

Minutes of
PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 OF PEND OREILLE COUNTY
May 20, 2025
NEWPORT CONFERENCE ROOM, NEWPORT, WA AND
VIRTUAL VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

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

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

Absent: Chris Jones, Interim General Manager

Others: Representative Hunter Abell, virtual
Gretchen Koenig, Member of the Public, virtual

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Commissioner Dave Rick, President.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

The minutes from the May 6, 2025 meeting, the May 12, 2025 special meeting, today's revised agenda, and the vouchers were reviewed.

As of this date, May 20, 2025, the Board, upon motion by Commissioner Moody and seconded by Commissioner Knapp approved the following:

- The revised agenda for May 20, 2025 meeting, the minutes of the May 6, 2025 meeting, and the minutes of the May 12, 2025 special 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. 10440 through 10496 in the total amount of \$633,511.58; ACH payments in the total amount of \$508,986.34; Wire transfers in the total amount of \$390,799.16; and ACH payroll transactions in the total amount of \$342,273.16 for the payroll ending April 30, 2025.

The motion passed unanimously.

COMMISSION REPORT:

Commissioner Knapp attended a virtual Public Power Council (PPC) Members Forum on May 7 and a virtual PPC Executive Committee meeting on May 8 and provided an overview.

Commissioner Rick attended an Ione Town Council meeting on May 7 in Ione and provided an overview. He attended an Economic Development Advisory Committee meeting on May 14 in Ione and provided an overview.

COMMISSION BUSINESS:

Commissioner Knapp will attend a Northwest Public Power Association Annual Conference virtual session on May 21 and a virtual Energy Northwest meeting on June 2.

Commissioner Rick will attend a Tri-County Economic Development District meeting on May 28 in Colville.

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

Karen Willner, District Clerk of the Board, noted a Washington Public Utility Districts Association visit at the June 17 meeting. Discussion was held. Ms. Willner will follow up.

ACTING GENERAL MANAGER REPORT:

Sarah Holderman, District Acting General Manager, reported staff has submitted our Broadband Equity Access and Deployment Grant Round 2 applications.

She received three Advanced Meter Project Opt-Out Program customer applications. She reported the contractor finished installing most of the meters for the Advanced Meter Project. Due to meter access, we have a few customer meters to change out which we will do in-house.

She reported we received five damage claims related to the Highway 211 power outage.

Commissioner Rick received a customer thank you note for the District offering an Advanced Meter Opt-Out Program option. He expressed his appreciation for the note and provided an overview. Discussion was held.

BUSINESS FROM THE PUBLIC/OPEN COMMENT PERIOD:

Commissioner Rick asked if there was any business or comments from the public.

Gretchen Koenig, member of the public, reported the District's fiber crew was currently installing her fiber optic cable and she thanked the fiber crew and the District for their service.

Commissioner Rick thanked everyone for attending and for their comments.

REPRESENTATIVE HUNTER ABELL VISIT/LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:

Joe Hathaway, District Public Information Officer, introduced Representative Hunter Abell.

Rep. Abell thanked the District for what it does and for the information that it provides. He provided a legislative update and reported that today is the last day for the governor to sign or veto any bills. He noted the sales and property tax or fee increases and if it would be passed or vetoed today by Governor Ferguson. He reported that if the governor vetoes the bill then the state budget will not be balanced and will force a special session to balance the budget. Rep. Abell sits on the Environment and Energy Committee and reported there were several power related bills including House Bill 1903 for establishing a low-income assistance program under the Clean Energy Transformation Act, which died in the Appropriations Committee. House Bill 1819 relates to increasing transmission capacity and discussions have been held regarding power, generation, and zero carbon for a green energy future. He reported the state budget has more than doubled in size over the last two decades and if the budget is signed it will be over \$80 billion.

Commissioner Knapp thanked Representative Abell and his team for being willing and available to meet with the Board and congratulated him. Representative Abell commended Senator Shelly Short for being a wonderful mentor and for her experience and he commended Representative Andrew Engell for his help and service.

Commissioner Rick thanked Representative Abell for representing the District and commented that we are grateful for his time and support.

Commissioner Moody thanked Representative Abell for his support.

Mr. Hathaway thanked Representative Abell for attending today and for providing a legislative update.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Approval of Declaration of Surplus Property – Information Technology Equipment. Bob Pebles, District Information Technology Manager/CIP Senior Manager, reported the equipment is no longer needed and if the Board approves to surplus we will reach out to local schools to see if they are interested and if they are not, we will contact our local e-cycle to recycle the equipment. A motion was made by Commissioner Knapp and seconded by Commissioner Moody to approve and declare the equipment as being unserviceable, inadequate, obsolete,

worn out, or unfit to be used in the District's operations, and no longer necessary, material to, or useful in the operations of the District and, therefore, surplus to the needs of the District. The motion passed unanimously. Staff will proceed as appropriate.

- Approval of Resolution No. 1499 – Revised Pole Attachment Rates. Ms. Holderman reported we held a public rate hearing at the May 6 meeting and if approved, the rate would be effective January 1, 2026 for all companies that attach to our poles. A motion was made by Commissioner Moody and seconded by Commissioner Knapp to approve and adopt the resolution. Discussion was held. The motion passed unanimously.
- Approval of Bid Award – Surplus Property, Approximately 45 Wooden Utility Power Poles and Miscellaneous Pole Ends. Ms. Willner provided a bid tabulation summary. Discussion was held. A motion was made by Commissioner Knapp and seconded by Commissioner Moody to award the bid to the highest bidder, as presented. The motion passed unanimously.
- Approval of Revised Community Network System (CNS) Policy and Fees. Ms. Holderman reported we have a new company who is interested in being a Retail Service Provider (RSP) on our system and we added an exhibit to the policy and clarified how an RSP cancels their service. Discussion was held. A motion was made by Commissioner Moody and seconded by Commissioner Knapp to approve the revised policy. The motion passed unanimously.
- Approval of Procurement of Reclosers, Contract No. 25-302. Mike Schleich, District Engineering Manager, reported the lead time is 40 weeks and this is a budgeted item. He provided a recloser overview. April Owen, District Director of Finance, reported this is a sole source contract and the Board had previously passed a resolution that allows us to bypass the competitive bidding process. Ms. Holderman reported this contract is over the general manager's \$150,000 contract approval limit. A motion was made by Commissioner Moody and seconded by Commissioner Knapp to approve the contract with Peak Measure, Inc. and authorize the general manager to execute the contract. The motion passed unanimously.
- Approval of Task Order No. 5, Contract No. 21-018. Scott Jungblom, District Natural Resources Manager, reported this task order is for McMillen, Inc. to design the access points and safety improvements for the Box Canyon Dam upstream fish ladder components that were originally constructed. This project was budgeted last year. Discussion was held. A motion was made by Commissioner Knapp and seconded by Commissioner Moody to approve and authorize the general manager to execute the task order. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Rick asked if there was any other business for the good of the order. There was none.

He reported the next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 3, 2025, starting at 8:30 a.m., in the Newport Conference Room, Newport and via Microsoft Teams.

He announced a 30-minute executive session to review the performance of a public employee will begin at 9:40 a.m. in the Newport Conference Room. If the executive session needs to be extended he will rejoin the open session to publicly announce an extension. No final action will be taken during the executive session. Following the executive session, he and the Board will rejoin the open session to resume or adjourn the meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – REVIEW PERFORMANCE OF A PUBLIC EMPLOYEE:

A 30-minute executive session to review the performance of a public employee commenced at 9:40 a.m. The following were in attendance: Board of Commissioners; Sarah Holderman, Acting General Manager; and April Owen, Director of Finance. The executive session ended at 10:11 a.m. and the Board returned to open session. No final action was taken during the executive session.

Commissioner Rick asked if there was any other business for the good of the order. There was none.

He reported the next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 3, 2025, starting at 8:30 a.m., in the Newport Conference Room, Newport and via Microsoft Teams.

He adjourned the meeting at 10:12 a.m.

President

ATTEST:

Secretary

General Counsel
Approved as to Form