

HDR ENGINEERING, INC.	8,745.82
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	25,550.17
LEN HONCOOP GRAVEL, INC.	2,234.48
MASSMUTUAL RETIREMENT SVCS LLC	12,010.00
MAUL FOSTER & ALONGI	4,628.75
MOTION AND FLOW CONTROL PRODUCTS INC	156.38
NORTHWEST CASCADE, INC.	165.50
NW PUBLIC POWER ASSOCIATION	1,260.00
ODP BUSINESS SOLUTIONS LLC	81.11
PACIFIC POWER BATTERIES	261.60
PAYLOCITY	450.10
PAYROLL	296,571.93
PITNEY BOWES GLOBAL FINANCIAL SERVICES LLC	201.92
PLATT ELECTRIC SUPPLY CO	1,331.73
PUBLIC UTILITY RISK MANAGEMENT SERVICES	12,462.24
PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC	1,030.73
SMITH MECHANICAL	1,546.87
STAR RENTALS	428.72
TOTH AND ASSOCIATES, INC	22,359.73
URY, EDWARD	548.14
US BANK	4,773,326.40
VALVOLINE	72.12
WA FEDERAL VISA CARD MEMBER SERVICES	14,797.50
WA ST DEPT OF REVENUE - EXCISE TAX	112,520.31
WASHINGTON ALARM, INC.	190.59
WESTERN CONFERENCE OF TEAMSTERS	8,834.00
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 6,393,973.57

4. Public Comment – None.

5. General Manager’s Report – Chris Heimgartner, General Manager reported on an email received from the WPUA regarding the creation of a utility-funded wildfire fund for the purpose of paying damage awards for utility caused wildfires. Mr. Heimgartner presented and discussed with the commission a letter received from WPUA urging opposition to H.R. 278, the “BROADBAND Leadership Act,” federal legislation which seeks to expand federal control over public utility infrastructure. The letter also requests opposition to H.R. 2289 which has been amended to include the text of H.R. 278. Commissioner Deshmane made a motion to sign on to WPUA’s letter. Commissioner Arnett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Operations Report – Kurt Wank, Assistant General Manager informed the commission that the D Station work should be completed within the week and that monitoring of the water flows to BP would be possible upon the completion of the D Station work.

7. Old Business

a) Broadband Update – Andrew Entrikin, Director of Broadband and New Power Supply informed the commission that updated Point Roberts make-ready plans have been resubmitted and the project is progressing.

b) Adjudication Update – Jon Sitkin, General Counsel updated the commission on the work the rules committee is doing in regards to the adjudication. Mr. Sitkin has asked the rules committee to appoint either Sara Frase or Matt Wells to be Mr. Sitkin’s replacement upon his retirement in January.

c) Geothermal Update – Chris Heimgartner, General Manager informed the commission that decisions on study land lease designations would be made in March.

d) Strategic Plan Update – Lisa Moeller, Director of HR and Communications presented the final strategic plan to the commission for approval. Commissioner Ury made a motion to approve the strategic plan for publication. Commissioner Arnett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

e) **New Customer Update** – Kurt Wank, Assistant General Manager reported AltaGas has signed the letter of intent to move forward with the substation project.

8. New Business

- a) Annette Smith, Finance Director presented the proposed 2026 Final Budget to the commission.
- b) Commissioner Deshmane recessed the regular commission meeting and opened the public hearing to allow for public comment on the proposed final budget. No public comment was presented. Commissioner Deshmane closed the public hearing and resumed the regular commission meeting.

9. Commission Reports/Per Diem Requests:

Commissioner Arnett: No non-pre-approved per diem requests, Commissioner Arnett discussed her recent attendance at meetings for WPUDA, the Salmon Summit, and WRIA 1.

Commissioner Deshmane: No non-pre-approved per diem requests, Commissioner Deshmane discussed his recent attendance at meetings for WPUDA and the Energy Summit. He also discussed clarification regarding reimbursement for meals as relates to him being a bicycle commuter. Commissioner Arnett also expressed interest in changing the PUD’s travel expense reimbursement policy and changing it to a per diem structure. Peter Ruffatto, Legal Counsel will work on the policy change for review by the commissioners.

Commissioner Ury: No non-pre-approved per diem requests, discussed his attendance at WPUDA and the Energy Summit.

10. Public Comment – None.

11. Executive Session

Commissioner Deshmane made the following announcements: Executive session was convened at 10:50 AM to discuss the following subjects:

- Pending or Potential Litigation:
Executive session to discuss with legal counsel pending or potential litigation pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i)
- Performance Review – Executive Director:
Executive session to discuss the performance review of the Executive Director pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g)

The executive session was expected to last 10 minutes and conclude at 11:00 AM. Commissioner Deshmane announced that the executive session had concluded at 11:00 AM at which point he resumed the regular meeting.

9. New Business

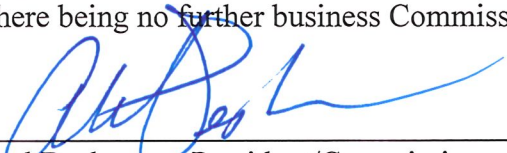
c) Following the executive session Commissioner Deshmane read the following proposed motion:

1. Authorize the expenditure of \$100K + closing costs for the acquisition of an expanded water facilities easement and clarified access easement at the Northgate Industrial Park, conditioned on the termination of the Oxy Corp PUD Purchase Agreement and refund of the earnest money deposited; and
2. Authorize the General Manager to approve the final easement documents and related agreements as approved by PUD counsel

Commissioner Arnett moved that the motion be passed as read. Commissioner Deshmane seconded. The motion passed unanimously

12. Adjourn


There being no further business Commissioner Deshmane adjourned the meeting at 11:08 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/>