

Minutes of
PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 OF PEND OREILLE COUNTY
May 5, 2026
NEWPORT CONFERENCE ROOM, NEWPORT, WA AND
VIRTUAL VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

Present: Curtis J. Knapp, President
Dave Rick, Vice President
J. Troy Moody, Secretary

Staff Present: Chris Jones, General Manager
Management/District Staff
Karen Willner, Clerk of the Board

Others: Gretchen Koenig, Member of the Public
Ernie Hood, Member of the Public
Laura Verity, Merkle Standard

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Commissioner Curtis J. Knapp, President, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

The minutes from the April 21, 2026 meeting, today's agenda, and the vouchers were reviewed.

As of this date, May 5, 2026, the Board, upon motion by Commissioner Moody and seconded by Commissioner Rick, approved the following:

- The agenda for May 5, 2026 meeting, and the minutes of the April 21, 2026 meeting.
- Vouchers audited and certified by the auditing officer as required by RCW 42.24.080, and those expense reimbursement claims certified by RCW 42.24.090, have been recorded on a listing, which has been made available to the Board. Payment of those vouchers, included in the list referred to above and further described as follows: Voucher Nos. 11608 through 11639 in the total amount of \$52,342.52; ACH payments in the total amount of \$188,883.90; Wire Transfers in the total amount of \$429,674.86; and ACH payroll transactions in the total amount of \$317,064.57 for the payroll ending April 15, 2026.

The motion passed unanimously.

SAFETY SPOTLIGHT:

Nicole Woitel, District HR Generalist, reminded staff to nominate employees for Safety Core Value Awards. She reported it's been 476 days without any work-related safety incidents. May safety trainings include radio etiquette, heat stress, and wildfire mitigation and June safety trainings include ergonomics, confined space/vault rescue, hurt man rescue, and CPR/First Aid.

Katie Pfitzer, District Director of Administrative Services, reported there were four days of crane training last week at Box Canyon and the Board may see related payment entries in the vouchers.

CUSTOMER SPOTLIGHT:

Shannon Johnston, District Customer Service Supervisor, reported that in recognition of May 31 National Dam Safety Awareness Day safety whistles will be available to customers in Newport and at Box Canyon while supplies last.

She reported the District will hold two Community Informational Forums focused on power supply and wildfire preparedness on May 14 at 5:30 p.m. at the Newport High School and on June 4 at 5:30 p.m. at the Cutter Theatre in Metaline Falls. Discussion was held.

COMMISSION REPORT:

Commissioner Knapp attended Energy Northwest meetings on April 21 – 23 in Tri-Cities and provided an overview. He attended the Washington Public Utility Districts Association (WPUDA) Annual Conference on April 29 – May 1 in Suquamish and provided an overview of Board Officer elections.

Commissioner Moody attended the WPUDA Annual Conference on April 29 – May 1 in Suquamish and provided an overview of the policy and governance portion and AI presentation.

Commissioner Rick attended a Tri-County Economic Development District meeting on April 22 in Colville and the WPUDA Annual Conference on April 29 – May 1 in Suquamish and provided overview of the Amazon sales and AI service presentation. Discussion was held.

BUSINESS FROM THE PUBLIC/OPEN COMMENT PERIOD:

Commissioner Knapp asked if there was any business or comments from the public and noted the guidelines for this session.

Gretchen Koenig, member of the public, provided public comment.

Laura Verity, Merkle Standard, provided public comment.

Commissioner Knapp thanked everyone for attending and for their comments.

Following a short recess, the meeting resumed.

COMMISSION BUSINESS:

Commissioner Rick will try to attend the District's Community Informational Forum on May 14 in Newport. He may have a travel conflict.

Commissioner Moody will attend a virtual Northeast Washington Broadband Action Team meeting on May 7 and the District's Community Informational Forum on May 14 in Newport.

Commissioner Knapp will attend a Public Power Council meeting on May 6 – 7 in Portland, tentatively attend an U.S. Army Corps of Engineers meeting on May 7 in Sandpoint, a virtual Pacific Northwest Utilities Conference Committee meeting on May 8, and the District and Clark PUD visit and tour on May 18 at Box Canyon Dam. He may attend the virtual Public Utility Risk Management Services meetings on June 3 – 4. Discussion was held.

GENERAL MANAGER REPORT:

Chris Jones, District General Manager, reported that Clark PUD Board and staff will visit the District on May 18 at Box Canyon Dam around 11:30 a.m. for lunch and a tour of Box Canyon Dam, facilities, and fish passage. May 14 will be our Community Informational Forum at the Newport High School and June 4 will be our Community Informational Forum at the Cutter Theatre in Metaline Falls. Topics will be power supply and wildfire mitigation and preparedness.

He reported staff are close in finalizing a Tentative Agreement with the union and they have done a full review of all Letters of Agreement. He will review with the Board at an upcoming Board meeting. Discussion was held.

He will be on personal leave and absent from the May 19 meeting and April Owen, District Director of Finance, will be the Acting General Manager.

FINANCIAL REVIEW:

Ms. Owen reported the previous year's financials have been uploaded to the Board's SharePoint References folder. She provided a 2026 Financials through March presentation that included inflation, interest income, cash and investments, capital projects, operating revenues and expenses, and debt service coverage ratio.

Sarah Holderman, District Director of Customer Services, provided a 10-Year Forecast presentation that included baseline scenario assumptions for load projections, capital spending, electric operations and unrestricted cash, and rate adjustments.

She introduced Nicholas DeBusk, District Custodian, who started yesterday at the District. Mr. DeBusk provided his background and expressed his appreciation for the employment opportunity. The Board welcomed him to the District.

BOARD WORKSHOP – BARE MOUNTAIN SUBSTATION:

Dale Bozarth, District Project Manager, introduced himself and provided a Bare Mountain Substation presentation that included a background, project scope, project build, concept design, upgrade to the Diamond Lake Substation, project timeline, equipment long lead times, and plans going forward. Discussion was held. The Board thanked Mr. Bozarth and the engineering department for their work on this project. Mr. Jones referenced the Employee Day Team Award he gave to the engineering department because of the work they are doing and commended them for thinking outside the box.

Commissioner Knapp asked if there was any further business for the good of the order. There was none.

Ms. Willner reported that the next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 19, 2026, starting at 8:30 a.m., in the Newport Conference Room, in Newport and via Microsoft Teams.

Commissioner Knapp adjourned the meeting at 11:27 a.m.

President

ATTEST:

Secretary

General Counsel
Approved as to Form