



Pend Oreille County Public Utility District

Administrative Offices - P.O. Box 190 • Newport, WA 99156 • (509) 447-3137 • FAX (509) 447-5824
Box Canyon Hydro Project - P.O. Box 547 • Ione, WA 99139 • (509) 446-3137 • FAX (509) 447-6790

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Media Contact: Joe Hathaway
jhathaway@popud.org / 509-447-6354

Pend Oreille PUD Board Appoints Chris Jones as Interim General Manager

NEWPORT, WA. – The Board of Commissioners of Public Utility District No. 1 of Pend Oreille County (PUD) has appointed Chris Jones as Interim General Manager to succeed retiring General Manager John Janney.

Jones, currently the PUD’s Director of Operations, will assume the role of Interim General Manager effective February 27. The Board selected Jones during an executive session on Tuesday, February 18, 2025.

A native of Newport, Washington, Jones has been with Pend Oreille PUD since 1994. He graduated from Newport High School and began his career at the PUD as a lineman before moving up the ranks to become Director of Operations in 2010. During his more than three decades of experience, Jones has led numerous infrastructure and reliability projects for the PUD, including serving as project manager for the Diamond Lake to Bare Mountain transmission line.

“I’m honored to step into this role and serve the community I grew up in,” said Jones. “Pend Oreille County has always been home, and I’m committed to working with the Board, our employees, and our customers to ensure we continue providing safe, reliable service and meeting the needs of our community.”

“Chris brings more than 30 years of service and a deep understanding of both our organization and the community we serve,” said David Rick, Board President. “His local roots, leadership experience, and dedication to the PUD make him the right choice to guide us through this transition and into the future. The Board is confident in his ability to lead and keep our focus on serving Pend Oreille County.”

Jones is expected to serve as Interim General Manager for 90 days, at which point the Board anticipates entering negotiations to make his appointment permanent.

About Pend Oreille County Public Utility District

Pend Oreille PUD was established in 1936 and began operations in 1948. The PUD is governed by three locally elected Commissioners. A General Manager and staff operate the utility within policies set by the Board of Commissioners. The PUD has four operating systems: The electric system distributes electricity to the county, the production system produces power from the Box Canyon Hydroelectric Project, the water system consists of nine individual water distribution subdivisions, and the community network system provides wholesale broadband communication services. For more information visit: <http://popud.org>.