Minutes of
PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 OF PEND OREILLE COUNTY
June 16, 2026
NEWPORT CONFERENCE ROOM, NEWPORT, WA AND
VIRTUAL VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

Present:	Curtis J. Knapp, President David W. Rick, Vice President J. Troy Moody, Secretary
Staff Present:	Chris Jones, General Manager Management/District Staff Karen Willner, Clerk of the Board
Others:	Ernie Hood, Member of the Public David Bradbury, Member of the Public Tracy Rutt, Member of the Public Laura Verity, Merkle Standard Infrastructure Gretchen Koenig, Member of the Public Tyler Whitney, Cable Huston, LLP, virtual

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Commissioner Curtis J. Knapp, President followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. He reported that Commissioner Moody will be arriving late.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

The minutes from the June 2, 2026 meeting, the June 10, 2026 special meeting, today's agenda, and the vouchers were reviewed and discussed.

As of this date, June 16, 2026, the Board, upon motion by Commissioner Rick and seconded by Commissioner Knapp approved the following:

- The agenda for June 16, 2026, the minutes of the June 2, 2026 meeting, and the minutes of the June 10, 2026 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. 11724 through 11766 in the total amount of $152,848.65; ACH payments in the total amount of $1,136,801.70; Wire transfers in the total

amount of $287,646.11; and ACH payroll transactions in the total amount of $367,137.96 for the payroll ending May 31, 2026.

The motion passed unanimously.

Katie Pfitzer, District Director of Administrative Services, introduced Tim Viets, newly hired Network Analyst, and provided his background. Mr. Viets provided an overview of his job responsibilities. Discussion was held.

COMMISSION REPORT:

Commissioner Rick attended a Pend Oreille Representatives meeting on June 10 at the District in Newport.

COMMISSION BUSINESS:

Commissioner Rick will attend a Tri-County Economic Development District meeting on June 24 in Colville.

Commissioner Knapp will attend Energy Northwest meetings on June 23 - 26 in Vancouver. He provided an update. Discussion was held.

GENERAL MANAGER REPORT:

Chris Jones, District General Manager, reported that Bryant Kramer, District Director of Production, has Federal Energy Regulatory Commission dam safety inspections this week. He reported the river's spring runoff peaked on June 1 at 73,000 cubic feet per second.

He reported today we are still under Industrial Fire Precaution Level 1: Closed Fire Season for required fire watch service and we are going to start moving to Fire-Safe Mode this week due to the weather conditions. A Wildfire Committee meeting was held this morning.

He reported that the Lower Snake River dams have been discussed for a long time. He received and read part of a letter from Kurt Miller, CEO and Executive Director of Northwest Public Power Association, and provided an overview of the study to remove the dams. Discussion was held. Joe Hathaway, Public Information Officer, reported that the Washington Public Utility Districts Association (WPUDA) is also submitting comments on the Lower Snake River dams study.

MANAGEMENT REPORT:

William Zurcher, Vegetation Management Supervisor:

He provided an Aerial Saw Trimming Progress presentation. 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.

Commissioner Knapp thanked everyone for attending.

MANAGEMENT REPORT (continued):

April Owen, Director of Finance:

She attended and provided an update on the WPUDA Finance Officers meeting held last week in Pasco. Discussion was held.

Joe Hathaway, Public Information Officer (continued):

He is rolling out more communications on the Fire Safe Mode and Elevated Fire Safe Mode and emphasizing that no power will be proactively shut off.

He then provided an overview of upcoming community events and reported the Newport Rodeo Parade is June 27, the Annual Aquatic Weeds Workshop is July 10 at the Kalispel Tribe of Indians Camas Wellness Center, and Down River Days events will be held at the end of July in Ione.

Katie Pfitzer, Director of Administrative Services:

She reported that summer student recognition lunches will be held on June 30 at Box Canyon and on July 21 in Newport.

Ben Hall, Energy Resources Manager:

He provided a Climate Commitment Act Update presentation and explained the District impacts including required annual reporting. He reported that with the rule changes we can provide the Department of Ecology with an annual forecast of loads, energy resources, and carbon emissions by September 1 of each year. He and staff will provide more information to the Board in July. Discussion was held.

Sarah Holderman, Director of Customer Services:

She provided a retail service provider (RSP) update and reported that the Northwest Open Access Network will be doing a soft launch as a RSP next week. She was contacted by

KnightCom, Inc. to become a RSP and has received their wholesale telecommunications services application.

Following a short recess, the meeting resumed.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Approval of Revised Identity Theft Protection Program Policy. Mr. Jones reported the revisions are to conform to the current practices and standards. Discussion was held. A motion was made by Commissioner Rick and seconded by Commissioner Knapp to approve the revised policy. Discussion was held. The motion passed unanimously.

- Approval of Revised Wildfire Mitigation Plan. Mr. Jones reported it is an ever-changing document. A motion was made by Commissioner Rick and seconded by Commissioner Knapp to approve the revised plan. The motion passed unanimously.

- Approval of Resolution No. 1507 – Pole Attachment Fee Adjustments. Ms. Holderman reported the public hearing was held on June 2. A motion was made by Commissioner Rick and seconded by Commissioner Knapp to approve and adopt the resolution. The motion passed unanimously.

- Approval of Procurement of Box Canyon Dam Fire Suppression System, Contract No. 26-202. Sheena Thompson, District HR Generalist, reported this is a budgeted item for this year and provided the system and contract details. The project will occur this year. Discussion was held. A motion was made by Commissioner Rick and seconded by Commissioner Knapp to approve the purchase in the total amount of $585,959. The motion passed unanimously.

- Approval of Procurement of Power Transformer, Contract No. 26-306. Mike Schleich, District Director of Engineering and Operations, reported this is the transformer for the Bare Mountain Substation and provided the details. This purchase was budgeted for this year. A motion was made by Commissioner Rick and seconded by Commissioner Knapp to approve the procurement and award the contract to the apparent low bidder, Virginia Transformer Corporation, in the total amount of $1,318,033.00. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Knapp announced that a 1-hour executive session to review the performance of a public employee will begin at 10:05 a.m. and end at 11:05 a.m. in the Riverbend 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 1-hour executive session to review the performance of a public employee commenced at 10:05 a.m. The following were in attendance: Commissioners Curtis J. Knapp and David W. Rick. Commissioner J. Troy Moody joined the executive session at 10:40 a.m. Tyler Whitney, Cable Huston, LLP, virtual, joined the executive session at 11:00 a.m. At 11:02 a.m., Commissioner Knapp publicly announced the executive session is extended for one hour and will end at 12:05 p.m. At 12:03 p.m., Commissioner Knapp publicly announced the executive session is extended for one hour and will end at 1:05 p.m. Chris Jones, General Manager, joined the executive session at 12:31 p.m. Mr. Jones exited the executive session at 12:38 p.m. The executive session ended at 1:03 p.m. and the Board returned to open session. No final action was taken during the executive session.

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

He reported the next meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 30 at 8:30 a.m., at Box Canyon Dam, in Ione and via Microsoft Teams.

He adjourned the meeting at 1:04 p.m.

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President

ATTEST:

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Secretary

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General Counsel
Approved as to Form