

PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 OF COWLITZ COUNTY, WASHINGTON

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING OF COMMISSIONERS

Tuesday, June 24, 2025

Cowlitz PUD Board Room and Microsoft Teams

Present:

COMMISSIONERS

Dave Quinn, President

Duane Dalglish, Vice President

Bruce Pollock, Secretary

STAFF

Alice Dietz, Communication & Public Relations Manager

Andy Davis, Senior Power Resource Engineer

Casey Kalal, Director of Operations

Chris Velat, Director of Power Management

Dever Haffner-Ratliffe, Regulatory Affairs Coordinator

Doug Thomas, Manager of Transmission & Distribution

Gary Huhta, General Manager

Heather Sorensen, Director of Customer Service & Compliance

Lance Larwick, Director of Engineering

Marisa Heard, Manager of Employee Services

Monica Petterson, Executive Assistant/Clerk of the Board

Richard Hughes, General Counsel

Ryan Hennessey, Utility Contracts Coordinator

Tim Kalimanis, Director of Technology

Trent Martin, Director of Accounting/CFO

Tyler Modin, Electrical Engineer

PUBLIC

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 Dalglish and seconded by Commissioner Pollock to approve the June 24, 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 June 10, 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 \$19,363,036.85. The Board reviewed expenditures of the District as required by RCW 42.24.180 for which payments were issued between June 10, 2025 and June 18, 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.

Heather Sorensen, in her role as Auditor for the District, reported the majority of expenses were for power supply and other customary items, as well as a large property purchase payment and conservation incentives.

The motion carried 3 to 0.

7. NEW EMPLOYEE INTRODUCTIONS

Doug Thomas introduced Utility Contracts Coordinator Ryan Hennessey.

Lance Larwick introduced Electrical Engineer Tyler Modin.

8. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

BPA Update: General Manager Gary Huhta reported the parties involved in the Public Rate Design Methodology (PRDM) came together and were able to resolve their differences and address concerns previously brought forth by PNGC.

FWEE STEM Event: The Foundation for Water & Energy Education (FWEE) will host a hydropower academy tomorrow at Lewis County PUD for thirty high school aged students. We will send a crew there to conduct a safety trailer demonstration, and our GIS personnel for a drone demonstration. Students will be able to get hands on experience and explore different careers. This is one example of the outreach we do to promote hydropower.

Meeker Substation: The Meeker substation is currently under construction, and we will keep the Board updated on the progress.

PUD Family BBQ: We will hold a BBQ at the PUD main office tomorrow, and one on Thursday at our Operations Center to celebrate National Safety Month. Families of PUD employees are encouraged to attend.

Community Events: The Concerts at the Lake series begins July 10th and will be held every Thursday for six weeks. The District will have a booth set up at three of the six concerts.

Weekend for Warm Neighbor – Last year we paired the Eat for Heat event with the first inaugural PUD Golf Tournament. Due to its success, both events will be paired again this year. The tournament is already at full capacity, and our data vendor, 1898 & Company, has signed up to be the title sponsor for the second year in a row. We have secured numerous other sponsorships as well.

9. ACTION ITEMS

9.1. Motion to Approve Resolution No. 2827 – BPA Provider of Choice Product Selection

It was moved by Commissioner Dalglish and seconded by Commissioner Pollock to approve Resolution No. 2827.

Director of Power Resources Chris Velat explained that the District has participated in the Provider of Choice process with BPA over the last several years and reviewed various contract offerings, focusing attention and evaluation on both the Load Following and Slice/Block options. District staff determined the Slice/Block contract to be the better option as it has inherent flexibility that provides for integration of District resources. Staff have held discussions with the District’s largest industrial customers, as well as with the Board to arrive at this recommendation. Staff recommends the Board approve Resolution No. 2827 authorizing the General Manager to complete all necessary steps with BPA to prepare a “signature-ready” Slice/Block Power Sales Agreement. Staff will bring the Agreement to the Board prior to the December 5, 2025 contract signing deadline for the Board’s final approval.

The motion carried 3 to 0.

10. STAFF REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

10.1. District staff provided highlights and answered Commissioner questions regarding the May 2025 Operational Reports which were included in the Board meeting materials.

11. COMMISSIONER REPORTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Commissioner Dalglish will attend the PUD Family BBQ tomorrow and will judge the Cardboard Boat Regatta at Lake Sacajawea next week.

Commissioner Pollock visited other PUD’s last week in his role as Secretary for WPUA. This week he will attend Energy Northwest meetings, a Cowlitz-Wahkiakum Council of Governments meeting on Thursday, and the PUD Family BBQ tomorrow.

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 3:18 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

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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