

Minutes of
PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 OF PEND OREILLE COUNTY
May 19, 2026
NEWPORT CONFERENCE ROOM, NEWPORT, WA AND
VIRTUAL VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

Present: Curtis J. Knapp, President
Dave Rick, Vice President
J. Troy Moody, Secretary

Staff Present: April Owen, Acting General Manager
Management/District Staff
Karen Willner, Clerk of the Board

Absent: Chris Jones, General Manager

Others: Ernie Hood, Member of the Public
Tracy Rutt, Member of the Public
Karen (last name not provided), Member of the Public

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Commissioner Curtis J. Knapp, President followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

The minutes from the May 5, 2026 meeting, today's agenda, and the vouchers were reviewed and discussed.

As of this date, May 19, 2026, the Board, upon motion by Commissioner Rick and seconded by Commissioner Moody approved the following:

- The agenda for May 19, 2026, and the minutes of the May 5, 2026 meeting.
- Vouchers audited certified by the auditing officer as required by RCW 42.24.080, and those expense reimbursement claims certified by RCW 42.24.090, have been recorded on a listing, which has been made available to the Board. Payment of those vouchers, included in the list referred to above and further described as follows: Voucher Nos. 11640 through 11699 in the total amount of \$284,991.79; ACH payments in the total amount of \$1,312,775.66; Wire transfers in the total amount of \$361,762.03; and ACH payroll transactions in the total amount of \$312,107.35 for the payroll ending April 30, 2026.

The motion passed unanimously.

COMMISSION REPORT:

Commissioner Rick attended a visit with Clark PUD yesterday at Box Canyon Dam in Ione.

Commissioner Knapp attended the visit with Clark PUD yesterday at Box Canyon Dam in Ione, the Public Power Council meetings on May 6 and 7 in Portland, and a PUD Community Informational Forum on May 14 in Newport. He commended staff for organizing and attending the Clark PUD visit and Community Informational Forum.

COMMISSION BUSINESS:

Commissioner Rick will attend an Economic Development Advisory Committee (EDAC) meeting tomorrow in Usk and a Tri-County Economic Development District meeting on May 27 in Colville.

Commissioner Moody will attend the EDAC meeting tomorrow in Usk and a Greater Newport Area Chamber of Commerce meeting on May 26 in Newport.

Commissioner Knapp will attend a Northwest Public Power Association Annual Conference and Membership meeting tonight through May 22 in Spokane.

- Pre-Approval of Commissioner Travel or Meeting Attendance. Discussion was held. A motion was made by Commissioner Rick and seconded by Commissioner Moody to approve the Commissioner Travel or Meeting Attendance for June. The motion passed unanimously.

Mike Schleich, District Director of Engineering and Operations, introduced Brennan Jones, returning engineering summer student. Mr. Jones reported this is his second year at Gonzaga and he is pursuing a degree in electrical engineering. Mr. Schleich introduced Nathan Rocha, Senior Engineering Designer, and reported he started yesterday at the District. Mr. Rocha provided his background. The Board welcomed Mr. Jones and Mr. Rocha.

April Owen, Acting General Manager, noted other summer student and Campbell Park camp host start dates.

Shannon Johnston, District Customer Service Supervisor, introduced Sarah Goodman, a returning fourth year summer student who is working in the customer service department this year. The Board welcomed Ms. Goodman.

Katie Pfitzer, District Director of Administrative Services, provided an overview of our summer student intern program and reported there are 14 summer students this year. She reported it is a great opportunity for us to employ these students in the future. She reviewed the program guidelines and reported that summer student recognition lunches will be held on June 30 at Box Canyon and July 21 in Newport.

ACTING GENERAL MANAGER REPORT:

Ms. Owen and staff attended a virtual Fitch Ratings Agency meeting last week and reported that they review our financials annually. Discussion was held.

She reported that union employees voted in favor of the proposed IBEW Local 77 Union contract last night. Staff will bring an action item to ratify the contract before the Board on June 2. Discussion was held.

BUSINESS FROM THE PUBLIC/OPEN COMMENT PERIOD:

Commissioner Knapp provided the guidelines for the session and asked if there were any business or comments from the public.

Tracy Rutt, member of the public, provided public comment. Discussion was held.

Ernie Hood, member of the public, provided public comment. Discussion was held.

Karen (did not provide last name), member of the public, provided public comment. Discussion was held.

A member of the public provided public comment. Discussion was held.

Commissioner Knapp thanked everyone for attending and for their comments.

Following a short recess, the meeting resumed.

MANAGEMENT REPORT:

Mike Schleich, Director of Engineering and Operations:

He reported staff have been working on updating our Wildfire Mitigation Plan and will present it to the Board for action at an upcoming meeting. He asked Lauren Naccarato, District Utility Services Designer, and William Zurcher, District Vegetation Management Supervisor, to provide a wildfire mitigation update.

Ms. Naccarato reported that we completed our first wildfire mitigation project on Fertile Valley, two more projects are staked, and there are a total of five projects to get done this summer. Discussion was held. Mr. Schleich commended Ms. Naccarato for leading this effort and for doing a great job.

Mr. Zurcher reported he and staff have been inspecting power lines and using a drone to minimize man hours and maximize production to fly into inaccessible and remote areas. Discussion was held.

Joe Hathaway, Public Information Officer:

He thanked staff and public for attending the Community Informational Forum on Thursday. He reported the next forum will be held on June 4 at the Cutter Theatre in Metaline Falls.

He reported an Aerial Saw Helicopter Project event will be held on June 1 from 12:00 – 2:00 p.m. on the field behind Sadie Halstead Middle School in Newport.

He reported we are hosting the Stratton Elementary School 2nd Grade Class for a tour of our facility and bucket truck demonstration on May 27.

He reported staff will participate in a Touch-A-Truck event on June 3 at the Cusick School District.

He reported there will be Kids and Senior Citizens Fishing events at Campbell Pond on May 30 and 31.

Scott Jungblom, Natural Resources Manager:

He provided an overview of the fish stocking at Campbell Pond and Power Lake and reported that we purchased some of the fish from the Colville School District's Hatchery Program. Discussion was held.

Sarah Holderman, Director of Customer Services:

She provided a memo regarding our pole attachment fees per RCW 54.04.045(3) calculation to the Board in preparation of our public rate hearing at the June 2 meeting. She will ask for Board approval during the June 16 meeting and if approved, the rate would be effective January 1, 2027. Discussion was held.

She reported we received our official award notice for our Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment Grant in the total amount of \$16 million to do a south county upgrade on our fiber electronics infrastructure and to add electronics to customer homes. Discussion was held. Ms. Owen reported that we also applied for a north county grant but were only awarded a south county grant. Ms. Holderman reported we will present an award contract and letter of credit for Board approval at an upcoming meeting.

ACTION ITEM:

- Approval of Bid Award for Surplus Property, Fleet Asset #160, a 2010 Ford F-150 Pickup Truck. Ms. Willner provided a bid tabulation summary. Discussion

was held. A motion was made by Commissioner Rick and seconded by Commissioner Moody to award the bid to the highest bidder, as presented. The motion passed unanimously. Ms. Owen reported that no bids were received for the excavator or Oldtown, Idaho property. Discussion was held.

Commissioner Knapp noted customer thank you emails that were received and he thanked the customers for their comments. Discussion was held.

Commissioner Knapp asked if there was any further business for the good of the order. There was none.

He adjourned the meeting at 9:58 a.m.

President

ATTEST:

Secretary

General Counsel
Approved as to Form