

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR
MEETING OF THE COMMISSION
September 9, 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 8:35 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	General Counsel, CSD Attorneys at Law
Peter Ruffatto	General Counsel, CSD Attorneys at Law
Chris Heimgartner	General Manager
Aaron Peterson	IT/SCADA Technician
Andrew Entrikin	Director – Broadband and New Power Supply
Annette Smith	Finance Director
Garrett Love-Smith	Engineering Manager
Jon Littlefield	Electric System Supervisor
Joseph Shay	Clerk of the Board / Records
Kurt Wank	Assistant General Manager
Lisa Moeller	Director – HR & Communications
Rebecca Schlotterback	Contracts and Regulatory Compliance Manager
Stephanie Hooper	Accountant I

VISITORS

Dave Olson	Citizen
Nash El-Badawi	BP
J	Citizen
Todd Lagestee	Citizen

2. Approval of Agenda

ACTION:

Section 7d (Strategic Plan Update) was moved to after the commissioner reports to allow for as much time as possible for discussion. Commissioner Arnett made a motion to approve the agenda with the change in the order of business. Commissioner Ury seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Approval of Consent Agenda

a) Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 26, 2025, Minutes of the Special Meeting of September 5, 2025, and Approval of the Claims of September 9, 2025:

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

Claims of August 26, 2025:

ALUMICHEM CANADA INC (formerly WATERHOUSE ENV.)	35,770.80
AMERICAN WATER WORKS	431.00
INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY, INC	124.00
ASTOUND BUSINESS SOLUTIONS	555.85
AT&T MOBILITY	1,838.21
CDW/COMPUTER DISCOUNT WAREHOUSE	5,589.36
CESCO NEW CONCEPT CHEMICAL PRODUCTS	182.09

COBB, FENDLEY & ASSOCIATES, INC	5,804.00
COMPLETE DESIGN INC	17,548.73
CONNER, ERIC	1,065.53
CORNERSTONE MANAGEMENT, INC.	1,088.00
CRINA HOYER CONSULTING	1,047.55
CULLIGAN NORTHWEST	277.30
ENTRIKIN, ANDREW	4,737.80
EXACT SCIENTIFIC SERVICES INC.	30.00
FASTENAL	362.65
FEDERAL EXPRESS	67.86
FERNDALE ACE HARDWARE	134.19
FERNDALE AUTO PARTS	13.05
FERNDALE CITY OF	286.98
HARDWARE SALES, INC .	70.59
HEALTH PROMOTIONS NORTHWEST	150.00
HEIMGARTNER, CHRIS	151.98
HERITAGE ENGINEERING GROUP	4,680.00
HOOPER, STEPHANIE	33.60
INTEGRATED POWER SERVICES LLC	14,854.30
NEL/SON DISTRIBUTING DBA NELSON-REISNER	1,611.64
NORTH COAST ELECTRIC COMPANY	1,495.48
NORTHWEST CASCADE, INC.	127.36
NORTHWEST FIBER DBA ZIPLY FIBER	1,762.32
NORTHWEST PROPANE	471.30
P&P EXCAVATING, LLC	183,922.73
PLATT ELECTRIC SUPPLY CO	42.50
PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY	719.13
PUD #1 OF WHATCOM COUNTY	3.20
PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC	7,947.53
REGENCE BLUE SHIELD	60,792.37
SSC - SANITARY SERVICE COMPANY	683.42
STAR RENTALS	1,708.88
TEAMSTER LOCAL #231	744.00
UNITED WAY OF WHATCOM COUNTY	425.00
UTILITIES UNDERGROUND LOCATION	20.25
VALVOLINE	180.47
WASHINGTON DENTAL SERVICE	3,033.80
WASHINGTON TEAMSTERS WELFARE	14,042.70
WESTERN REFINERY SERVICES	22,739.20
WHATCOM JANITORIAL	1,575.00
WIN-911	4,243.20
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 405,186.90

4. **Public Comment** – Todd Lagestee commented that he would like to see the signage for the PUD on Portal Way improved to increase visibility.
5. **General Manager’s Report** – Chris Heimgartner, General Manager reported WIRA1 will be having a legislative tour on October 3rd. Mr. Heimgartner also informed the commission that he will be on vacation for the next week. Lastly, Mr. Heimgartner noted that there would be a need for a future executive session to discuss future geothermal leases.
6. **Operations Report** – Kurt Wank, Assistant General Manager informed the commission that a footing has been set for a steel pole replacement on the PUD’s 115kv line for a 75 ft. tall pole. Mr. Wank also reported that the Bender Park radio tower was to be demolished beginning today.
7. **Old Business**
 - a) **Broadband Update** – None.

b) Adjudication Update – Jon Sitkin, PUD Legal Counsel reported that the adjudication committee had submitted their process and rules suggestions to the court and that the court should be accepting the proposed process and rules in the near future. Mr. Sitkin discussed with the commission the difficulty that notification for the 35,000 claimants will have in the processing of this adjudication.

d) Geothermal Update – None.

e) Strategic Plan Update – The commission and staff worked on the process of formalizing goals and tactics for the PUD’s strategic plan. The work was tabled and will resume again with a goal for completion at a special commission meeting on September 19, 2025 at the PUD Main Offices from 1 to 3 pm.

8. New Business

a) Annette Smith, Finance Director for Whatcom PUD discussed the upcoming budget cycle with the commission and asked for initial input on the process. Discussion was had between the commission and the finance director regarding the budget.

b & c) Lisa Moeller, Director of HR and Communications discussed with the commission the difficulty that executive staff had been having in hiring a new electrician for the PUD. It was determined that this difficulty was a result of the current salary for the position not being as competitive as it could be. Therefore Ms. Moeller presented Resolution No. 879 “Amending the Salary Schedule for Administrative Employees for 2025, Effective September 16, 2025” to the commission. Commissioner Arnett made a motion to approve action item number two. Commissioner Ury seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

9. Commission Reports/Per Diem Requests:

Commissioner Arnett reported on her upcoming attendance to various WPUDA (Washington Public Utility District Association) meetings.

Commissioner Deshmane reported his attendance at recent PPC (Public Power Council) meeting and his plans to attend the upcoming WPUDA meetings.

Commissioner Ury reported on his plans to attend the upcoming WPUDA meeting and sought clarification with the other commissioners as to which commissioner would be attending what meetings.

10. Public Comment

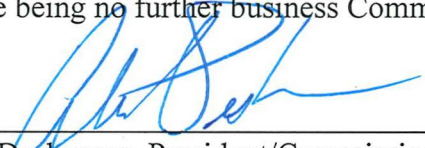
None

11. Executive Session

None.

12. Adjourn

There being no further business Commissioner Deshmane adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m.



Atul Deshmane, President/Commissioner



Jaime Arnett, Vice President/Commissioner

 9/23/25

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/>