

**THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OF
PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 OF FRANKLIN COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 26, 2025
REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING

The Board of Commissioners of Public Utility District No. 1 of Franklin County, Washington held a regular meeting at 1411 W. Clark St., Pasco, WA, on August 26, 2025, at 8:30 a.m. Remote technology options were provided for the public to participate.

Those who participated from the District via remote technology or in person for all or part of the meeting included Commissioner Roger Wright, President; Commissioner Bill Gordon, Vice President; Commissioner Pedro Torres, Secretary; Victor Fuentes, General Manager/CEO; Steve Ferraro, Assistant General Manager; Katrina Fulton, Finance and Customer Service Director; Tyler Whitney, General Counsel; Mitch Sumner, Community Relations Coordinator; Norma Equihua, Accounting Intern; and Jessica Marshall, Executive Assistant.

OPENING

Commissioner Wright called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. and asked Ms. Equihua to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Commissioner Wright called for public comment and no public was present.

INTERN SPOTLIGHT

Ms. Fulton introduced Ms. Equihua, Accounting Intern. Ms. Equihua shared insights from her internship and noted that the experience has been very beneficial. Ms. Equihua thanked staff for the opportunity.

Staff presented a video highlighting Ms. Equihua's internship opportunity.

The Commissioners thanked Ms. Equihua for attending today's meeting.

A brief recess was done for photos with the Commission and staff.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Gordon reported that:

- He attended the August 13th Energy Northwest Board of Directors Special Meeting. He provided a brief update on discussions regarding the conditions for conditional Small Modular Reactor (SMR) approval and noted that member support may be requested.

Commissioner Torres reported that:

- He attended the August PPC Meetings and participated in the Bonneville Dam Tour.
- He attended ribbon cutting ceremonies for Orion and Sageview High Schools. Mr. Fuentes noted that staff meets with the Pasco School District during the monthly CREATE meetings.
- He joined the August 20th NoaNet Informational Session.
- He had a phone call with WPUA President, Debra Lester.
- He participated in a State Home Electrification and Appliance Rebate (HEAR) program session and briefly discussed potential customer benefits.

Commissioner Wright reported that:

- He attended the August 13th NoaNet Board of Directors meeting and plans to join the August 28th NoaNet Information Session.
- He attended the State Auditor's Office Exit Conference for the District's Clean Energy Transportation Act (CETA) and Energy Independence Act (EIA), and reported the District received a clean audit with no findings.

Commissioner Torres reported that he attended a meeting held at the WSU Tri-Cities campus, where he met with vendors and reviewed new products.

A brief discussion was held on tariffs.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Commissioner Torres, seconded by Commissioner Gordon approving the Consent Agenda as follows.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- 1) To approve the minutes of the July 22, 2025 Regular Commission Meeting.
- 2) To approve payment of expenditures for July 2025 amounting to \$8,917,052.00 as audited and certified by the auditing officer as required by RCW 42.24.080, and as reviewed/certified by the General Manager/CEO as required by RCW 54.16.100, and expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090 and as listed in the attached registers and made available to the Commission for inspection prior to this action as follows:

Expenditure Type:	Amounts:
Direct Deposit Payroll – Umpqua Bank	\$ 580,903.57
Wire Transfers	5,641,554.47
Automated and Refund Vouchers (Checks)	860,925.25

Direct Deposits (EFTs)	1,837,213.37
Voids	(3,544.66)
Total:	\$8,917,052.00

- 3) To approve the Write Offs in substantially the amount listed on the August 2025 Write Off Report totaling \$3,060.43.
- 4) To declare final acceptance of the work completed as inspected by the District; to authorize release of available retainage; and to approve final payment in the amount of \$219.37 for work completed by Siefken & Sons Construction Inc. under Contract 10301, Customer Service Remodel.
- 5) To declare final acceptance of the work completed as inspected by the District; to authorize release of available retainage; and to approve final payment in the amount of \$542.81 for work completed by Northpoint Electrical Contracting Inc. under Contract 10564, Electrical Installations.
- 6) To approve expenditure in the amount of \$253,503.33 for Conservation Contract No. 10607 with Local Bounti, effective August 8, 2025, for the installation of a water chill system, grow lighting, and compressed air infrastructure.
- 7) To approve expenditure in the amount of \$200,000.00 for Conservation Contract No. 10612 with Darigold Inc., effective August 13, 2025, for the installation of Non-residential lighting.

AGENDA ITEM 6, INTRODUCING A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE GENERAL MANAGER/CEO OR HIS DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE A WSPP AGREEMENT SCHEDULE B CONFIRMATION WITH PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 OF LEWIS COUNTY FOR THE SALE OF A PORTION OF THE DISTRICT'S ASSIGNED SHARE OF THE WHEAT FIELD WIND POWER PROJECT

Ms. Fulton introduced the agenda item and reviewed the information as reported on the Agenda Item Summary included in the meeting packet. She reported that Lewis PUD brought this item forward during their August 19, 2025 Commission Meeting and noted their Board of Commissioners was in favor of executing a WSPP agreement.

RCW 54.16.040 grants the Commission the exclusive authority to authorize a power sales contract via resolution, introduced at least ten days prior to the date of the adopting of the resolution. Ms. Fulton introduced the draft resolution which was also included in the commission packet as attachment A.

A brief discussion was held regarding the District's partnership with Lewis PUD and the potential for future collaborations with other utilities.

Commissioners concurred with staff's recommendations to return to the September 23, 2025 Commission Meeting with the final resolution for adoption.

AGENDA ITEM 7, AUTHORIZING DISTRICT'S NOANET MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE TO VOTE ON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS, ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION, AND NOANET'S FORMATIVE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT (ILA), AND TO VOTE TO ADMIT BROADLINC AS A NEW MEMBER

Mr. Fuentes introduced the agenda item and provided background on the formation of NoaNet. Commissioner Wright reviewed the roles and responsibilities of NoaNet board members and Member Representatives.

Currently, NoaNet has nine members and are exploring opportunities to broaden its ownership. Broadlinc is being considered as a potential new member. Broadlinc was formed in Spokane County and each town with Broadlinc access has a representative on its board. If approved, NoaNet would assume full operational control of Broadlinc's fiber network and oversee any system expansion.

Commissioner Wright noted that Member Representatives are being asked to vote on two resolutions: To amend the Bylaws, Articles of Incorporation and NoaNet's formative ILA and to approve Broadlinc as a new member.

Commissioner Wright recommended that fellow Commissioners support staff's recommendation to authorize the District's NoaNet Member Representative to vote in favor of the proposed amendments to the Bylaws, Articles of Incorporation, and NoaNet's formative Interlocal Agreement (ILA), and to vote to admit Broadlinc as a new member.

A brief discussion was held regarding the process for new members joining NoaNet.

Motion by Commissioner Gordon, seconded by Commissioner Torres authorizing the District's NoaNet Member Representative to vote on the proposed amendments to the Bylaws, Articles of Incorporation, and NoaNet's formative ILA, and to vote to admit Broadlinc as a new member.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

AGENDA ITEM 8, APPROVING CHANGES TO DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY 56, PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT COMMISSION MEETINGS.

Mr. Fuentes introduced the agenda item and reviewed the information as reported on the Agenda Item Summary included in the meeting packet.

Motion by Commissioner Torres, seconded by Commissioner Gordon approving District Administrative Policy 56, Public Participation at Commission Meetings, in substantially the form presented.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

MANAGEMENT REPORTS

GENERAL MANAGER/CEO REPORT

Mr. Fuentes reported that:

- Transmission discussion meetings have been scheduled with Representative Barnard and Senator Boehnke. Meetings will take place at Benton PUD with area utilities and Commissioners are welcome to attend.
- CWPU negotiation meetings have started.
- He signed the Letter of Intent (LOI) for Ruby Flats and reviewed a few clarifications within the LOI. A brief discussion was held on next steps.
- He was voted onto the PPC Executive Committee effective October 1st and plans to attend the PPC Strategic session in September.
- The Employee Appreciation Luncheon is scheduled for Tuesday, September 9th from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
- The Franklin Conservation District (FCD) has requested a letter of support from the District as they pursue annexation of the City of Pasco back into their service territory, which would provide more stable local funding to FCD. Mr. Fuentes has spoken with City of Pasco staff on this subject and will reach out to FCD staff to provide an update on their request.

FINANCE & CUSTOMER SERVICE DIRECTOR REPORT

Ms. Fulton reported that:

- The July 2025 KPI's were included in the Commission packet, and she reviewed pertinent slides from within the report.
- The District's Key Accounts program was successfully launched and meetings with customers are going well.
- Umpqua Bank is undergoing a name change to Columbia Bank. Staff may see the changes reflected in direct deposit transactions.
- She performed an invoice audit on a line item from the July 2025 Direct Deposit Check Register included in the commission packet. A brief discussion was held on inventory items.

ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

Mr. Ferraro reported that:

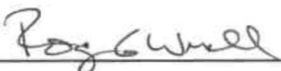
- Administration building updates are ongoing.
- Interviews have been held for the District's two open positions.
- The power upgrade project has started.
- He continues to attend Wildfire Mitigation meetings and briefly reviewed the District's Wildfire Mitigation plan.

- He and Mr. Montelongo met with representatives of Federated Insurance last week and briefly reviewed the annual audit completed. The District has since received a letter from Federated Insurance and they noted no concerns from their audit.

Commissioner Wright expressed his appreciation to District staff for their assistance with the recent customer concerns he has received.

Mr. Fuentes briefly reviewed a customer concern received yesterday.


With no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Wright adjourned the regular meeting at 9:50 a.m. The next regular meeting will be September 23, 2025, and begin at 8:30 a.m. The meeting will be at the District's Auditorium located at 1411 W. Clark Street, Pasco, WA. Remote technology options will be provided for members of the public to participate.



Roger Wright, President

Absent/Excused from September 23, 2025 Commission Meeting

William Gordon, Vice President



Pedro Torres, Jr., Secretary