

PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 OF FERRY COUNTY  
REGULAR MEETING OF COMMISSIONERS  
August 18, 2025

The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order by President Dan Fagerlie at 9:00 a.m. Present in person were Commissioners Dan Fagerlie, Doug Aubertin and Chris Kroupa, Manager Steve VanSlyke, Superintendent Mike Brown, Auditor Sue Nush, and Treasurer Pam Allen. Attorney Steve Graham joined the meeting at 10:40 a.m.

All stood for the Flag Salute.

The minutes of the regular July meeting were approved by a motion made by Commissioner Kroupa, seconded by Commissioner Aubertin, and unanimously carried. The minutes of the July 29<sup>th</sup> special meeting were approved by a motion made by Commissioner Kroupa, seconded by Commissioner Aubertin, and unanimously carried.

Visitors: None.

Public Comments: Manager VanSlyke received a text message from customers Bruce and Kristine Jackson complimenting the crew on their work getting power restored on Vulcan Mountain after damage from a windstorm.

Reports:

The Superintendent's Report was presented by Mike Brown:

1. Work on installing culverts and gates will begin soon on the Ten to Thirteen Mile Access Trail Project.
2. The District auctioned two items on GovDeals.com, a utility trailer and a woodchipper. A Polaris Ranger was pulled from the auction after the City of Republic contacted the District and offered to buy it for a sum higher than the bid amount. After discussion, Commissioner Kroupa made a motion to approve the intergovernmental sale of the ranger to the City of Republic for \$2500. Commissioner Aubertin seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

The Manager's Report was presented by Steve VanSlyke:

1. Manager VanSlyke will be holding a Public Input Townhall on September 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 a.m. to discuss the Utility's 2026-2029 Clean Energy Implementation Plan (CEIP). This is required by the state's Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA). Information has been published in the Ferry County View and is also available on the District's website [www.fcpud.com](http://www.fcpud.com).
2. Power Engineers has reviewed the three bids received for the substation transformer upgrade. The lowest compliant bidder is Virginia Transformers USA. Attorney Graham is reviewing the legal terms of their bid. Three bids were also received for the Equipment, Cable/Conductor and Line Materials needed for the extension of the District's distribution system under the DOE grant. The grant specifies that all of these items must be BABA (Build America/Buy America) compliant unless exceptions are granted by the DOE. Only one company, WESCO, bid on most of the items listed on the bid document. Manager VanSlyke will identify the items that are BABA compliant and accept their bid on these items. Manager VanSlyke will then seek an exception from DOE on the rest, and these items will be re-bid.

A recess was called at 10:20 a.m. until 10:40 a.m. The meeting resumed at 10:40 a.m. Attorney Graham joined the meeting in person at this time.

Attorney's Report:

1. The review of the Virginia Transformers USA bid is complete, with no issues. Commissioner Kroupa moved to accept the Virginia Transformers USA bid for the substation transformer. Commissioner Aubertin seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously. After further discussion on the WESCO bid, Commissioner Kroupa made a motion to award WESCO the BABA compliant items in their bid and to authorize Manager VanSlyke to seek an exception from DOE for the remaining items which will then be re-bid. Commissioner Aubertin seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

The Board went into Executive Session to discuss potential litigation as per RCW 42.30.110(1)(i), at 10:50 a.m. until 11:05 a.m. The Board returned to regular session at 11:05 a.m. and went into another Executive Session at 11:05 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. as per RCW 42.30.110 Subsection 1, paragraph g to conduct the yearly performance review of a public employee. Superintendent Brown, Auditor Nush, and Treasurer Allen exited the meeting at this time. The Board returned to Regular Session at 11:30 a.m. and recessed at 11:30 until 11:35 a.m. The meeting resumed at 11:35 a.m. Superintendent Brown, Auditor Nush, and Treasurer Allen rejoined the meeting at this time.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Pam Allen:

1. The regular Treasurer's reports were mailed to the Board for review prior to the meeting. Operating Funds available as of August 10, 2025 were \$4,415,164.97 with restricted funds of \$3,454,797.32. There were 15 outages in the month of July, for a year-to-date total of 75 compared to 86 for the same period in 2024. The Large Power Summary, Revolving Loan and Line Extension Loan reports were also included in the mailed packet.

2. Treasurer Allen presented the Board with a proposal for implementing a CETA low-income assistance program.

The Board recessed for lunch at 12:08 a.m. The meeting resumed at 1:00 p.m.

Treasurer's Report continued:

- After further discussion on the proposed CETA low-income assistance program, Commissioner Kroupa made a motion to direct Treasurer Allen to implement a program as per the proposed guidelines, using the \$50,000 already budgeted for it this year. Commissioner Aubertin seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.
3. Resolution 25-06 A Resolution to Cancel Unclaimed Warrants was presented to the Board. These funds will be turned over to the State of Washington. Commissioner Kroupa made a motion to approve the Resolution. Commissioner Aubertin seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
  4. Late fees on accounts not paid by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month were discussed. Treasurer Allen suggested using a \$45 minimum balance on accounts to assess the late fee since this is the minimum amount to generate Delinquent Notices. The late fee is being instituted because of the cost of generating these notices for all the customers who are not paying their bills on time. Auditor Nush has been working with Meridian on programming the late fee and they estimate it may be October before they have it ready for testing. Commissioner Kroupa made a motion to use a \$45 minimum balance to assess a late fee once UPN programming has been updated to process it. Commissioner Aubertin seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
  5. The Myers line extension loan was discussed. Payments are not being made. Attorney Graham will send a letter to them.

Attorney Graham exited the meeting at 2:00 p.m.

The Auditor's Report was included in the mailed Board packet.

1. The voucher listing was presented to the Board.
2. Warrants number 23924 through 23999, Direct Payroll Deposits number 907762 through 907804, and Electronic Fund Transfers number 1155, 1157, 1158, 1159, and 1161 in the total amount of \$681,646.00 were approved by a motion made by Commissioner Kroupa, seconded by Commissioner Aubertin, and unanimously carried.
3. Cost and usage graphs were presented and discussed.

The commissioners presented information from meetings they attended since the last Board Meeting.

With no other business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 2:49 p.m.

## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Public Utility District Number One  
Ferry County, Washington

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

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Vice-President

ATTEST:

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Secretary

APPROVED:

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Manager