

PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 OF CLALLAM COUNTY  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING OF  
THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
December 7, 2009

The regular weekly meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Public Utility District No. 1 of Clallam County was held at the Port Angeles Office, 2431 East Highway 101, on the above date commencing at 1:30 p.m.

Commissioners Present: W.E. Purser, President; Hugh Haffner, Vice President; Hugh E. Simpson, Jr., Secretary

Staff Present: Doug Nass, General Manager; Joshua Bunch, Treasurer Controller; Jana Robbins, District Auditor; Nicole Clark, Executive Assistant; Dennis Shaw, General Superintendent; Mike Kitz, Water & Wastewater Systems Superintendent; Tom Martin, Water & Wastewater Systems Assistant Superintendent; Jeff Beaman, Executive Communications Coordinator; Larry Morris, Support Services & Safety Manager

Others Present: Jim Pacheco; Terra Hegy; Teri Martin; Cindy Kelly; Karl Poetes; B. Hamilton; Wayne Anderson; Bruce Giddens; Anthony Lier; Clare Donato; Ross Krumpe; W.A. Cook; John Miller; David Meyer; Connie Beauvais; Cathy Lear; Cynthia Warne; Hannah Merrill; Chris Byrnes; Ralph Myhres; Joan Rogers; R. Kavanaugh; Joseph Murray; Norm Schaaf; Gary Heaton; Carol Johnson; Peter Vanderhoof; John & Karolyn Burdick; Doug Morrill

On motion of Commissioner Haffner seconded by Commissioner Simpson and carried, the Commission approved the minutes of the November 30, 2009 regular weekly meeting.

Jim Pacheco of the Department of Ecology and Terra Hegy of the Department of Fish and Wildlife were present to provide information on instream flow data in WRIA 19. Instream resources are defined in the law as the animals, activities and values that benefit from having water in the stream. The WRIA 19 planning unit selected fish as the primary resource. The studies being used to develop the instream flow are based on fish habitat. Terra Hegy explained that the instream flow recommendations were developed with computer modeling that takes depth, width, velocity, and substrate into account and overlays it with where they believe fish would utilize the streams for incubation, spawning, or rearing. The goal is to set an instream flow which serves as a water right for the stream, which ensures adequate flow all year long. Scientific studies show that adequate flow is needed for fish habitat. As flow area decreases or water temperatures in the streams increase, salmon are less able to survive, or are susceptible to disease. The model shows the theoretical optimum flow that a salmon would utilize if available and above which, high flows render the habitat less usable. Jim Pacheco presented exceedance graphs which show how often the instream flows are exceeded. The historical record of streamflow measurements for low-flow months on the Hoko River showed that the theoretical optimum instream flows would rarely be exceeded. Instead of using the optimum flow, the 10 percent exceedance flow was used for June through September. The 10 percent level was selected using professional judgement. The computer models indicate that most of the measured or synthesized stream flows in WRIA 19 were so low that they could not support salmon in the summer. Therefore, the recommendation is for closure periods to new exempt wells and new water rights. Anyone who has an existing water right will retain it by state law. Using streamflow exceedance graphs of the wet season, Ecology set an allocation limit. This limit regulates the amount of streamflow that can be diverted during high flow events. The streamflow that is normally above the allocation limit can be diverted as a percentage of the median streamflow. The recommendation is for 10 percent of the 50 percent exceedance flow. Commissioner Simpson asked if the stream cross-section on the Hoko that was used in the computer model represented an average cross-section. Chris Byrnes of the Department of Fish and Wildlife replied that the USGS selected the cross-section because it was stable and didn't change much over time. Commissioner Haffner asked if the cross-section was suitable for determining instream flow. Terra Hegy replied that it was good but when asked why by Commissioner Haffner, she deferred to Jim Pacheco. Commissioner Haffner asked about the relevance of location in taking water from the streams. Mr. Pacheco confirmed that taking water at the mouth of the stream, right before it enters saltwater, would be the best place for withdrawal. Ecology developed a reserve system designed to provide an amount of water not subject to instream flow. New exempt wells and new users would be able to use the reserved water. This gives the area users time to develop other water sources that the planning unit has been recommending. Rainwater catchment is now legal. Other new potential sources include winter storage, desalinization, and conservation. In the Salt Creek Watershed, the proposed reserve would provide enough water for either a 5000 gallon per day supply for 1 hobby farm, 17 homes (limited to 350 gallons per day), or 278 homes if restricted to in-house use only. Local code and permitting would determine enforcement. If a standard is developed for allocations using less than 5000 gallons per day, the usage would have to be metered. Someone in attendance spoke of concerns about the accuracy of the streamflow data. The individual would like to see the closure concept tabled until better data can be obtained. There were several comments as to why the idea of storage tanks would not be viable. There was a question about why there was only a 10 percent allocation of the 50 percent exceedance flow. Mr. Pacheco explained that preventing the occasional high flows from occurring, would also prevent streambed scouring and gravel movement necessary for habitat regeneration. There is a WRIA 19 meeting at 6:00 p.m. at the Crescent School that evening.

Water and Wastewater Systems Assistant Superintendent Tom Martin, and Executive Communications Coordinator Jeff Beaman presented two letters requesting funding and/or technical support for the Carlsborg Sewer Project to be sent to the Puget Sound Partnership and the Washington State Public

Works Board. Upon recommendation of staff and on motion of Commissioner Simpson, seconded by Commissioner Haffner and carried, the Commission approved and signed the two letters dated December 7 to be sent to the Puget Sound Partnership and the Washington State Public Works Board.

Mr. Martin updated the Commission on the status of the Fairview water system project. The District recommends relocating the Bluffs Well based on alternatives analysis appearing in the March 2009 Fairview Water System Supply Project Feasibility Study Report. The Department of Health approved the District's recommendation. Presently, the District is applying for USDA Rural Development pre-development funds for the project. In 2010, the District intends to apply for project construction funds.

Upon recommendation of staff and on motion of Commissioner Haffner, seconded by Commissioner Simpson and carried, the Commission authorized staff to call for bids for an hourly tree trimming crew and equipment to perform work in the District's service area. (Bid No. 090811)

Upon recommendation of staff and on motion of Commissioner Haffner, seconded by Commissioner Simpson and carried, the Commission adopted Resolution 1911-09 establishing compensation for the General Manager.

Upon recommendation of staff and on motion of Commissioner Haffner, seconded by Commissioner Simpson and carried, the Commission approved removal of delinquent accounts in the amount of \$3,199.22 from the active accounts receivable, including a collection fee of \$703.31.

A list of claim vouchers as certified by the General Manager and District Auditor were considered. On motion of Commissioner Haffner, seconded by Commissioner Simpson and carried, the Commission approved payment of claim vouchers in the amended amount of \$185,602.44 for November 30, 2009. There were 67 conservation rebates totaling \$27,058.

Commissioner Simpson reported that he attended the Port Angeles Business Association meeting and the Washington PUD Association (WPUDA) Annual Meeting.

Commissioner Haffner also attended the WPUDA Annual Meeting.

Mr. Beaman reported that the customer survey should begin the following Monday. He also reported that he attended the WPUDA communications meeting.

The regular meeting recessed at 4:20 p.m. to go into executive session for personnel matters. The executive session adjourned at 4:34 p.m., and the regular meeting reconvened at that time.

Attendance at meetings was approved.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m. to meet again, Monday, December 14, 2009, at 1:30 p.m. in the Port Angeles office.