

**MINUTES OF THE
MEETING OF THE COMMISSION
January 27, 2026**

1. Call to Order | Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Public Utility District No. 1 of Whatcom County was called to order at 8:19 a.m. by Commissioner Eddy Ury. 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
Jon Littlefield	Electric System Supervisor
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

VISITORS

Jon Sitkin	Citizen
Todd Lagestee	Citizen
Dave Olson	Citizen
James Van Der Voort	Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association

2. Approval of Agenda

ACTION:

Commissioner Arnett made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Ury seconded the motion. The motion passed with both Commissioner Ury and Commissioner Arnett in favor. Commissioner Deshmane was not present in the chambers at the time of the vote.

3. Approval of Consent Agenda

a) Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Commission Meeting of January 13, 2026 and Approval of the Claims of January 27, 2026:

Commissioner Arnett made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Ury seconded the motion. The motion passed with both Commissioner Ury and Commissioner Arnett in favor. Commissioner Deshmane was not present in the chambers at the time of the vote.

Claims of January 27, 2026:

ALUMICHEM CANADA INC (formerly WATERHOUSE ENV.)	35,583.60
BELLINGHAM LOCK & SAFE, INC	545.00
BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION	821,690.90
CENTRAL WELDING SUPPLY	216.54
CHMELIK SITKIN & DAVIS	17,756.80
COMCAST	330.37
CULLIGAN NORTHWEST	219.27
ESCAPE VELOCITY HOLDING INC DBA TRACE3	37,767.05
FERNDALE ACE HARDWARE	10.89
FERNDALE AUTO PARTS	497.47

GATEWAY CONTROLS	1,207.68
HARDWARE SALES, INC .	148.11
HD FOWLER CO, INC	1,367.42
HDR ENGINEERING, INC.	6,340.47
HESS, DEVIN	510.20
INSIGHT PUBLIC SECTOR, INC.	3,356.50
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE	27,955.28
INTERWEST CONSTRUCTION	113,152.00
JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL	182.52
MASSMUTUAL RETIREMENT SVCS LLC	15,110.00
MINMAX	3,000.00
NORTH COAST ELECTRIC COMPANY	34,723.22
NORTHWEST CASCADE, INC.	165.50
P&P EXCAVATING, LLC	71,901.60
PACIFIC SURVEY & ENGINEERING	806.25
PAYLOCITY	1,168.58
PAYROLL	296,929.46
PROSCAPES	2,263.04
PUD #1 OF WHATCOM COUNTY	11.98
PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC	222.36
SCHOLTEN'S EQUIPMENT INC	244.37
STAR RENTALS	1,708.88
TOTH AND ASSOCIATES, INC	767.50
ULINE, INC.	6,963.73
VALVOLINE	286.64
WA FEDERAL VISA CARD MEMBER SERVICES	19,139.54
WA PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION	15,564.00
WA ST DEPT OF REVENUE - EXCISE TAX	102,446.59
WA ST DEPT OF REVENUE - LEASEHOLD TAX	235.70
WESTERN CONFERENCE OF TEAMSTERS	9,236.50
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 1,651,733.51

4. **Public Comment** – None

5. **General Manager’s Report** – Chris Heimgartner, General Manager reported the WRIA 1 Board are setting their meetings for the year and Mr. Heimgartner suggested that there be an adjudication update at the March WRIA 1 meeting. Mr. Heimgartner noted he had suggested to the Watershed Management Board that the AG Water Board be included as a voting member in the government caucus.

6. **Operations Report** – Kurt Wank, Assistant General Manager reported that the recent cold weather has had no negative effects on the water plants. Mr. Wank also noted that there was some scouring at Plant 2 which has been repaired.

7. **Old Business**

a) **Broadband Update** – Andrew Entrikin, Director of Broadband and New Power Supply commented on the ongoing Point Roberts project. He noted that Caldera Archeology had been hired to review the project to ensure that no ground disturbances would occur during construction.

b) **Adjudication Update** – Peter Ruffatto, Legal Counsel noted that both motions for stays of the filing deadline were denied and that deadline is still May 1, 2026. He also noted that filing numbers are much lower than anticipated.

c) **Geothermal Update** – Andrew Entrikin, Director of Broadband and New Power Supply informed the commission that a date for a meeting between the Nooksack and the PUD to sign the MOA is still being worked out.

d) GM Recruitment Update – Chris Heimgartner, General Manager reported that so far there are 6 interested applicants who have applied and 3 individuals reviewing for potential application.

e) New Customer Update – None

8. New Business

a) Action 1: James Van Der Voort gave a presentation to the commission about the work done by the Nooksack Salmon Enhancement of Association that the PUD helps fund annually and outlined the projects the association hopes to complete in the current year. Commissioner Deshmane made a motion to approve funding in the amount of \$20,000 for the Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association to support Washington Conservation Corps work on habitat restoration projects for 2026. Commissioner Arnett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

b) Resolution 1: Commissioner Arnett made a motion to approve Resolution 891 Accepting Sole Source for Peak Measure to provide Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories (SEL) control devices. Commissioner Deshmane seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

c) Resolution 2: Commissioner Deshmane made a motion to approve Resolution 892 authorizing cancellation of warrant for American Water Works Association Inc. Commissioner Arnett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

d) Resolution 3: Commissioner Arnett read Resolution No. 893 aloud in its entirety on the floor of the meeting. Commissioner Deshmane made a motion to pass Resolution No. 893 a resolution of the Board of Commissioners of Public Utility District No. 1 Of Whatcom County honoring general counsel Jon K. Sitkin for his years of service. Commissioner Arnett seconded the resolution. The resolution passed unanimously. After the passing of the resolutions the commissioners thanked Mr. Sitkin for his years of service to Whatcom PUD and wished him well on his well deserved retirement.

9. Commission Reports/Per Diem Requests:

Commissioner Arnett: No non-pre-approved per diem requests, Commissioner Arnett noted that she attended the recent WPUDA meetings virtually and discussed various topics covered at those meetings.

Commissioner Deshmane: No non-pre-approved per diem requests, Commissioner Deshmane discussed his attendance at the recent WPUDA meetings and the various topics covered at those meetings.

Commissioner Ury: No non-pre-approved per diem requests. Commissioner Ury discussed his attendance at the recent WPUDA meetings and the various topics covered at those meetings.

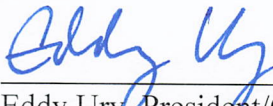
10. Public Comment – Todd Lagestee noted his appreciation of Mr. Sitkin and how much he learned from and enjoyed his time working with Mr. Sitkin during Mr. Lagestee’s brief time as PUD Commissioner.

11. Executive Session

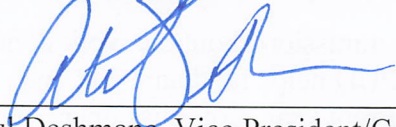
None

12. Adjourn

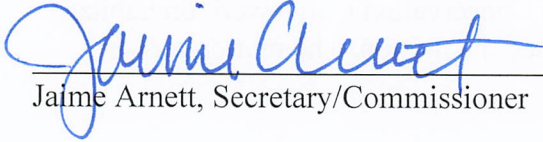
There being no further business Commissioner Ury adjourned the meeting at 10:35 a.m.



Eddy Ury, President/Commissioner



Atul Deshmane, Vice President/Commissioner



Jaime Arnett, 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/>