



**Minutes of the Regular Commission Meeting of  
Public Utility District No. 1 of Okanogan County  
Okanogan PUD Auditorium  
1331 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue North, Okanogan, WA  
September 14 2020 - 3:00 PM**

**Teleconference Availability Only:**

**Phone: 1-346-248-7799**

**Meeting ID: 136 009 349**

**Present:**

Board: Jerry Asmussen,  
Board Via Phone: Bill Colyar, Scott Vejraska  
Staff: Steve Taylor, Ron Gadeberg, Jerry Day, JJ Boettger,  
Wendy Foth, Allen Allie, Dan Simpson  
Staff Via Phone: Randy Bird, Janet Crossland,  
Other: Heidi Appel, General Counsel  
Public Via Phone: Roni Diefenbach, Dick Ewing

**Summary Agenda**

- I. Call to Order
- II. Business Meeting
  1. Pledge of Allegiance
  2. Review of Agenda
  3. Approval of Consent Agenda
    - a) Minutes of August 24, 2020, Regular Meeting
    - b) Minutes of August 24, 2020, Special Meeting
    - c) Vouchers
  4. Old Business
    - a) COVID-19 Update
    - b) Resolution No. 1727 – Replacing a Revenue Shortfall
  5. New Business
    - a) Resolution No. 1728 – Declaring an Emergency, Waiving Competitive Bidding
    - b) Roni Diefenbach – Okanogan Broadband Action Team
    - c) Broadband Grant
    - d) WRIA 49 Water Agreement
  6. Administrative Reports
    - a) Steve Taylor – Manager's Report
    - b) Dan Simpson – Explanation of rates
    - c) Rob Gillespie – Treasurer's Report
    - d) Ron Gadeberg – Power/Telecom Report
  7. Other Business
  8. The next regularly scheduled Commission meeting is September 28, 2020
  9. Commissioners Meeting Attended

10. Public Comment

III. Executive Session

IV. Adjournment

**I. Call to Order**

Commissioner President Jerry Asmussen called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

**II. Business Meeting**

**1. Pledge of Allegiance**

Meeting attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. Review of Agenda**

No changes to the agenda.

**3. Approval of Consent Agenda**

**a) Minutes**

Regular meeting minutes from August 24, 2020, were submitted for approval.

**b) Special Minutes**

Meeting minutes from the special executive session held on August 24, 2020, were submitted for approval.

**c) Vouchers**

Vouchers submitted for approval: 2024, 155632 through 155687 totaling \$314,074.99; 2025 through 2028, 155688 through 155696 totaling \$366,947.68; 2029, 155697 through 155734 totaling \$581,107.26; 155735 through 155807 totaling \$249,435.66; 2030 through 2033, 155808 through 155816 totaling \$360,208.71.

Commissioner Colyar moved to approve consent agenda items a through c, seconded by Commissioner Vejraska. The motion passed unanimously.

**4. Old Business**

**a) COVID-19 Update**

General Manager Taylor reported that Governor Inslee extended the reconnect/disconnect and open public meetings proclamations until October 1. The District has approximately 400 delinquent accounts for a total of roughly \$40,000 past due.

### **b) Resolution No. 1727 – Replace a Revenue Shortfall**

Resolution No. 1727 was presented to the Board for the second reading to authorize transferring funds from the Rate Stabilization Reserve Fund to the revenue fund to replace a revenue shortfall in the 2020 District budget due to Covid-19.

Commissioner Colyar moved to approve Resolution No. 1727 second and final reading, Commissioner Vejraska seconded. Resolution No. 1727 passed unanimously.

## **5. New Business**

### **a) Resolution No. 1728 – Declaring an Emergency, Waiving Competitive Bidding**

A Resolution of the Board of Commissioners of Public Utility District No. 1 of Okanogan County Declaring an Emergency, Waiving Competitive Bidding Procedures, and Authorizing Contracts Necessary to Repair District Facilities Damaged by Fires was presented to the Board.

Commissioner Colyar moved to approve Resolution No. 1728 as the first and final reading. Commissioner Vejraska seconded. Resolution No. 1728 passed unanimously.

### **b) Roni Diefenbach – Okanogan Broadband Action Team**

Roni Diefenbach of the Okanogan Broadband Action Team via telephone discussed what is happening with the BAT team and how they would like to work with the PUD.

### **c) Broadband Grant**

A motion to approve the District's submission of the application proposed by staff for a Washington State Public Works Board - Broadband program grant was presented to the Board.

Commissioner Colyar moved to approve the submission of the Broadband grant, as stated in the motion. Commissioner Vejraska seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### **d) WRIA 49 Water Agreement – Signature of Scott Vejraska on Minority Report**

The Board decided to table the discussion until the special meeting on Monday, September 21, 2020.

## **6. Administrative Report**

### **a) Steve Taylor, Manager's Report**

General Manager Steve Taylor reported:

- Attended Northwest Public Power Annual meeting via teleconference

- Attended PPC Member Forum
- Spoke with Dick Rodderick with PURMS about the tabletop assessment that will be conducted this year
- Provided WPUA Source Book to Commissioners
- All Employee Day in January – due to COVID we won't be able to have the All Employee Day. Asking to have that day as a regular workday and schedule later for an All Employee Day

Fire damage reports were presented by:

- Engineering Manager, Allen Allie
- Chief Engineer, Dan Simpson
- Operations Manager, Randy Bird

General Manager Taylor requested to proceed with the preparation of bond issuance in an amount not to exceed 40 million dollars. This amount shall include the cost of capital improvements necessary to repair the District's electric and broadband system destroyed by the Cold Springs Fire.

Commissioner Colyar motioned to authorize preparing the bond issuance not to exceed 40 million dollars. Commissioner Vejraska seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**b) Dan Simpson, Chief Engineer – Explanation of rates**

Chief Engineer Dan Simpson gave an explanation of rates and how they are structured with the District. This explanation was scheduled due to a recent letter in the Chronicle regarding PUD rates.

**c) Rob Gillespie – Treasurers report**

Treasurer Rob Gillespie presented an overview of cash transactions for August 2020. The District began the month with \$22,383,511.21 in cash and investments on hand; there were cash receipts of \$8,690,210.69. Warrants paid totaled \$3,678,074.84, for an ending balance of cash and investments of \$23,401,159.39.

**d) Ron Gadeberg – Power/Telecom Report**

Director of Power Resources and Broadband Services Ron Gadeberg reported wholesale power sales for August were \$45,650, which placed sales over budget by \$102,335 for the month. July retail sales were \$3,986,862, which was under budget by \$208,071.

Gadeberg reported telecom billed \$284,527 as of September. Currently, the District has 2123 Cambium subscribers, 857 Wi-Fi subscribers totaling 2980 wireless customers, and 531 Fiber customers.

**7. Other**

**8. Next Board Meeting September 28, 2020**

**9. Commissioner Meetings Attended**

Commissioner Colyar had no meetings to report

Commissioner Vejraska attended WRIA 49 meetings on September 3<sup>rd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>

Commissioner Asmussen had no meetings to report

**10. Public Comment**

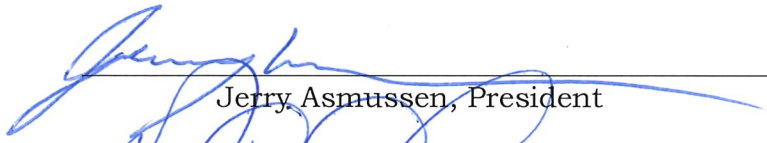
There was no public comment.

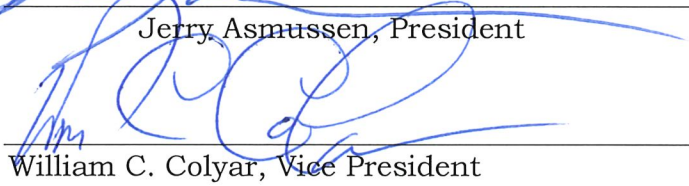
**III. Executive Session**

There was no executive session held.

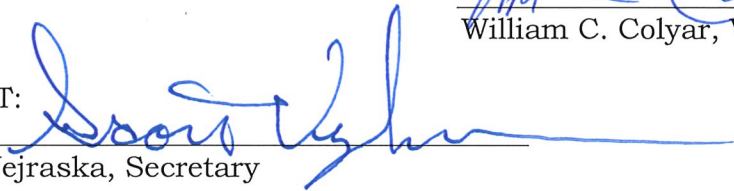
**IV. Meeting Adjournment**

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 5:06 p.m.

  
Jerry Asmussen, President

  
William C. Colyar, Vice President

ATTEST:

  
Scott Vejraska, Secretary