

Public Utility District No. 1 of Klickitat County
Board of Commissioners' Meeting
Tuesday, May 25, 2021

AGENDA

ONE TIME USE - **Regular Meeting** Call in number option: 1-844-621-3956 (Participant Access code 187 747 1179)

Due to the office closure associated with COVID-19 precautionary standards, we will not have public present at our meeting.

KPUD Commission Meeting Start Time – 2:00 p.m. as Advertised;

Location: 1313 S. Columbus Ave. – Goldendale, WA

➤ **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

➤ Approval of Minutes - 05/11/2021 Meeting

➤ Approval of Claims/Vouchers for period ending 05/25/2021 (*Alex Casimiro*)

➤ Approval of Payroll for period ending 05/09/2021 (*Alex Casimiro*)

➤ **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

REPORTS – 10 min. each:

- Water/Wastewater April update (*Sharon Blodgett*)
- Operations April update (*Mark Pritchard*)
- Engineering April Update (*Ron Schultz*)
- April Financials (*Beth Schroder*)
- RNG Project Update (*Kevin Ricks*)
- Commissioners' Reports
- Assistant General Manager's Report (*Gwyn Miller*)
- Manager's Bi-Monthly Report (*Jim Smith*)
-(*see attached report*)

GUESTS:

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AGENDA ITEMS – (*see Manager's Report for further details*)

- A. Prequalification of Professional Services (*Ron Schultz*)
- B. Resolution 1803- Appointment of Auditor and Deputy Auditor (*Brandy Myers*)
- C. Setting of Water/Wastewater Rate hearing date (*Jim Smith/Sharon Blodgett*)
- D. Executive Session 4:00 p.m.: MM28 Per RCW 42.30.110 (1)(i) Potential Litigation

ADJOURNMENT

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:

- PURMS Executive Board Meeting **June 2-3, 2021**



Public Utility District No. 1 of Klickitat County

80 Years of Service * 1938-2018

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT TO THE BOARD For the May 25, 2021 Meeting

AGENDA ITEMS:

- A. **Prequalification of Professional Services** - Ron Schultz will be asking to add the firms recommended.
- B. **Resolution 1803-Appointment of Auditor and Deputy Auditor** - this resolution is to assign these two responsibilities with the departure of Nicole Lantau.
- C. **Setting of Water/Wastewater Rate Hearing** - I am attaching the recommended rate increases in an attachment to the agenda item cover sheet. They are unchanged from those we discussed last meeting. I do want to discuss the relative pricing of the rate tiers for Glenwood. Given the increased usage we are seeing, I think it is prudent to consider increasing the third tier more relative to the other tiers. I will do some more homework as I am not prepared to make a recommendation at this time. I think that the 5% increase in rate revenue is necessary, but we need to decide if, by increasing the higher tiers, we not increase the others as much, or if we think about additional revenues to the water system.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS:

- 1. **Office Reopening and Public Meeting Discussion** - I would like to discuss thoughts on reopening the office and public meeting rooms on a staged basis. We discussed this possibility at our last staff meeting and I am looking for your input. I believe that we need to treat the White Salmon office and Goldendale offices differently. I think WS remains closed to public for the time being, but that we should discuss the reopening of the front office area of the Goldendale office to customers on a limited basis. This could include customers coming in to work with customer service and engineering for new services. The restrooms would remain closed and staff would need to come up front from the back in order to work with customers.

I would also like to discuss your thoughts on our public commission meetings. We could remain the same, we could open to a limited number of customers in person and we could use phones lines or WebEx.

2. **Glenwood Water System** - at the recommendation from Tom McDonald, I reached out to Phil Rigdon in the ecology section of the Yakama Tribe to discuss the Glenwood water system needs. We talked on the phone and I followed up with an email with contact information and a summary. I have not heard back yet on a technical meeting.

We also held a public meeting at the Glenwood Grange. We are not participating in public community meetings again this spring due to COVID concerns, but we decided that there was enough going on with the Glenwood water system that it was worth setting up and holding this meeting. It was well attended and the overall feel was very positive. A 10 minute discussion was followed by an hour and a quarter of question and answers. There is community support from those attending for the direction we are taking with respect to water rights and water system connections.

3. **Hydrogen Legislative Summary by Dave Warren** - attached is a summary on the various hydrogen related bills passed in this legislative session. Note the \$3 million in funding Representative Mosbrucker obtained for KV Health. There is about \$1 million included in the funding for a fuel cell / microgrid demonstration project that KPUD will participate in. There will be no customer funding used in the project.