

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR
MEETING OF THE COMMISSION
September 23, 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	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
Robin Dexter	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 Ury made a motion to approve the agenda with the change in the order of business. Commissioner Arnett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Approval of Consent Agenda

a) Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 9, 2025, Minutes of the Special Meeting of September 19, 2025, and Approval of the Claims of September 23, 2025:

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

Claims of September 23, 2025:

ALUMICHEM CANADA INC (formerly WATERHOUSE ENV.)	34,054.80
BALANCING SERVICE COMPANY, INC	3,600.00
BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION	899,830.41
BUD CLARY FORD HYUNDAI	64,246.51
CHMELIK SITKIN & DAVIS	16,496.30
CIVICPLUS LLC	5,023.59
COMCAST	322.09

CRABTREE, DEVIN	253.64
ESCAPE VELOCITY HOLDING INC DBA TRACE3	6,498.75
EUROFINS ENVIRONMENT TESTING	52.00
FERNDALE ACE HARDWARE	50.03
FERNDALE AUTO PARTS	30.49
FOSTER GARVEY PC	22,848.50
GOODWIN, CHRISTOPHER	72.44
HARDWARE SALES, INC .	221.82
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	24,218.31
LEN HONCOOP GRAVEL, INC.	16,320.00
LYNDALE GLASS	310.39
MASSMUTUAL RETIREMENT SVCS LLC	12,010.00
MAUL FOSTER & ALONGI	18,796.25
NORTHWEST CASCADE, INC.	165.50
P&P EXCAVATING, LLC	20,445.41
PACIFIC SURVEY & ENGINEERING	1,848.75
PACIFIC UNDERWRITERS CORP INC	236.00
PAYLOCITY	418.19
PAYROLL	268,911.61
PLATT ELECTRIC SUPPLY CO	1,149.47
POTELCO, INC	12,550.17
PROSCAPES	4,741.50
PUBLIC UTILITY RISK MANAGEMENT SERVICES	9,131.63
PUD #1 OF WHATCOM COUNTY	7,846.49
PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC	1,658.45
SD MYERS	2,231.00
ULINE, INC.	1,792.61
VALVOLINE	150.71
WA FEDERAL VISA CARD MEMBER SERVICES	4,601.35
WA PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION	25.00
WA ST AUDITOR'S OFFICE	8,479.00
WA ST DEPT OF REVENUE - EXCISE TAX	112,067.40
WESTERN CONFERENCE OF TEAMSTERS	9,324.00
WHISTLE WORKWEAR	184.40
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 1,593,214.96

4. Public Comment – None.

5. General Manager’s Report – Chris Heimgartner, General Manager reported on the following items:

- a) The legislative meeting that was scheduled for October 3, 2025 has been cancelled.
- b) The Whatcom County Council omitted Whatcom PUD from their consolidated water plan despite a letter from the general manager requesting inclusion in the plan and the general manager sought the commission’s guidance on how to follow up. The commission requested the general manager go to the public hearing for the plan happening tonight (September 23, 2025) and argue for the PUD’s inclusion in the plan.
- c) The general manager noted he would be at the WPUDA water conference the rest of this week.
- d) The November 13, 2025 Salmon Summit and asked the commissioners for possible attendees.
- e) Discussed current river flows and noted the low levels and how future weather patterns will impact those levels.
- f) Meeting with Alta Gas and provided an update on the hydrogen hub “Not dead yet”.

6. Operations Report – Kurt Wank, Assistant General Manager informed the commission that the Plant 2 waste basins are being cleaned out and that construction on the D Station project is going well with construction beginning on the dog house for the D station.

7. Old Business

a) Broadband Update – Andrew Entrikin, Director – Broadband and New Power Supply, reported on the current round of BEAD grant funding and noted that the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) has asked the Washington State Broadband Office (WSBO) to have all BEAD applicants review their applications to meet a new per connection threshold of \$6,000.00.

b) Adjudication Update – None.

d) Geothermal Update – Chris Heimgartner, General Manager noted that he spoke with a federal lobbyist to work on behalf of the PUD and Mr. Heimgartner is waiting on the lobbyist to return a proposal for Mr. Heimgartner to bring before the commission for approval.

e) Strategic Plan Update – The commission and staff worked on the process of formalizing goals and tactics for the PUD’s strategic plan. The commission set a date for a public hearing to receive comments on the strategic plan for the evening of October 7, 2025.

8. New Business

a) Commissioner Arnett made a motion to approve Resolution No. 880 Declaring Certain Property to Be No Longer Functional and of Little or No Value for the Operations of the District System, and Authorizing the Disposal Thereof in Accordance with RCW 54.16.180. Commissioner Ury seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

9. Commission Reports/Per Diem Requests:

All three commissioners discussed their time at the recent WPUDA meetings and discussed many of the topics that were presented at those meetings.

10. Public Comment

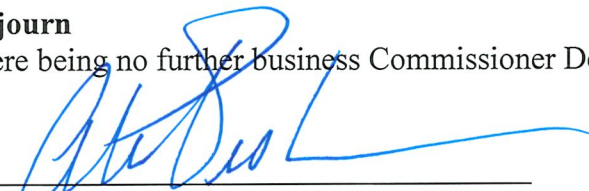
Todd Lagestee commented on the difference between a public hearing and a town hall style meeting. He mentioned the need for improved signage at the road leading to the PUD’s offices. He also suggested that the PUD consider a no idle policy for PUD vehicles.

11. Executive Session

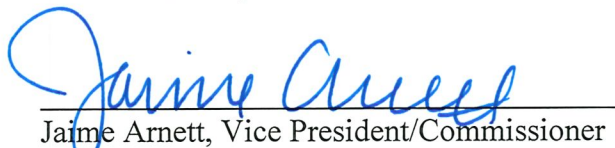
The regular meeting was recessed at 10:20 AM for Executive Session to discuss property acquisition in accordance with RCW 42.30.110 with the session expected to last 15 minutes and conclude at 10:35 AM. The executive session did last 15 minutes and was concluded at 10:35 AM at which point the regular meeting was reconvened.

12. Adjourn

There being no further business Commissioner Deshmane adjourned the meeting at 10:36 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/>