



## WASCO COUNTY UTILITIES COORDINATING COUNCIL

### MEETING MINUTES

October 20, 2020

8:05 a.m. Zoom/Teleconference

#### Attendance:

Brewster Whitmire – Wasco Electric Cooperative  
Jennifer Lindsey – Wasco Electric Cooperative  
Nikki Fimple – Northern Wasco P.U.D.  
Jean Corbin – City of The Dalles Public Works

Scott Peters – Oregon Dept. of Transportation  
John Amery – Aristo Networks/QLife  
Dale McCabe – City of The Dalles Public Works

Brewster Whitmire led the meeting via Zoom/Teleconference due to the continued COVID-19 social distancing guidelines set forth by Governor Kate Brown.

#### Minutes:

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the September 15, 2020 meeting as distributed. Motion passed.

#### Treasurer's Report:

In Arthur Smith's absence, Brewster reported an estimated checking account balance of \$2,501.79.

#### Old Business:

**Contractor's Event Lunch/Night: POSTPONED UNTIL SPRING 2021**

Advertising with Big Screen Ads in The Dalles and Hood River Cinemas during the months of April, May and June 2020 has been extended due to the closure of non-essential businesses. At this time, Nathan with Big Screen Ads does not know when advertising will commence due to the social distancing guidelines set forth by Governor Kate Brown. Jean Corbin will continue to keep all posted.

#### Damage Report:

None reported.

#### New Business:

Dale McCabe inquired if there have been any issues with the City of The Dalles locate reporting. Please see the Oregon 811 Standards Manual Rule 952-001-0070, Operators to Mark Underground Facilities or Notify Excavator that None Exits for further explanation of requirements.

Nikki Fimple inquired about response time when locate is requested. N.W.P.U.D. was notified of an emergency locate due to accident; lineman called in locate; 811 dispatcher indicated that locate could not be responded to for 3-hours; 800 Standard Manual stipulate if over 2-hours, utility can handle itself.

In the 811 Standard Manual on Pages 44/45, #10, What is considered to be a reasonable time for responding to Emergency Locate Requests?

**New Business, Continued:**

“During an emergency, an operator is required to respond as quickly as possible. Because of the large variety of service areas, geographical constraints, weather, traffic and many other factors, it is impractical to specify a precise time interval for response to an Emergency Locate Request. An operator is required to make the best effort possible to get to the site without delay. If an excavator feels that an extraordinary amount of time elapsed before an operator responded, then an RAA should be filed”.

**Follow Up:**

Jennifer Lindsey reported that the “Call 811 Before You Dig” billboard advertising on Hwy 30 in The Dalles was installed on October 9, 2020. This advertisement will be displayed for 30-days and again March, April, and May of 2021.

**Round Table:**

**Dale McCabe – City of The Dalles Public Works**

- Water crew – galvanized line replacement at alley off of Garrison, between 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> Street
- Locates remainder of week
- Wastewater division – maintenance work/catch basin
- Street maintenance – painting, maintenance work, winter preparation
- Proposed sanitary sewer I-84 crossing submitted to O.D.O.T. for approval – waiting for response
- Spring 2021 – Between Garrison and Liberty St. off 15<sup>th</sup> St – rebuild section of street
- Continue design work off of Webber and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, sanitary and storm utility work

**Scott Peters – Oregon Dept. of Transportation**

- General maintenance
- LSN work on Hwy 197
- Guardrail repairs
- Winter maintenance preparation

**John Amery – Aristo Networks/QLife**

- OH projects coming

**Nikki Fimple – Northern Wasco P.U.D.**

- Continued work on college housing – extended temporary service by start of next school year; plan to have dorms ready to go
- Park Place phase 2/Scenic Drive – completion date Spring, 2021
- New services around town; new UG/OH

**Brewster Whitmire – Wasco Electric Cooperative**

- Finishing up with Sherman Co. project
- Mosier / Seven Mile Hill area pole replacements
- Cherry Heights / Seven Mile Hill general maintenance
- Winter maintenance preparation

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35a.m. Thank you to everyone who was in attendance. The next meeting will be Tuesday, November 17, 2020 and will be held via Zoom/Teleconference.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

*Jennifer Lindsey*  
Secretary