

PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 OF COWLITZ COUNTY, WASHINGTON

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING OF COMMISSIONERS

Tuesday, May 13, 2025

John Searing Auditorium and Microsoft Teams

Present:

COMMISSIONERS

Dave Quinn, President

Duane Dalgleish, Vice President

Bruce Pollock, Secretary

STAFF

Alice Dietz, Communication & Public Relations Manager

Andres Perez, Senior Power Resource Analyst

Chris Velat, Director of Power Management

Dever Haffner-Ratliffe, Regulatory Affairs Coordinator

Doug Thomas, Manager of Transmission & Distribution

Gary Huhta, General Manager

Jake Fakess, Transmission & Distribution Engineer

Jen Langdon, Energy Efficiency Manager

Joe Barteluca, Business Intelligence Analyst

Monica Petterson, Executive Assistant/Clerk of the Board

Richard Hughes, General Counsel

Stacie Pederson, Risk Compliance Manager

Steve Taylor, Director of Regulatory & Regional Affairs

Tim Kalimanis, Director of Technology

Trent Martin, Director of Accounting/CFO

PUBLIC

Bonnie Delaney

Mike Kaysar

Steve Ferrell

1. CALL TO ORDER

Pursuant to published Notice, Commissioner Quinn called the Regular Board meeting of the Commissioners of Public Utility District No. 1 of Cowlitz County, Washington to order at 2:00 p.m.

2. CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO BOARD AGENDA

There were no changes to today's agenda.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Commissioner Dalgleish and seconded by Commissioner Pollock to approve the May 13, 2025 Board Agenda.

The motion carried 3 to 0

4. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

It was moved by Commissioner Dalglish and seconded by Commissioner Pollock to approve the April 22, 2025 Regular Board Meeting minutes as written.

The motion carried 3 to 0.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS AND OTHER DISTRICT BUSINESS

There was no public comment.

6. MOTION TO RATIFY/APPROVE VOUCHERS/PAYROLL

Approval of Vouchers in the amount of \$9,593,052.25. The Board reviewed expenditures of the District as required by RCW 42.24.180 for which payments were issued between April 24, 2025 and May 8, 2025, under the provisions of Resolution No. 2762.

It was moved by Commissioner Dalglish and seconded by Commissioner Pollock to approve the ratification of the vouchers/payroll.

Risk Compliance Manager Stacie Pederson reported the majority of expenses were for power supply, taxes, two payroll periods, personal leave cashouts, and benefits. Materials purchased included distribution transformers and wire in addition to customary items. Other notable disbursements were for conservation incentives, the cold climate heat pump project, and Warm Neighbor Program pledges.

The motion carried 3 to 0.

7. NEW EMPLOYEE INTRODUCTIONS

Doug Thomas introduced Transmission & Distribution Engineer Jake Fakes.

Tim Kalimanis introduced Business Intelligence Analyst Joe Barteluce.

8. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

Board Workshop: General Manager Gary Huhta provided a brief recap of this morning's workshop where staff discussed Energy Efficiency programs, and the Western Resource Adequacy Program (WRAP) and how it relates to our decision for which BPA product to select. We will hold another workshop on June 10th regarding the Provider of Choice contract, followed by a resolution for product choice on June 24th. Commissioner Quinn requested staff provide an outline of the risk factors and the magnitude of the expected risks to help the Board with their decision making.

BPA Workforce Update: The reductions of force have been lifted for BPA, and they are now exempt from them. BPA is also seeking to be released from the hiring freeze. An article published recently discussed the importance of BPA coming out of its hiring freeze, and the Department of Energy has demonstrated they are listening to these regional concerns.

Harvest Wind Acquisition: We completed the acquisition of Lakeview Green Energy's 30% share of the Harvest Wind Project, and the transaction closed on April 30th. Mr. Huhta expressed a big thank you to Trent Martin, Chris Velat, Andy Davis, and Steve Taylor for their efforts throughout this process, and to Lakeview for being an honest partner in completing this transaction.

9. ACTION ITEMS

9.1. Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2826 – Determining Compliance with the Requirements of the Washington Energy Independence Act, I-937

It was moved by Commissioner Dalglish and seconded by Commissioner Pollock to approve Resolution No. 2826.

Senior Power Resource Analyst Andres Perez explained that the District is required to establish and meet a minimal biennial energy conservation target and meet defined renewable energy requirements as part of the Washington State Energy Independence Act (I-937). Staff have determined the District has met both its renewable energy requirement and its conservation target for the period January 2024 through December 2024 and is in full compliance with the Act. Looking ahead, the District has adequate RECs for its 2024 compliance and continues to forecast sufficient REC supply for future I-937 compliance periods.

The motion carried 3 to 0.

10. STAFF REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

10.1. Director of Regulatory and Regional Affairs Steve Taylor presented the Clean Energy Implementation Plan (CEIP) public participation program. The CEIP must be adopted every four years and part of the process includes seeking public input from highly impacted communities and vulnerable populations on the transition to clean energy. Opportunities for public input will begin May 14, 2025 through August 31, 2025 and will take place via a community survey on the District’s website, a community workshop, and community focus groups. A draft report will then be made available to the public and presented to the Board in October, with final adoption occurring in November.

11. COMMISSIONER REPORTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Commissioner Dalglish congratulated Alice Dietz for being the recipient of the Kelso Longview Chamber of Commerce Pillars of Strength Community Leadership award.

Commissioner Pollock will attend WPUDA meetings this week.

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION

No Executive Session needed.

13. MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING

It was moved by Commissioner Dalglish and seconded by Commissioner Pollock to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting at 3:39 p.m.

The motion carried 3 to 0.

Attest:

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David F. Quinn
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President

Signed by:
Bruce Pollock
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Secretary

DocuSigned by:
Duane Dalglish
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Vice President

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Monica Petterson
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Prepared by Monica Petterson
Executive Assistant/Clerk of the Board