



Pend Oreille County Public Utility District

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Pend Oreille PUD & the City of Newport Held a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at Founder's RV Park

Newport, Washington – Public Utility District No. 1 of Pend Oreille County (“PUD”) in partnership with the City of Newport held a ribbon-cutting ceremony at Founders RV Park in Newport, WA July 17, 2023. While the RV Park has been open and active since the Newport Rodeo last month, the parties wanted to formalize the grand opening and held a small gathering to celebrate and memorialize the park. PUD representatives included both a member of the Board of Commissioners, Joe Onley, as well as Co-Interim General Managers, April Owen and Sarah Holderman. The City of Newport was represented by City of Newport Mayor, Keith Campbell, along with council members Nathan Longly, Jami Sears and Nathan Weathers and city staff. The ribbon was cut by both PUD Commissioner Onley and Newport City Councilman, Nathan Weathers.

Founders RV Park has been a long-awaited project that began in the spring of 2022 and came to completion just in time for the Newport Rodeo this year. Work included preparation of the site, the creation of 20 pull-through RV spots, along with necessary landscaping and sprinklers, picnic tables, utilities, and signage. A wonderful addition to the park was the installation of a restroom and shower facility. The entrance sign to the park was made by the students of Newport High School. The park is open to all by contacting the City for reservations.

The project work was primarily undertaken by the PUD as part of its ongoing efforts to improve recreation opportunities under the PUD’s Box Canyon license. The City will be responsible for owning, operating, and maintaining the park going forward. “We are excited to have officially turned over ownership of Founders RV Park to the City and we are thankful that it is in good hands,” said April Owen, the PUD’s Interim General Manager. “The PUD is appreciative of the City for their collaboration and efforts in getting the RV park up and running,” she added.

“This has been a highly anticipated project and we are thrilled that the park is open and ready for recreation use,” said Keith Campbell, the City’s Mayor.

About Pend Oreille County Public Utility District

Pend Oreille PUD was established in 1936 and began operations in 1948. The PUD is governed by three locally elected Commissioners. A General Manager and staff operate the utility within policies set by the Board of Commissioners. The PUD has four operating systems: The electric system distributes electricity to the county, the production system produces power from the Box Canyon Hydroelectric Project, the water system consists of nine individual water distribution subdivisions, and the community network system provides wholesale broadband communication services. For more information visit: <http://popud.org>.

