

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING (TRI-COMMISSION) OF THE COMMISSION  
OF PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 OF CHELAN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

August 25, 2009

The special meeting of the Commission of Public Utility District No. 1 of Chelan County, Washington, was held at the Chelan PUD Auditorium, 327 North Wenatchee Avenue, Wenatchee, Washington, on August 25, 2009, at the hour of 1:15 p.m., for the joint Commission meeting between Chelan County PUD (PUD), Chelan County (County) and the Port of Chelan County (Port) commissioners, pursuant to proper notice thereof.

Chelan County PUD Commissioners present were Dennis Bolz, Randy Smith, Carnan Bergren and Norm Gutzwiler. (Commissioner Ann Congdon was excused.) Chelan County Commissioners present were Ron Walter, Keith Goehner and Doug England. Port Commissioners present were JC Baldwin, Mike Mackey and Craig Larsen.

Others in attendance: Mark Urdahl, Bill Bailey, Rich Riazzi, Jeff Smith, Gordon Irle, Bob Schmidt, Judy Bradford, Ron Slabaugh, Suzanne Grassell, Marty Whiteman, Wayne Wright, Steve Lachowicz and Christine Pratt (Wenatchee World).

A working group meets monthly to discuss various issues and prepare for the quarterly Tri-Commission meetings. The working group consists of Bill Bailey, Doug England, Norm Gutzwiler, Kirk Hudson, JC Baldwin, Judy Bradford, Mark Urdahl, Mike Armstrong and Jeff Smith.

Commissioner Norm Gutzwiler led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Next, each Commissioner gave information updates for their respective agencies.

Chelan County PUD General Manager Rich Riazzi told the group that the PUD is continuing the strategic planning process and plan to align it with the 2010 budget process.

Chelan County Commissioner Ron Walter reported budget reductions made this year will carry through to 2010 and possibly 2011. Revenues continue to be depressed. Recently, the forty-bed secure work facility area was closed down due to reduced populations and the personnel were moved to the other facility. The hours of operation of the building have been adjusted to increase employee efficiency through reducing interruptions.

Chelan County PUD Commissioner Dennis Bolz provided an update on PUD activities. The 2009 budget was cut \$27,000,000 by reducing and delaying various projects such as the Entiat

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transmission line, tree trimming, fiber build-out and park maintenance. Payroll expenses have been reduced by the elimination of twenty-three full time equivalent employees since 2007, the elimination of twelve employee job positions as a result of the Double Yes Program and three unfilled positions that are still open.

Port of Chelan County Commissioner Greg Larsen told the group that of the two main incomes to the Port, property taxes have remained constant but lease hold income is down. The property in Olds Station that houses the skill center has recently sold. Funds will be used to invest in other projects. The shortfall at the Pangborn Airport continues to widen but they hope to lessen the shortfall by partnering with Douglas County Port. They have increased funding to local communities in the county for economic development projects. Mark Urdahl added that they have investment in a consolidated services study on sharing resources with Douglas County.

Port Executive Director Mark Urdahl discussed the Pybus Farmers Market project. The project would include a public market, hotel, food bank and small spaces for local vendors. The Port would use funds from the proceeds of the sale of the property in Olds Station. Pike Street market would possibly be available for advice on the project. Commissioner Larsen explained that the City of Wenatchee is the lead on this project as part of the Riverside Drive Project currently underway. Commissioner Gutzwiler noted that Northwest Farm Credit Services may have a small amount of grant funds available to support the project.

Next, Commissioners discussed their priority issues for the 2010 legislative session.

County Commissioner Keith Goehner listed the Stehekin Road legislation, biomass and the Winton Plant offering another source of power as well as forest management, Clear Water Restoration Act, promoting hydropower as a renewable, Wenatchee Watershed and issues of TMDL.

Port Commissioner Mike Mackey also listed the issue of Biomass fuel reduction in the National Forest. He added FFA funding for Pangborn Airport expansion, inland water way dredging for large water craft access into Lucerne and Stehekin, funding for dock repair and standardization on Lake Chelan.

Suzanne Grassell of the PUD told the group that the PUD would pursue again this year liability protection under the Recreational Use Statute. Jeff Smith added to the list hydro as renewable and firming of windpower.

The group made a list of issues they would like to discuss with 12<sup>th</sup> District Legislators at the next Tri-Commission meeting. The list included: the Recreations Use Statute Amendment,

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Biomass fuel reduction, water quality standards for wastewater, I-937 and federal funding for dredging.

The next meeting will be held on a date to be determined in October at Chelan County PUD, 327 N. Wenatchee Avenue, Wenatchee, WA.

Cashmere Mayor Gordon Irle told the group that plans are in the works to build a wastewater plant in Cashmere. He noted that Cashmere is looking for additional water rights to be able to provide water for new industry they would like to bring to Cashmere. He proposed working together to build a multi-purpose utility corridor to Cashmere which would hold a waterline, a natural gas line and other electronic utilities. In this multi-purpose corridor, Mayor Irle suggested installation of an effluent pipe to the Columbia River to be used to control phosphate levels from the Cashmere Wastewater plant during low water.

No action was taken during the meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:28 p.m.

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President

  
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Vice President

  
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Secretary

  
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