

PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 OF FERRY COUNTY
REGULAR MEETING OF COMMISSIONERS
December 15, 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, Attorney Steve Graham, Manager Steve VanSlyke, Superintendent Mike Brown, Auditor Sue Nush, and Treasurer Pam Allen. Attorney Graham exited the meeting at this time, returning at 9:21 a.m.

All stood for the Flag Salute.

The minutes of the regular November meeting and the November 25, 2025 special meeting were approved by a motion made by Commissioner Kroupa, seconded by Commissioner Aubertin, and unanimously carried.

Visitors: None.

Public Comments: Commissioner Fagerlie was contacted by customer Nancy Churchill regarding an article she was writing about proposed HB 1903, which would establish a state administered low-income energy assistance program, rather than placing the responsibility on individual utilities.

Reports:

The Superintendent's Report was presented by Mike Brown:

1. Aerial inspections and dielectric testing on District equipment have been completed, with only minor corrections required.
2. District personnel were called out for downed lines after a car slid on ice and hit a pole in town. The lines turned out to be communication lines owned by Ziplly Fiber. As a courtesy, to clear the intersection, the District put the lines back in place. Ziplly Fiber has since replaced their damaged pole.

The Board received a letter from Ferry County EMS District #1 inquiring about using the District's lot next to their station for EMTs to park. After discussion, the Board agreed that the lot was needed for the District's use and that they could not agree to the request.

The Board went into Executive Session to discuss potential litigation as per RCW 42.30.110(1)(i), at 9:29 a.m. until 9:45 a.m. The Board returned to regular session at 9:45 a.m.

The Attorney's Report was presented by Steve Graham:

1. Attorney Graham discussed the damage done to the District's infrastructure earlier this year by a logging truck traveling through Republic. Neither party involved in the incident, Harriman and Ziplly Fiber, is responding to the District's request for payment. Commissioner Kroupa made a motion to authorize Attorney Graham to file a suit against them for damages. Commissioner Aubertin seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Fagerlie was contacted by a customer who believes that the District policy requiring all adults to be on the application when applying for service with the Utility is unreasonable and discriminatory to married couples. The policy does not single out married couples, but requires all adults who will be using power to be responsible for payment, regardless of their relationship. Also, in order to comply with the Federal Red Flag Rule, in an effort to avert identity theft, the District is required to do an ID check on all new customers. This requires them to either apply in person at the District office or have their application notarized. The Board agreed that since customers can either come in person or apply remotely, they see no need to change the policy.

A recess was called at 10:03 a.m. until 10:25 a.m. The meeting resumed at 10:28 a.m.

The Manager's Report was presented by Steve VanSlyke:

1. Manager VanSlyke discussed draft legislation that would establish a utility-funded wildfire fund for the purpose of paying damage awards for utility caused wildfires. The utility's fire mitigation plans would be subject to third party review and approval. After discussion, the Board has reservations about the proposed program.
2. Manager VanSlyke reviewed the District's Clean Energy Implementation Plan. After discussion, Commissioner Kroupa moved to approve the report that will be submitted on January 1st. Commissioner Aubertin seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

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 December 9, 2025 were \$3,763,133.11 with restricted funds of \$3,472,633.42. There were 11 outages in the month of November, for a year-to-date total of 116 compared to 182 for the same period in 2024. The Large Power Summary, Revolving Loan and Line Extension Loan reports were also included in the mailed packet.

The meeting recessed for lunch at 11:57 a.m., reconvening at 1:00 p.m.

After discussion, Resolution 25-09 A Resolution Authorizing Adoption of Budget for 2026 was presented to the Board. Commissioner Kroupa moved to approve Resolution 25-09 as presented. Commissioner Aubertin seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

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

1. The voucher listing was presented to the Board.
2. Warrants number 24262 through 24343, Direct Payroll Deposits number 907932 through 907972, and Electronic Fund Transfers number 1180 through 1185 in the total amount of \$769,205.02 were approved by a motion made by Commissioner Kroupa, seconded by Commissioner Aubertin, and unanimously carried. Included in the listing was warrant number 24218 in the amount of \$194.56 that was voided and reissued as part of warrant 24293.
3. Cost and usage graphs were presented and discussed.

The scheduled rate workshop was held. After discussion, the Board directed that a Public Rate Hearing be scheduled for January 19th at 10:00 a.m.

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

With no other business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 2:59 p.m.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Public Utility District Number One
Ferry County, Washington

President

Vice-President

ATTEST:

Secretary

APPROVED:

Manager