

**Minutes of the Special Meeting (Chelan County Tri-Commission)
of the Commission
of Public Utility District No. 1 of Chelan County, Washington
November 30, 2021**

The special meeting of the Commission, of Public Utility District No. 1 of Chelan County, Washington, was held in-person at Confluence Technology Center, 285 Technology Center Way, Wenatchee and via Zoom, on November 30, 2021, at the hour of 1:00 pm, pursuant to proper notice thereof.

Chelan PUD Commissioners and Staff present:

Randy Smith, Commissioner
Garry Arseneault, Commissioner
Dennis Bolz, Commissioner
Ann Congdon, Commissioner
Steve McKenna, Commissioner
Steve Wright, General Manager
Kirk Hudson, Managing Dir. of Generation & Trans.
Justin Erickson, Managing Director of Dist. Services
Rebekah Neumann, Clerk of the Board
Bob Shane, Managing Dir. of Fiber & Telecom
Rachel Hansen, Senior Communications Strategist
Shaun Seaman, Gov. / External Affairs Program Mgr
Teka Sellers, Customer Outreach Specialist II

**Chelan Douglas Regional Port Authority
Commissioners and Staff present:**

JC Baldwin, Commissioner
Mark Spurgeon, Commissioner
Jim Kuntz, Executive Director
Cami Harris, Administrative Assistant
Ron Cridlebaugh

Chelan County Commissioners and Staff present:

Bob Bugert, Commissioner
Kevin Overbay, Commissioner
Tiffany Gering, Commissioner
Sasha Sleiman, Housing Program Coordinator

State Legislators

Senator Brad Hawkins
Representative Keith Goehner

Others present:

Jim Fletcher, Cashmere Mayor
Carl Florea, Leavenworth Mayor
Bob Goedde, Chelan Mayor
Laura Merrill, City of Wenatchee
Jerrilea Crawford, East Wenatchee Mayor
Jason Taylor
Jerri Barkley
Mitchell Roland
Renee Swearingen
Steve Wilkinson

Call To Order

- Vice-President Steve McKenna called the meeting to order at 1:07pm
- Justin Erickson led the pledge of allegiance

Introduction

- Steve Wright introduced Kirk Hudson; Kirk is currently the Managing Director of Generation & Transmission and will become the PUD General Manager on January 1
 - Kirk noted he is most focused on community engagement and service and implementing the strategic plan

Legislative Update

- Senator Brad Hawkins noted this will be a short session with only modest adjustments to budgets
 - Constituent and committee meetings will be held virtually, but Senate floor debates will be in-person
 - Senator Hawkins' office can schedule appointments for anyone who wishes to meet with the Senator
 - State redistricting
 - The State Redistricting Commission did not meet their deadline, so the process was transferred to the State Supreme Court
 - The proposed map splits our region and could have impacts on Chelan and Douglas counties and north central Washington as a whole
 - Representative Goehner noted concerns of eastside vs. westside interests with the proposed map
- Representative Goehner noted priorities for this legislative session include police reform, infrastructure, and maintaining local control
 - Representative Steele is unable to join us today, but asked Representative Goehner to note that capital budget requests can be sent to Representative Steele for consideration
- How best to present legislative priorities?
 - Senator Hawkins prefers coordinated priorities, especially when items may need to be prioritized
 - Representative Goehner would like a variety of feedback to understand the effects on various entities

Tri-Commission Legislative Priorities

- Fiber buildout and funding
 - Bob Shane reported on 2022 plans for fiber including Blewett pass and the Entiat area along with fill-in; the PUD will use contractor to help accelerate work
 - The PUD has applied for funding through the State Broadband Office for the upper Entiat River Road including 225 premises above Ardenvoir; reviewing other funding opportunities and applying as appropriate
 - Have passed about 4500 premises under the Public Power Benefit (PPB) program with 77.2% of the county covered and on track to reach 85% coverage by the end of 2026
 - Senator Hawkins offered letters of support, if needed, for grant applications
- Public Works Board / Trust fund
 - Advocate for permanent funding
 - Commissioner Baldwin expressed thanks; her term was up in June, but she'll remain as the Vice-Chair until a replacement is selected
 - Emphasized need to maintain and improve the infrastructure we have
- Regional infrastructure, including second water source
 - Infrastructure bill will bring funding to our area; major needs include second water source
 - Jim Kuntz – thanked legislators for funding in the last legislative session
 - The Port is entering into an interlocal agreement with the PUD to fund \$300k for a second water source feasibility study
 - Commissioner Arseneault noted that half a dozen wells have been drilled, but none have met flow requirements

Tri-Commission Updates

- Chelan County PUD
 - Public Power Benefit (PPB) Program – reviewed completed and in-process PPB efforts
 - Currently soliciting for PPB projects; can submit ideas for consideration on PUD website
 - Reviewed criteria; about \$9M is available over the next three annual cycles for PPB projects
 - PPB projects are funded annually through the budget process
 - Low-income housing infrastructure support
 - Background and summary of policy which was updated this year

- Other programs, services, and discounts are also available
 - Substation update; supply chain challenges
 - Completed Hawley substation in July; substations are important to facilitate growth and improve reliability as part of our strategic plan
 - Reviewed efforts to mitigate supply chain issues
- Chelan County Commission
 - Housing Trust Funds and Affordable Housing Efforts
 - Significant investment in housing trust/housing authority
 - County has committed \$20k per entity per year over the next three years
 - Working with partners across the county to ensure the system is navigable for those who are experiencing homelessness
 - Working with housing authority for agricultural housing and a housing needs assessment
 - Legislative pursuit – municipalities would like to be able to provide surplus properties to housing trusts or authorities
 - Broadband Action Team
 - The State Broadband Office would value input from a broadband action team as they work on county priorities
 - Would be our way to collaboratively work together as a community to help the Broadband Office understand our needs
 - It was determined that a Broadband Action Team is worth exploring as part of the Tri-Commission
- Chelan Douglas Regional Port Authority (CDRPA)
 - 5th Street Redevelopment
 - Port will be lead agency for marketing the PUD's 5th Street campus for reuse
 - Have had 5-6 quality developers take tours of the campus; optimistic that we'll align with a developer
 - Pangborn airport
 - Massive capital investments include:
 - Approach lighting system which will allow landing in low visibility improving reliability
 - Rebuilding aviation ramp
 - Redesigning taxiway to meet FAA standards; this project goes out to bid in the spring and is FAA funded
 - Horizon airlines is experiencing a severe pilot shortage, which won't improve until Q4 2022
 - Appears we will be curtailed to 2 Horizon flights per day out of Pangborn until then
 - The Port is in initial talks with other airlines; will continue to work toward additional service
 - Other projects
 - Working on an economic development lead in Malaga; thanks to the PUD and County for working through planning
 - Concerned about new legislative maps that split the 12th legislative district; the Port will engage if the State Supreme Court solicits input

Insights from the Mayors

- Laura Merrill, Wenatchee Executive Services Director
 - Riverfront Park – close to wrapping up the master plan
 - Getting ready to put North Wenatchee Avenue property on the market; it is about 8 acres and the City hopes for a mix of retail, commercial, and housing
 - An onsite environmental assessment is being conducted on the former fire station as the City works to get that property on the market
- Bob Goedde, Chelan Mayor
 - Working with Port district on additional water at the airport to facilitate additional hangers

- Building a new public works building
- Affordable housing is a concern
- Carl Florea, Leavenworth Mayor
 - Economic development centers around housing; working with legislators on this issue
 - That’s what will keep economic development going – being able to house the workforce
 - Want affordable housing definition to go to 120% of AMI
- Jim Fletcher, Cashmere Mayor
 - Echoes sentiments about housing; Cashmere is out of land
 - The growth management act is limiting where the City can extend utilities to for high density housing
 - In negotiations for a contractor to take over water and wastewater utilities
 - Fire District 6 will end their contract with Cashmere for first responder services

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 2:47pm.

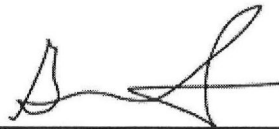
President

Vice President

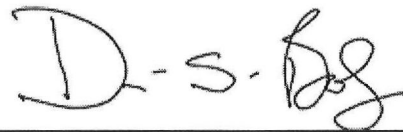
Secretary

Commissioner

Commissioner



Garry Arseneault - Board Member
Approved on 12/27/2021 4:54PM
PST



Dennis Bolz - Board Member
Approved on 12/21/2021 3:56PM
PST



Ann Congdon - Board Member
Approved on 12/22/2021 6:28AM
PST



Steve McKenna - Board Member
Approved on 12/27/2021 9:17AM
PST



Randy Smith - Board Member
Approved on 12/21/2021 6:48AM
PST