

PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 OF COWLITZ COUNTY, WASHINGTON

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING OF COMMISSIONERS

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Cowlitz PUD Board Room and Microsoft Teams

Present:

COMMISSIONERS

Dave Quinn, President

Duane Dalgleish, Vice President

Bruce Pollock, Secretary

STAFF

Alice Dietz, Communication & Public Relations Manager

Chris Warren, Warehouse Helper

Chris Velat, Director of Power Management

Gary Huhta, General Manager

Heather Sorensen, Director of Customer Service & Compliance

Lance Larwick, Director of Engineering

Monica Petterson, Executive Assistant/Clerk of the Board

Richard Hughes, General Counsel

Steve Taylor, Director of Regulatory & Regional Affairs

Tami Ingalls, Purchasing Manager

Tim Kalimanis, Director of Technology

Trent Martin, Director of Accounting/CFO

PUBLIC

None

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 the meeting agenda.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Commissioner Dalgleish and seconded by Commissioner Pollock to approve the January 13, 2026 Board Agenda.

The motion carried 3 to 0.

4. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES

It was moved by Commissioner Dalgleish and seconded by Commissioner Pollock to approve the December 9, 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 \$18,108,697.73. The Board reviewed expenditures of the District as required by RCW 42.24.180 for which payments were issued between December 11, 2025 and January 8, 2026, 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 disbursements and payroll included in this report have been reviewed and approved in accordance with RCW 42.24.180. Invoices have been authorized by management, verified against supporting documentation, and pre-audited by designated staff for accuracy, proper coding, and compliance with the District's policies. Staff requests the Board approve the ratification of the vouchers and payroll as presented.

The motion carried 3 to 0.

7. NEW EMPLOYEE INTRODUCTION

Tami Ingalls introduced Warehouse Helper Chris Warren.

8. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

Snowpack Update: General Manager Gary Huhta reported we are currently in a dry period, but rain is forecast to return next Wednesday along with below freezing temperatures. We hope this results in an increase in snowpack in the Cascades. The Lewis River Basin snowpack is currently at 52% of normal, and British Columbia snowpack is currently at 122% of normal. Columbia River runoff at the Dalles for the January through July period is at 99% of normal as of today.

9 Canyon Wind Project: We are evaluating an Energy Northwest (ENW) proposal to extend the life of the 9 Canyon Wind Project for another 10 years. The District currently owns a 2% share of this project and would likely get an additional small number of shares. We will present a staff recommendation at the next Board meeting regarding our intent to move forward with the extension.

Bond Refunding Update: Director of Accounting and CFO Trent Martin reported the refunding closed on December 23rd and the bond sale occurred on December 9th. Our Moody's rating upgrade helped in lowering rates and improving savings. We will benefit from \$3.5 million in gross savings over the next 10 years. The net present value savings is \$2.5 million, which is well above the bond resolution thresholds. Closing went smoothly and bonds have been called.

Upcoming Board Workshop: A Board workshop will be held the morning of January 27th to discuss the Swift No. 2 generator breaker project, as well as the draft SWOT analysis that will be used in preparation for Strategic Planning.

9. ACTION ITEMS

9.1. Motion to Approve Staff Recommendation No. 1/1/13 – Acceptance of Public Right-of-Way Franchise Agreement with Lewis County

It was moved by Commissioner Dalglish and seconded by Commissioner Pollock to approve Staff Recommendation No. 1/1/13.

Director of Regulatory and Regional Affairs Steve Taylor reported the Board last approved the Franchise Agreement with Lewis County in August 2020. The Agreement expired in August 2025, and the District requested a renewal. The Agreement will allow the District to continue utilizing facilities in the County’s right-of-way to serve five District customers on Bones Road. The Agreement also includes access to Canady Road. Though the District does not currently serve customers along this road, the Agreement authorizes the District to place facilities in this area if needed. Staff recommends the Board approve the renewal of a 5-year Franchise Agreement with Lewis County, Washington.

Commissioner Quinn abstained from the vote. The motion carried 2 to 0.

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION

No Executive Session needed.

11. MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING

It was moved by Commissioner Dalglish and seconded by Commissioner Pollock to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting at 3:04 p.m.

The motion carried 3 to 0.

Attest:

DocuSigned by:
David F. Quinn
3A0B167E34AF4AE...

President

Signed by:
Bruce Pollock
CDAB0E3CF00B43E...

Secretary

DocuSigned by:
Duane Dalglish
DZ2792F16369403...

Vice President

DocuSigned by:
Monica Petterson
75BDF07FD5114E4...

Prepared by Monica Petterson
Executive Assistant/Clerk of the Board