	190.59
WEST COAST MARINE SERVICES, INC	12,946.07
WESTERN CONFERENCE OF TEAMSTERS	10,122.00
WHISTLE WORKWEAR	285.02
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 2,454,308.12

4. Public Comment – None

5. General Manager’s Report – Chris Heimgartner, General Manager introduces Lisa Moeller, Director of HR & Communications to brief the commission on the plans for the upcoming PUD open house and the work being done on the PUD’s float for the 4th of July Parade. Ms. Moeller explained the plans for the open house and the work done so far on the float and took questions from the commissioners.

The General Manager reported to the commission on the information he presented to WIRA 1 about his work with the Ag Water Board to bring back a water bank to Whatcom County.

6. Operations Report – Kurt Wank, Assistant General Manager reported to the commission on the variable frequency drive 4 pump that failed necessitating the declaration of an emergency. Mr. Wank noted the pump has been fixed and is back on line. Mr. Wank was asked about the status of the vegetation cleanup around the PUD and he noted that it is progressing.

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 project timeline is in jeopardy due to the late-stage redesign that has had to take place because of the inability to perform ground disturbing activities.

b) Adjudication Update – None

d) Geothermal Update – None

e) Strategic Plan Update – Chris Heimgartner, General Manager presented a combined strategic plan and budget timeline to the commission. He reviewed the timeline with the commission and discussion was had.

8. New Business

Commissioner Arnett made a motion to approve the 2026 budget schedule as presented to the commission. Commissioner Ury seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

9. Commission Reports/Per Diem Requests:

Commissioner Arnett talked about attending a recent WIRA 1 meeting and noted the WIRA 1 board had approved the 5-year work plan including water efficiency. Commissioner Arnett asked the General Manager to forward the plan to the other commissioners.

Commissioner Ury had nothing to report.

Commissioner Deshmane reported he had attended the Whatcom County Business and Commerce Committee where discussion was had regarding the Yakima adjudication which he found interesting and informative. Commissioner Deshmane also reported on other meetings and activities he has recently participated in.

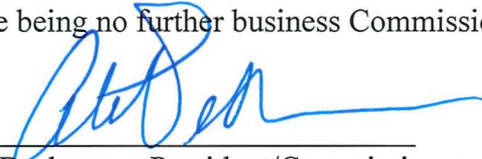
10. Public Comment – Robin Dexter addressed the commission about the difficulty in getting construction and development projects done and noted several of the reasons why. He noted that elected officials everywhere are experiencing these problems.

11. Executive Session

An executive session was had for a performance review of the General Manager. No action was taken. The session began at 9:30 AM and concluded at 10:32 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 10:33 a.m.



Atul Deshmane, President/Commissioner



Jaime Arnett, Vice President/Commissioner

 6/24/25

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/>

