

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSION PUBLIC
UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 OF SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON
March 9, 2010

The regular meeting of the Commission of Public Utility District No. 1 was held in the Aqua Room of the utility located at 1415 Freeway Drive, Mount Vernon, Washington, on March 9, 2010.

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 PM. Those Commissioners in attendance were: Jim Cook, President; Robbie Robertson, Vice President; and Al Littlefield, Secretary. Also in attendance were: Dave Johnson, General Manager; Mark Fredlund, Treasurer; Christine Blake, Auditor; Larry Saunders, Engineering Supervisor; Jamie Klunder, Human Resources Generalist; Kevin Tate, Community Relations Manager; and Kim Carpenter, Recording Secretary.

Commissioner Littlefield led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Littlefield moved to approve the Consent Agenda for March 9, 2010:

- a. Approval of Minutes –March 2, 2010
(Due to printing errors Voucher Nos. 81360-81396 approved on March 2, 2010 (No. 2326) were replaced with Voucher Nos. 81397-81433.
- b. Approval of Vouchers – No. 2327 – Voucher Nos. 81434-81485 (\$69,141.99) 3/9/10
- c. Project Acceptance – Valentine Road, Wilson Extension (Mount Vernon)

The motion passed.

Under Old Business, Manager Johnson presented the Manager's Report which included the following items:

Facebook

Community Relations Manager Tate reported that the District now has a fan page on Facebook, the largest social networking site in the world, with over 400 million users worldwide, and growing. Through Facebook, customers can comment and interact with us, join in a discussion, give feedback, and let us know how we are doing.

Rain Barrel and Water Conservation

CR Manager Tate reported that an article appeared in the Skagit Valley Herald on Friday, March 5 regarding rain barrel and water conservation. Copies of the article are included in Commission notebooks. He stated that rain barrel workshops are scheduled for March 30 and April 10.

At this time, Manager Johnson stated that he had an item under New Business that was not included on the agenda. Manager Johnson stated that 23 applications were received for the position of Operations Manager and six of those applicants have been selected for interviews. He stated that one candidate is from out of state and has requested reimbursement for travel expenses to come for an interview. Manager Johnson read aloud the following excerpt from Resolution No. 1886-99 *"If the Commission finds that a vacancy for a technical or managerial position requires special qualifications, or entails responsibilities and duties of such a nature that substantial benefits will accrue to the District from personal interviews of candidates for such a vacancy to be held in the District, the Commission may authorize by motion the payment of actual necessary travel and living expenses of such candidates incurred while in a travel status."* Manager Johnson stated he was seeking authorization, by way of a motion, to pay travel and living expenses for this candidate to attend an interview. Discussion ensued regarding the request. Commissioner Littlefield moved to authorize travel reimbursement expenses, with receipts, up to \$500. The motion passed.

Under Miscellaneous, Manager Johnson read aloud a portion of the March 5 issue of The Kiplinger Letter regarding energy *(nuclear power is on the cusp of a big reemergence)*. Discussion ensued regarding the issue of nuclear power.

Under Commissioner Comments, Commissioner Littlefield asked if a date has been set for the surplus auction and whether items will be individually sold or grouped together on pallets; Manager Johnson replied he would get back to Commissioner Littlefield with that

information. Commissioner Littlefield commented that the going-away function for Brad Spangler was successful and that it was nice to see former employees.

Under Commissioner Comments, Commissioner Robertson questioned why a Commission meeting was held today, given that the meeting was called to order at 4:35 PM and nearly finished at 4:55 PM, stating the meeting should have been cancelled. Discussion ensued regarding potential items for upcoming agendas.

Under Commissioner Comments, Commissioner Cook stated the reservoir level is up and asked if the District is running one pump; Manager Johnson replied yes, and that water is being taken from the streams.

Under Miscellaneous, Commissioner Robertson stated that regarding the conservation request publicized by the District and City of Anacortes, people do not understand why they are being asked to conserve, for how long, what comes next and why Snohomish County residents are not being asked to conserve. Manager Johnson stated that the stream flow requirements under 1996 Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) are complex to explain. Discussion ensued regarding the 1996 MOA stream flow requirements. Commissioner Cook suggested posting the MOA on the District's website and explaining why the District is requesting conservation. Commissioner Robertson stated he has received feedback from the public that the website is difficult to navigate and is not user-friendly. Discussion ensued regarding the website. Commissioner Cook asked if the District's vendor list and upcoming agendas are being posted on the website; CR Manager Tate replied yes.

Also Under Commissioner Comments, Commissioner Cook stated that he had received an unsigned negative letter from a District employee. Commissioner Robertson stated he had received a letter as well. Commissioner Littlefield indicated he had not received the letter.

Having no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Littlefield moved for adjournment. The motion passed and the meeting of March 9, 2010 was adjourned at 5:10 PM.

ATTEST

Jim Cook, President

Al Littlefield, Secretary

Robbie Robertson, Vice President