

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

Agenda for the Regular Meeting of December 23, 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 December 9, 2025
 - b) Approval of Claims for December 23, 2025
4. Public Comment (10 minutes – Individual speakers: 3 minutes)
5. General Manager Report (10 minutes)
6. New Business (10 Minutes)
 - a) Action 1: Award Contract for PAC- Chemical Supply – 2026
 - b) Resolution 1: Resolution No. 888 – Cancellation of Warrant
10. Public Comment (10 minutes– Individual speakers: 3 minutes)

Notice:

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

The public meeting can be accessed;

By internet: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87851749074>

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: 878 5174 9074

Next Commission Meetings

January 13, 2026 |8:15 a.m.| Regular Meeting

January 27, 2026 |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

www.pudwhatcom.org

Name (original name)	Join time	Leave time	Duration (Guest	Recording disc	In waiting room
Mike M. Whatcom PUD - IT	12/9/2025 8:01	12/9/2025 10:36	155	No	OK	No
Joseph Shay	12/9/2025 8:03	12/9/2025 8:12	10	No	No Response	No
Whatcom PUD	12/9/2025 8:05	12/9/2025 8:05	1	No	No Response	No
Whatcom PUD	12/9/2025 8:05	12/9/2025 10:36	151	No	No Response	No
Kurt Wank	12/9/2025 8:09	12/9/2025 10:36	147	No	No Response	No
Andrew Entrikin	12/9/2025 8:11	12/9/2025 10:08	117	Yes	No Response	No
Rebecca Schlotterback	12/9/2025 8:12	12/9/2025 9:48	97	No	No Response	No
Joseph Shay	12/9/2025 8:12	12/9/2025 10:36	144	No	No Response	No
Annette Smith	12/9/2025 8:13	12/9/2025 8:19	7	No	No Response	No
Brian Heinrich, PSE	12/9/2025 8:13	12/9/2025 9:47	94	Yes	No Response	No
Aaron Peterson	12/9/2025 8:14	12/9/2025 10:36	142	No	OK	No
stephanieh	12/9/2025 8:16	12/9/2025 10:36	140	Yes	No Response	No
Annette Smith	12/9/2025 8:19	12/9/2025 9:47	88	No	No Response	No
Devin Crabtree	12/9/2025 8:28	12/9/2025 9:26	59	Yes	No Response	No
Garrett	12/9/2025 8:50	12/9/2025 9:17	27	Yes	No Response	No
Devin Crabtree	12/9/2025 9:32	12/9/2025 10:01	29	No	No Response	No
Dave Olson	12/9/2025 9:33	12/9/2025 9:52	19	Yes	No Response	No

**MINUTES OF THE
MEETING OF THE COMMISSION
December 09, 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 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
Peter Ruffatto	General Counsel, CSD Attorneys at Law
Chris Heimgartner	General Manager
Aaron Peterson	IT/SCADA Tech
Andrew Entrikin	Director – Broadband and New Power Supply
Annette Smith	Finance Director
Garrett Love-Smith	Engineering Manager
Devin Crabtree	Chief Water Operator
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

Brian Heinrich	PSE
Dave Olsen	Citizen
Todd Lagestee	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 Commission Meeting of November 25, 2025 and Approval of the Claims of December 9, 2025:

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

Claims of December 9, 2025:

ALUMICHEM CANADA INC (formerly WATERHOUSE ENV.)	69,981.60
ASTOUND BUSINESS SOLUTIONS	555.85
AT&T MOBILITY	1,831.42
BELLINGHAM LOCK & SAFE, INC	1,879.16
BERGEN & CO	676.07
CENTRAL WELDING SUPPLY	105.53
COBB, FENDLEY & ASSOCIATES, INC	35,211.36
COMPLETE DESIGN INC	5,630.40
CONNER, ERIC	243.68
CORNERSTONE MANAGEMENT, INC.	1,782.00
CORRECT EQUIPMENT	822.96

CULLIGAN NORTHWEST	217.62
EUROFINS ENVIRONMENT TESTING	61.00
EXACT SCIENTIFIC SERVICES INC.	30.00
FERNDALE ACE HARDWARE	66.67
FERNDALE AUTO PARTS	47.47
FOSTER GARVEY PC	30,272.50
HARDWARE SALES, INC .	41.18
HEALTH PROMOTIONS NORTHWEST	150.00
HEIMGARTNER, CHRIS	409.15
HERITAGE ENGINEERING GROUP	48,947.56
HOOPER, STEPHANIE	51.10
MOTION AND FLOW CONTROL PRODUCTS INC	778.74
NEL/SON DISTRIBUTING DBA NELSON-REISNER	1,099.58
NORTH COAST ELECTRIC COMPANY	1,645.36
NORTHWEST FIBER DBA ZIPLY FIBER	887.40
ODP BUSINESS SOLUTIONS LLC	280.17
OXY CORP	100,000.00
P&P EXCAVATING, LLC	54,030.86
PACIFIC SURVEY & ENGINEERING	3,270.00
PLATT ELECTRIC SUPPLY CO	221.81
PORTAL WAY FARM & GARDEN	122.06
PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY	746.63
PROSCAPES	565.76
PUBLIC POWER COUNCIL	4,722.47
PUBLIC UTILITY RISK MANAGEMENT SERVICES	75.18
PUD #1 OF WHATCOM COUNTY	2,128.16
PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC	9,631.38
REGENCE BLUE SHIELD	60,569.51
ROGERS MACHINERY COMPANY INC	9,556.68
SSC - SANITARY SERVICE COMPANY	699.17
STAR RENTALS	1,708.88
STERICYCLE ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS	242.98
TEAMSTER LOCAL #231	744.00
UNITED WAY OF WHATCOM COUNTY	425.00
UTILITIES UNDERGROUND LOCATION	17.55
WASHINGTON DENTAL SERVICE	3,218.70
WASHINGTON TEAMSTERS WELFARE	14,630.00
WHATCOM FARMERS CO-OP	13.91
WHATCOM JANITORIAL	1,575.00
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 472,621.22

4. **Public Comment** – Brian Heinrich of Puget Sound Energy discussed with the commission the proposed legislation to create a wildfire relief fund for utilities and gave Puget Sound Energy’s opinion on the matter.
5. **General Manager’s Report** – Chris Heimgartner, General Manager reported on the status of the Nooksack River and noted that it is much higher than average and as such more flocculation chemicals may be needed for the water plants. The General Manager also reported that Santee Cooper, public power provider for the State of South Carolina has invested \$2.6 billion dollars in two new nuclear plants. The General Manager noted that a strong geomagnetic storm is due to take place today and may interfere with some communication devices but will have no direct impact on the operations of Whatcom County PUD. Lastly, the General Manager informed the commission that Andrew Entrikin, Director of Broadband and New Power Supply would be attending the BPA signing ceremony where BPA is acknowledging the public power providers that have signed the new BPA agreements, which Whatcom PUD has done.
6. **Operations Report** – Kurt Wank, Assistant General Manager repeated and expanded upon the General Manager’s previous acknowledgement of the water level in the Nooksack River being high. He explained in more detail the impact that elevated waters have on the flocculation

systems at the water plants and explained the need for more flocculant chemicals to account for the additional particulate in the water.

7. Old Business

a) Broadband Update – Andrew Entrikin, Director of Broadband and New Power Supply informed the commission that the Point Roberts project is continuing to move forward.

b) Adjudication Update – Peter Ruffatto, General Counsel informed the commission that Mr. Jon Sitkin, retiring Legal Counsel, has officially sent the rules committee a letter asking to appoint either Sara Frase or Matt Wells to be Mr. Sitkin’s replacement upon his retirement in January.

c) Geothermal Update – None

d) Strategic Plan Update – Chris Heimgartner, General Manager informed the commission that the final strategic plan is in final production.

e) New Customer Update – None

8. New Business

a) Action 1: Elect Commission Officers for 2026 – After a discussion amongst the commissioners, Commissioner Deshmane made a motion to elect Commissioner Ury as President, Commissioner Deshmane as Vice President, and Commissioner Arnett as Secretary for the year 2026. Commissioner Arnett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

b) Action 2: Select District Representatives to Membership Organizations for 2026 – After commission discussion, Commissioner Deshmane made a motion to have the following changes made in regards to commission representation on certain WPUA Committees for 2026: On the Government Relations Committee and the Communications Committee, Commissioner Ury will be appointed as primary representative to those committees and Commissioner Deshmane will serve as the alternate and on the Water Committee Commissioner Arnett will be the primary representative and Commissioner Deshmane will be the alternate. Commissioner Arnett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

After discussion about the other commission representation to membership organizations, Commissioner Deshmane made a motion to make no changes to any of the other representative positions. Commissioner Ury seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Below is the updated list of representatives for 2026 per the motions passed by the Commission:

- **Washington Public Utility Districts Association:** WPUA Committees and District designees:

Committee	<i>Primary Representative</i>	<i>Alternate</i>
Board of Directors	Jaime Arnett	Eddy Ury
Managers Committee	Chris Heimgartner	Kurt Wank
Government Relations Committee	Eddy Ury	Atul Deshmane
Communications Committee	Eddy Ury	Atul Deshmane
Energy Committee	Eddy Ury	Atul Deshmane
Water Committee	Jaime Arnett	Atul Deshmane
Telecom Committee	Atul Deshmane	Andrew Entrikin

- **Whatcom County Economic Development Investment Board:**
Delegate: Atul Deshmane

Alternate: Eddy Ury

- **Whatcom County Council of Governments (WCCOG):**
Delegate: Eddy Ury

Alternate: Atul Deshmane

- **Public Utility Risk Management Services (PURMS):** This is the District’s insurance pool coalition. We are required to have a District designated “voting” representative.

Voting Representative: Atul Deshmane

Alternate(s): Annette Smith

- **Watershed Resource Inventory Area No. 1 (WRIA1) –** Appoint WRIA 1 Watershed Management Board Representative and alternate; and appoint WRIA 1 Planning Unit representative and alternate. Current representatives:

WRIA 1	<i>Primary Representative</i>	<i>Alternate</i>
Watershed Mgmt. Board	Jaime Arnett	Chris Heimgartner
Planning Unit	Chris Heimgartner	Rebecca Schlotterback

- **Energy Northwest:**
Energy Northwest Representative: Eddy Ury

Alternate: Atul Deshmane

c) Action 3: Approval of Commission Meeting Schedule for 2026 – The commission reviewed the proposed commission meeting schedule for 2026. After review, Commissioner Arnett made a motion to approve the proposed commission meeting schedule for 2026. Commissioner Ury seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously

d) Action 4: Approve Work Order No. 2 With Toth & Associates Engineering to Design And Provide Construction Support for Construction of A 115kv Transmission Line and Authorize the General Manager to Sign the Agreement – Commissioner Arnett made a motion to approve work order No. 2 with Toth & Associates Engineering to design and provide construction support for construction of a 115kv transmission line and authorize the general manager to sign the agreement. Commissioner Ury seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

e) Resolution 1: Resolution No. 883 A Resolution of The Commission of Public Utility District No. 1 of Whatcom County ("District") Adopting the District Budget for the 2026 Calendar Year – Commissioner Arnett made a motion to approve Resolution No. 883. Commissioner Ury seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

f) Resolution 2: Resolution No. 884 A Resolution by The Commission of Public Utility District No. 1 of Whatcom County (“District”) Adopting Industrial Water Utility Water Rates, And Grandview Utility Service Rates For 2026 – Commissioner Arnett made a motion to approve Resolution No. 884. Commission Ury seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

g) Resolution 3: Resolution No. 885 A Resolution by The Commission of Public Utility District No. 1 of Whatcom County (“District”) Adopting Rates and Charges Related to Use and Operation of The District’s Electric Utility For 2026 – Commissioner Arnett made a motion to approve Resolution No. 885. Commissioner Deshmane seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

h) Resolution 4: Resolution No. 886 A Resolution by the Board of Commissioners of the Public Utility District No. 1 of Whatcom County (“District”) Delegating Administrative Powers and

Duties of the General Manager and Designees Superseding All Prior Resolutions Addressing the Same Subject Matter – Commissioner Arnett made a motion to approve Resolution No. 886. Commissioner Ury seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

i) Resolution 5: Resolution No. 887 A Resolution by The Board of Commissioners of Public Utility District No. 1 Of Whatcom County (“District”) Amending the Salary Ranges List for District Administrative Employees – Commissioner Arnett made a motion to approve Resolution No. 887. Commissioner Ury seconded the motion. Commissioner Deshmane opened the floor for discussion and accepted public comment on the resolution. Todd Lagestee, Citizen, suggested the inclusion of benefits information for comparison. With no further comment or discussion the commission voted on the motion on the floor and the motion passed unanimously.

9. Commission Reports/Per Diem Requests:

Commissioner Arnett: No non-pre-approved per diem requests, Commissioner Arnett had nothing new to report but did complement the hard work that went into the staff party.

Commissioner Deshmane: No non-pre-approved per diem requests, Commissioner Deshmane discussed his attendance at the staff party and praised the efforts that went into the party. Commissioner Deshmane made comments related to the budget process, executive session, and the processes of the commission.

Commissioner Ury: No non-pre-approved per diem requests, discussed his attendance at the staff party and his enjoyment of the party. Commissioner Ury also mentioned changing the shape of the commissioners table to make it more rounded. Commissioner Ury also requested a special meeting to discuss information brought up at the Energy Northwest meeting he attended.

10. Public Comment – None.

11. Executive Session

Commissioner Deshmane made the following announcements: Executive session was convened at 9:50 AM to discuss the following subjects:

- 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 40 minutes and conclude at 10:30 AM. Commissioner Deshmane announced that the executive session had concluded at 10:35 AM at which point he resumed the regular meeting.

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/>



Memo

To: Commissioners Arnett, Deshmane, and Ury
From: Kurt Wank – Assistant General Manager
Date: December 23, 2025
Re: Award Contract for PAC- Chemical Supply - 2026

Requested Action – Award the PAC- Chemical Supply – 2026 Contract to the lowest responsive bidder, Alumichem, and authorize the General Manager to execute the agreement.

Background – The bid opening for the PAC- Chemical Supply – 2026 Contract for calendar year 2026 was held on Thursday, November 13, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. The Request for Bid Proposals was advertised in the local newspaper of record. Bids were received from companies whose chemical flocculants had previously met the District water operations staff requirements; as well as companies whose chemical flocculants had not previously met the District water operations staff requirements. One bid package was received and deemed responsive. A second bid was received and deemed non-responsive due to not being previously tested.

The results of the bids are as follows:

Low Responsive Bidder:.....**Alumichem**
Poly Aluminum Chloride\$0.82 per lb.

Unit Prices include Washington State Sales Tax and Shipping; including all costs associated with the delivery of the material including, but not limited to, labor, taxes, insurance, fuel and/or fuel surcharge. Staff reviewed the unit prices; extensions and no math errors were made on the proposal. All submittals required for the proposal, non-collusion affidavit and addendum acknowledgement were completed as well as the inclusion of the product Material Safety Data Sheets.

Staff recommends awarding the Contract for chemical supply to Alumichem.

Fiscal Impact – Approval will have no additional fiscal impact to the Whatcom PUD as it has been accounted for in the 2026 Whatcom PUD Budget.

Recommended Action – Award the PAC- Chemical Supply – 2026 Contract to the lowest responsive bidder, Alumichem, and authorize the General Manager to execute the agreement.

Action Memo

To: Commissioners Arnett, Deshmane, and Ury
From: Stephanie Hooper, Accountant I
Date: December 23, 2025
Re: Approve Resolution No. 888 – Cancellation of Warrant

Requested Action: APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 888 AUTHORIZING CANCELLATION OF WARRANT FOR HDR ENGINEERING INC.

Background: Warrant No. 01266962 was issued on November 13, 2025 in the amount of \$12,110.64 to HDR Engineering Inc. The warrant was issued to cover engineering services. The check has not been received in the time since its issuance and the finance department believes that it is missing in the mail. The finance department requests the commission's cancellation of said warrant and approval of issuing a new warrant to ensure that HDR Engineering Inc. receives payment. The county has notified the district that the warrant has not been tendered and the district is asking the county to cancel and disregard the warrant.

Fiscal Impact: No fiscal impact.

Recommended Action: APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 888 AUTHORIZING CANCELLATION OF WARRANT FOR HDR ENGINEERING INC.

RESOLUTION NO. 888

**RESOLUTION BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OF PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO.1 OF WHATCOM COUNTY (DISTRICT)
AUTHORIZING THE CANCELLATION
OF WARRANT NO. 01266962**

WHEREAS, the warrant referenced in Exhibit A (the “Warrant”) was issued to pay an invoice from HDR Engineering Inc.

WHEREAS, following the Commission’s authorization of the issuance of the Warrant, the County’s Administrative Services Department (“County”) printed the Warrant on November 13, 2025; however, the warrant has not been received. The district notified the County that the Warrant was missing in the mail and has asked the County to cancel and disregard the Warrant; and issue a new Warrant.

WHEREAS, the County has provided the Warrant that was issued on November 13, 2025, and the Warrant has not been tendered to HDR Engineering Inc., the District does now wish to cancel the Warrant, as provided by law; and will issue a new warrant.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the district hereby cancels the warrant listed in Exhibit A.

ADOPTED by the Commission of Public Utility District No.1 of Whatcom County at its regular meeting held on the 23rd day of December, 2025.

**PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO.1
Of WHATCOM COUNTY**

Atul Deshmane, President/Commissioner

Jaime Arnett, Vice President/Commissioner

Eddy Ury, Commissioner

**Resolution No. 888 Exhibit A
Cancellation of Warrant**

Warrant No.	Warrant Date	Vendor	Amount
01266962	November 13, 2025	HDR Engineering Inc.	(\$12,110.64)