



**PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 OF OKANOGAN COUNTY**  
**1331 Second Ave N. Okanogan, WA**  
**REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

**Zoom Meeting Info: Phone: 1-346-248-7799 Meeting ID: 922 7822 8992**

Join by Zoom Meeting <https://zoom.us/j/92278228992> Meeting ID: 922 7822 8992

December 11, 2023

**ATTENDEES:**

Board Members: Jerry Asmussen, Scott Vejraska, Bill Colyar  
Staff: Steve Taylor, Janet Crossland, Ron Gadeberg, Wendy Foth,  
Jerry Day, Dan Simpson, Jeri Timm, Katie Pfitzer, John  
MacDonald, Roy Schwilke, Randy Bird, Mindy Morris  
Staff Via Zoom/Phone: Dale Dunckel, Justin Dibble, Ryan Lafferty  
Other: Heidi Appel, General Counsel  
Public: Jerold (Butch) Pierce, Linda Pierce, Rod Haeberle, Mike  
Cusick  
Other Online: Matt Hobson & Sergey Tarasov  
Public Via Zoom: No one from the public attended via Zoom

**SUMMARY AGENDA**

- I.** Call to Order
- II.** Business Meeting
  1. Pledge of Allegiance
  2. Roll Call
  3. Review of Agenda
  4. Public Comment
  5. Approval of Consent Agenda
    - a) Minutes of November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Regular Meeting
    - b) Minutes of November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Special Meeting
    - c) Vouchers
    - d) Transfers of Account
  6. Unfinished Business
    - a) Resolution No. 1808 – 2024 Budget
  7. New Business
    - a) Resolution No. 1809 – 3 Phase Scanner Surplus
  8. Administrative Reports
    - a) Mangers Report
    - b) September Financial Report
  9. Other Business
    - a) 2024 Commissioner Assignments
  10. Commissioners Meetings Attended
  11. The next Board of Commission meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 16th, 2024
- III.** Executive Session
- IV.** Adjournment

**I. Call to Order**

Commission President Asmussen called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

**II. Business Meeting**

**1. Pledge of Allegiance:**

Meeting attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. Roll Call**

**3. Review of Agenda**

No changes to the agenda were made.

**4. Public Comment**

Butch Pierce asked the Commission to take into consideration that not all ratepayers get annual raises. Not happy about the rate increase and wages of the PUD.

Rod Haeberle expressed his concerns that rates and wages keep going up.

Mike Cusick reminded the Commission that they are working for the ratepayers, not the PUD.

**5. Approval of Consent Agenda**

**a) Minutes of November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Regular Meeting**

**b) Minutes of November 27<sup>th</sup>, Special Meeting**

**c) Vouchers**

Vouchers submitted for approval:

2637 through 2640; 165845 through 165888, totaling \$3,380,185.74

2641 through 2644; 165889, 165890, totaling \$415,810.64

165891 through 165931, totaling \$383,378.24

**d) Transfers of Accounts**

Transfers of accounts totaling \$8,391.09 were submitted to the Board for processing.

Commissioner Colyar moved to approve the consent agenda items a through d, seconded by Commissioner Vejraska; the consent agenda was approved unanimously.

**6. Unfinished Business**

**a) Resolution No.1808 – 2024 Budget**

Resolution No. 1808 was brought to the Board for the second reading along with four options ranging from a zero percent rate increase to the proposed 3.75%, which follows the Equity Management Plan.

After an hour-and-a-half-long discussion, Commissioner Colyar motioned to have a 1% increase for the 2024 budget year. Commissioner Vejraska seconded the motion and motioned to amend the motion to a .5% residential increase only. With no second to Commissioner Vejraska's motion, the original motion of 1% was voted on. The resolution passed two votes to one.

**7. New Business**

**a) Resolution No. 1809 – 3 Phase Scanner Surplus**

Resolution No. 1809 was brought to the Board for a surplus of a 3-phase scanner that the District no longer uses.

Commissioner Vejraska moved to approve Resolution No. 1809, first and final, seconded by Commissioner Colyar. The resolution passed unanimously.

**8. Administrative Reports**  
**a) Managers Report**

General Manager Taylor reported he signed:

- NC 2023 Horrocks extended the contract date to March 31, 2024
- The ECESD contract will provide school districts with electrical safety and other vital information for the 2023-2024 school year. Contract not to exceed \$27,122.00.

General Manager Taylor reports he is still working with the Okanogan Irrigation District as per the last meeting.

Taylor reported he, along with Ron Gadeberg and Dale Dunckel, attended the Power Conference in Portland and a meeting with Douglas PUD as well.

**b) September Financial Report**

Janet Crossland, Director of Finance and Accounting, provided the September 2023 budget overview and customer statistical and financial report comparing the Equity Management Plan to actuals for the 12 months ending September 2023.

General Counsel Heidi Appel reported to the Board that Rite Aid has filed for bankruptcy, which we are included in.

Ron Gadeberg gave a snowpack report.

**9. Other Business**

**a) 2024 Commissioner & Industry Committee Assignments**

**2024 Commissioners Assignments**

| Current        | 2023           | 2024           |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| President      | Jerry Asmussen | Scott Vejraska |
| Vice President | Scott Vejraska | Bill Colyar    |
| Secretary      | Bill Colyar    | Jerry Asmussen |

**2024 Industry Committee Assignments**

| Committee                                      | 2024 Representatives | 2024 Alternate  |
|--|----------------------|-----------------|
| Energy Northwest                               | Jerry Asmussen       | Scott Vejraska  |
| Energy Northwest (Participant Review Board)    | Bill Colyar          | Scott Vejraska  |
| NoaNet Member Representative                   | John MacDonald       | Steve Taylor    |
| NoaNet Board Member                            | Ron Gadeberg         | John MacDonald  |
| Northwest Public Power Association (NWPPA)     | Steve Taylor         | Jeri Timm       |
| Public Utility Risk Management Service (PURMS) | Steve Taylor         | Megan Morrissey |
| NWPPA Government Relations                     | Jeri Timm            | Steve Taylor    |
| Public Power Council                           | Ron Gadeberg         | Steve Taylor    |
| Okanogan County Watershed Planning Unit        | Scott Vejraska       | Jeri Timm       |
| WPUDA Round Table                              | Jerry Asmussen       | Scott Vejraska  |



|                                |                |   |
|--------------------------------|----------------|---|
| WPUDA Government Relations     | Jerry Asmussen | Bill Colyar 1st Alternate<br>Scott Vejraska 2 <sup>nd</sup> Alternate             |
| WPUDA Communications Committee | Jerry Asmussen | Steve Taylor  |
| WPUDA Education                | Jerry Asmussen | Scott Vejraska  |
| WPUDA Energy Committee         | Jerry Asmussen | Scott Vejraska 1 <sup>st</sup> alternate<br>Bill Colyar 2 <sup>nd</sup> alternate |
| WPUDA Telecom Committee        | Jerry Asmussen | Bill Colyar 1 <sup>st</sup> Alternate<br>Scott Vejraska 2 <sup>nd</sup> Alternate |
| WPUDA Managers                 | Steve Taylor   | Janet Crossland Alternate   |

**10. Commissioners Meetings Attended:**

Commissioner Vejraska:

- No meetings were attended. Commissioner Vejraska did mention he spoke with Joel Kretz about the Conconully fiber project.

Commissioner Colyar:

- No meetings attended

Commissioner Asmussen:

- No meetings attended

**11. The next scheduled Board of Commissioners meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024, due to the holiday on Monday.**

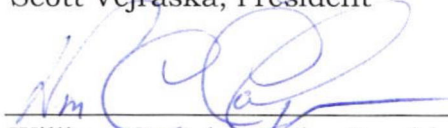
**III. Executive Session**

The regular Board meeting ended at 5:30 with an executive session beginning at 5:35, lasting for 20 minutes for discussion with legal counsel about current litigation under RCW 42.30.110 (1)(i) with no action anticipated.

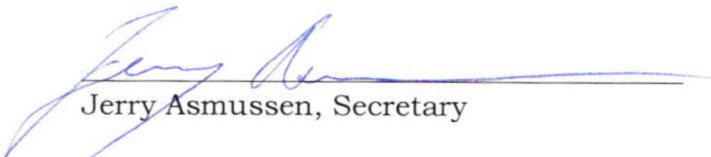
**IV. Meeting Adjournment**

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

  
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 Scott Vejraska, President

  
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 William C. Colyar, Vice President

ATTEST:

  
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 Jerry Asmussen, Secretary