

WASCO COUNTY UTILITIES COORDINATING COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

September 16, 2014

8:00 a.m. @ Shari's Restaurant

Attendance:

Jim Bailey	Wasco Electric Co-op
Mike Richardson	The Dalles Irrigation District
Arthur Smith	Wasco County Public Works
Steve Wilkins	Wasco County Public Works
John Walker	NW Natural
Sheri Clark	NW Natural
Ed Ortega	Northern Wasco County PUD
Greg Jensen	Crestline Construction
Dale McCabe	City of The Dalles Public Works
Brenda Huskey	City of The Dalles Public Works

The meeting was called to order at 8:09 a.m. by President, Ed Ortega.

Minutes:

Minutes of the August 19, 2014 meeting were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report:

The fee for our booth space at the Wasco County Fair commercial building was waived because we're non-profit so we won't have an expense for that. A big **THANK YOU** to the fair board for letting us use it rent free! Arthur paid Rage Graphics \$135.35 for the rodeo chute banner. Currently our balance is \$2,674.48.

Damage Report:

There were two reported damages for August, both by City of The Dalles. NW Natural hadn't reported theirs on line yet.

Old Business:

We haven't received our signs yet probably because OUNC is putting together one order for everyone. Arthur said the county road department has the big 811 sign/banner that hung on the rodeo chute, the display booth we borrowed for the fair and two poster board 811 signs. Watch the new 811 advertisement on You Tube, it is good!

New Business:

Mike wanted to know if the manual states when a locate doesn't have to be called in because he has a contractor, Kiwi Fence/Construction, that doesn't like to call in locates. When Kiwi works for an orchardist, the orchardist/grower calls the locate in for him. Kiwi does not have to call in a locate if the excavation is less than 12 inches in depth and the excavation is not within an established easement.

Ed said PUD had issues with Kiwi in Murray's Addition several years ago. In fact, Kiwi still has not paid for the damages resulting from those issues. We all felt he would be a prime candidate for a contractor luncheon but then it was decided to let Don Patterson contact him. Brenda will forward Don the contact information for Ed and Mike since he is a specialist for this type of problem contractor. After Don visits with Kiwi, we'll see what his recommendations are for dealing with them.

Ed said Tonya Brumley from NW Natural asked him to join the Chamber of Commerce Events Committee. He has attended one meeting and with the Chamber heading up the Cherry Festival, he wanted to know if the Council would like to be a sponsor for the Cherry Festival? He'll check at the next meeting to see what the different levels of sponsorship cost and let us know at our next meeting. He knows the major sponsorship costs \$1,500. It would be nice to have a booth that day since hundreds of people attend the festival.

The quarterly meeting in December is at Spirit Mountain in Grande Ronde. We are required to send one person to the quarterly meetings so let Arthur know if you would like to go.

John said NW Natural disconnected their line to the Ted Walker pool yesterday so the contractor can start moving forward with the demo. He wanted to know if anyone knew if the pool has any asbestos. Those present did not know, but given the year it was constructed, it is a possibility.

John told us Yogi will return on October 6th from his surgery hiatus. We wish him a speedy recovery!

Arthur wanted to know if anyone had heard about a proposal to change the language in the manual regarding working within 10 feet of overhead power lines to working within 20 feet of overhead power lines. Jim and Ed hadn't heard anything yet.

Round Table:

Dale McCabe – City of The Dalles Public Works

- ❖ The new transit center project is moving forward. The LID went to City Council in July which was the first of three meetings. Remonstrances have to be filed by October 6th. If remonstrances filed represent two-thirds of the dollar amount to be assessed against the property which is to be specifically benefitted, the proposed improvement will be suspended for 6 months. If not defeated by remonstrances, the Council will hold a public hearing on October 27th at which time the public can voice their objections. Construction should hopefully begin next spring. Shari said the transit center folks still can't commit to having gas but otherwise NW Natural is done there. Dale has the plans for the transit center if anyone wants to look at them.
- ❖ Construction is still underway in the Chenoweth Business Park. Hopefully the utility work will be done this fall and paved before winter. The Second Street survey has been completed for upsizing the sanitary sewer and installing a storm sewer to serve the business park and WM3. This design is being worked on and will be out to bid this winter.
- ❖ Discussions are coming back up about the proposed hotel project in the Granada block plus the utility relocations.
- ❖ The water crew is replacing the galvanized line in the alley between 8th and 9th, Pentland to Garrison.
- ❖ The sewer crew is working on installing new sewer in the alley between Pentland and Lincoln and 8th and 9th.
- ❖ Looking at putting together a stabilization/retaining wall contract for Scenic Drive that will go out this winter and start next spring.
- ❖ Working on the surge tank at Sorosis Reservoir with Crestline Construction.
- ❖ The RFQ for the wastewater treatment plant was sent out this week. Bids will be going out this October for this 2-year project.

Greg Jensen – Crestline Construction

- ❖ Indian Creek Pump Station crew is working around State Street area as they connect the lines.
- ❖ State Street job in Hood River is closing down again. Should be done in November.
- ❖ Projects in the Chenoweth Business Park closed down for the Cycle Oregon riders but now they are working on connecting water line and getting utilities across the bridge. Joint trenching is getting done.

John Walker – NW Natural Gas

- ❖ The bare main removal at E 15th/I should be completed this week.
- ❖ On September 19th NW Natural will start the last bare main replacement in The Dalles on Garrison and the alley between 7th and 8th. NW Natural is way ahead of the nation in their bare main replacements!
- ❖ Still working with Barry in the Bend ODOT office on options for the upcoming gas main going through the Threemile Creek area.

Arthur Smith – Wasco County Public Works

- ❖ General maintenance.
- ❖ Preparing for winter.

Mike Richardson – The Dalles Irrigation District

- ❖ A couple pipe repairs caused by lines hit 5 years ago when a locate was not called in. Leaks are just now showing up.
- ❖ Getting ready for winter.

Jim Bailey – Wasco Electric Co-op

- ❖ General services throughout their territory.
- ❖ One mile long tap in the Bakeoven area.
- ❖ Underground job just East of Kent (new home).

Ed Ortega – Northern Wasco County PUD

- ❖ Reconduct and relocate line out 15-Mile. Q-Life wants to attach and get their service out that way.
- ❖ Need to look at the Scenic Drive area project again.
- ❖ Several new services.
- ❖ Pole inspections and maintenance.
- ❖ Working on upgrades to the West Second Street substation.
- ❖ Cable failure that feeds Dr. Staver's home in Rowena. Temporarily have 1,000 feet of primary cable laying on the ground while new conduit and a vault is being installed. Should be completed next week.
- ❖ Still working on W 7th project and Port of The Dalles Business Park.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:55 a.m. Thanks to everyone who attended!

Put next month's meeting on your calendar: **October 21st.**

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Huskey, Secretary