

**CLALLAM COUNTY PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT #1**  
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners  
Main Office | 104 Hooker Road | Sequim, WA 98382  
**January 9, 2023 at 1:30 PM** - This was a hybrid meeting

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**Commissioners Present** (in person):

Jim Waddell, President  
Ken Hays, Vice President  
Rick Paschall, Secretary

**Staff Present** (in person or via Zoom):

Sean Worthington, General Manager  
John Purvis, Superintendent  
Lori Carter, Controller/Auditing Officer  
Ruth Kuch, Finance Manager/Treasurer  
Alan Plasch, Sr. Power Systems Supervisor  
Barb Sires, Accounting Specialist  
Chelsey Jung, Payroll Coordinator  
Colin Young, Distribution Systems  
Supervisor  
Eric Jacobson, Business Analyst  
Greg Thompson, Engineering Technician  
Jamie Spence, HR Manager  
Kaylie Hunter, Procurement/Facilities  
Supervisor  
Mary Doran, Sr. Accountant

Mattias Järvegren, Utility Services  
Supervisor  
Mike Hill, Engineering Manager  
Nicole Hartman, Communications Manager  
Shauna Anders, Accountant  
Shawn Delplain, Broadband Supervisor  
Sherri Bernath, Accounting Specialist  
Steve Schopfer, IT Manager  
Teresa Lyn, Executive Assistant  
Terry Lind, Operations Manager  
Travis McClain, WWW Supervisor  
Tyler King, Power Analyst

**Others Present as Identified** (in person or via Zoom):

Bruce Emery, DCD  
Colleen McAleer, EDC  
David Mallon  
Geoff James, Port of PA  
Geoffrey James, Port of PA  
Janet Marx  
John Conrath  
Kate Woodin, LWVCLA Observer  
Kenneth Reandeu  
Krestine Reed  
Larry Morris  
Michelle Johnson  
Richard DeBusman  
Werner Buehler

The meeting commenced at 1:30 PM.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC :09**

Public comment was heard regarding: an inquiry about the consequences of the District not signing the BPA post-2028 contract; climate change; and battery technology research.

**AGENDA REVISIONS 16:35**

Removal of invoices from the active miscellaneous accounts receivable in the amount of \$35,874.89 including a 30% collection fee was added to the consent agenda as item E.

## **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA 17:06**

Upon recommendation of staff, and upon motion of Commissioner Waddell, seconded by Commissioner Hays and carried, the Board approved the following consent agenda items:

- A. Minutes of the December 12, 2022 regular meeting;
- B. Claim vouchers for December 12 through December 29, 2022 for a total of \$5,960,359.16;
- C. Payroll vouchers for the period of December 1 through December 15, 2022;
- D. Removal of delinquent accounts from January active accounts receivable in the amount of \$4219.43 including a 30% collection fee;
- E. Removal of invoices from active miscellaneous accounts receivable in the amount of \$35,874.89 including a 30% collection fee; and
- F. November Treasurer's Report.

## **BUSINESS ITEMS STARTING AT 17:31**

**17:33:** Election of Board President: Commissioner Paschall made a motion to elect new Commissioner Hays President of the board. There was no second. Commissioner Hays made a motion to elect Commissioner Waddell President of the board and Commissioner Waddell seconded the motion. Commissioners Hays and Waddell voted yes on the seconded motion thus electing Commissioner Waddell President of the board. Commissioner Paschall opposed.

**18:44:** Election of Board Vice President: Commissioner Waddell made a motion to elect new Commissioner Hays Vice President of the board. Commissioner Hays seconded the motion. Commissioners Waddell and Hays voted yes on the seconded motion thus electing Commissioner Hays Vice President of the board. Commissioner Paschall opposed.

**19:11:** Election of Board Secretary: Commissioner Waddell made a motion to elect Commissioner Paschall Secretary of the board. Commissioner Hays seconded the motion. Commissioners Waddell and Hays voted yes on the seconded motion thus electing Commissioner Paschall Secretary of the board. Commissioner Paschall opposed.

**25:25:** General Manager Sean Worthington requested the Board approve the proposed 2023 Committee and Organization Membership List and assigned delegates and authorize the payment of membership dues as presented. He advised that if the Board wanted to make any revisions that they should do so at this time and then vote to approve the revised changes. Commissioner Hays requested to be assigned as primary delegate to Energy Northwest (EN), the North Olympic Legislative Alliance (NOLA), and the North Peninsula Building Association. The Board voted to make these proposed delegate changes, to approve the revised 2023 Committee and Organization Membership List and to authorize the payment of membership dues.

**1:25:22:** Colleen McAleer, Director of the Economic Development Council (EDC) presented on the following: EDC's strategic planning work; site selector opportunities that the EDC has been unable to pursue due to lack of power capacity where limited available heavy industrial zoning exists; creation of a map/list of large (>40 acres) available industrial properties with existing infrastructure (power/sewer/water/broadband) that will require change of zoning or expansion of UGA and that will show where existing industrially - zoned properties are located; and EDC's 5-Year Plan that targets high-wage jobs (\$75K+) and supply chain resiliency. She thanked the

District for providing the EDC with an ARC GIS map that shows reserve power capacity and suggested that the PUD's reserve capacity map would be considered when the county and cities complete their Comprehensive Plan updates in 2025.

Bruce Emery, Director of Community Development (DCD) presented on the County's Comprehensive Plan update process and the potential zoning changes that would be required to facilitate the expansion of industry within the County.

Geoff James, Executive Director of the Port of Port Angeles, spoke about the Port's growth plans within the District Urban Growth Areas (UGAs) and resiliency needs of the West end of the County.

**1:27:59:** Commissioners and staff discussed BPA Post-2028 contract negotiations. General Manager Worthington advised that the District's predicted rate reduction for this year was formally approved by BPA. Commissioner Hays asked if the decision had been discussed as he thought that using one time windfall revenues for permanent expenses was poor policy and he would have rather seen it go towards projects and/or energy efficiency measures rather than to offset future rate escalation. General Manager Worthington advised that the Board approved the decision in November 2022. Commissioner Hays requested that the District hold a public workshop on the BPA post-2028 contract.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS 1:32:33**

General Manager Worthington shared that the District once again achieved the American Public Power Association (APPA) national Smart Energy Provider designation for prioritizing energy efficiency, distribute generation, and renewable energy and environmental initiatives, while providing affordable and reliable electric service to the community.

He also shared that the District is receiving law enforcement reports regarding the escalation of substation sabotage around the country. The District is working with FBI and local law enforcement and taking multiple preventative measures including increased law enforcement patrolling to head off or mitigate any potential sabotage activity within our County.

#### **COMMISSIONER REPORTS 1:34:54**

Commissioner Hays expressed interest in reviewing/discussing WPUDA's weekly utility-related state legislative initiatives summary report and suggested board meeting discussions to make sure the board is in favor of WPUDA's stances. General Manager Worthington advised that utility-related initiatives are developed, discussed, assessed, and/or stances taken at the monthly WPUDA association meetings. Commissioners and staff attend and participate in these meetings.

Commissioner Paschall expressed concern about the environmental impact of massive excavation of raw-earth materials for the manufacture of utility-sized batteries. He also suggested that staff consider creating a presentation around what we could do to harden substation security. Superintendent Purvis advised that for security reasons, it is more suitable for staff to make themselves available to speak individually with Commissioners about any substation security concerns they have.

**STAFF REPORTS 1:43:43**

No staff reports.

**BOARD ACTION ITEMS 1:43:51**

- A. Staff is to look into providing an educational work session for the public on the post-2028 BPA contract.
- B. Staff is to update the current Organization Membership List to reflect Commissioner Hays delegation assignments.
- C. Staff is to provide Commissioner Hays with the proposed EDC contract for review and discussion at an upcoming meeting.
- D. Going forward, staff is to provide Commissioners with a list of board action items and the status of each.

**PUBLIC COMMENT 1:46:06**

Public comment was heard regarding: batteries; people moving here because of rural environment; the need for broadband; concern about people not being able to pay their bills; concern about industrial developments; and a request that the EDC PowerPoint be posted to the District's website.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting adjourned at 3:24 PM.

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*A detailed transcript of this meeting via audio recording is available to the public on the Commission Meetings page of the PUD website here: <https://clallampud.net/commission-meetings/>.*

January 9, 2023