



WASCO COUNTY UTILITIES COORDINATING COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

December 20, 2022

8:04 a.m.

Attendance:

Jennifer Lindsey – Wasco Electric Cooperative
Dale McCabe – City of The Dalles Public Works
Josh Smith – Northern Wasco P.U.D.
Bill Vanek – Chenoweth Water
Brewster Whitmire – Wasco Electric Cooperative

John Amery – Aristo Networks/QLife
Nikki Fimple – Northern Wasco P.U.D.-remote
Weslee Cyphers – The Dalles Irrigation District
Jacob Gilbertson – NW Natural Gas – Remote

John Amery called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m. from the boardroom at Northern Wasco P.U.D.

Minutes:

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the November 15th, 2022, meeting as distributed. Motion passed.

Report of Officers:

President, John Amery – None reported.

President-Elect, Dale McCabe – None reported.

Vice President, Jacob Gilbertson – None reported.

In Arthur Smith's absence, Jennifer Lindsey reported a bank balance of \$2,681.79.

Unfinished Business:

John Amery reopened the discussion for the proposed WCUCC Bylaw changes. The Third Revision of the Bylaws was presented. The final review will occur at the January meeting and if no additional changes are recommended, the council will look to approve them at the February meeting.

New Business:

The election of officers for the Wasco County Utilities Coordinating council in 2023 was discussed. After discussion with the council members present, the following chairs were appointed:

Jacob Gilbertson, NW Natural Gas – President
Weslee Cyphers, The Dalles Irrigation District – Vice President
Brewster Whitmire, Wasco Electric Cooperative – President-Elect
Arthur Smith, Wasco Co. Public Works – Treasurer
Jennifer Lindsey, Wasco Electric Cooperative – Recording Secretary

New Business, Continued:

Dale McCabe reported that the City of The Dalles sewer crew will be starting the project on 9th Street & Quinton Street, across from the ballpark. Looking at installing a new water and sewer line down a portion of 9th Street. Crews have started the process. Called in for locates to be done. Utilities were notified and located; the City of The Dalles was aware from a past locate that there is fiber in the area. Called in again for locates on December 2, 2022; no one came and located any fiber lines. Numerous other attempts to get in contact to have some locate fiber lines. Received notification that locates were to occur on December 19 from the Staking Center, they are not locating it, have text stating there is no conflict, when City of The Dalles is aware there is a conflict, not certain as to how they know without physically locating it that there would be no conflicts. The fiber locator does not know what work City of The Dalles will be doing. Brewster Whitmire indicated that Dale reaches out to the PUC for additional direction on how to remedy the locate properly.

Nikki Fimple inquired to the council about the possibility of changing the start times of the council meetings from 8:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. Discussion was also held to change the days from every third Tuesday to every third Wednesday of each month. After a lengthy discussion by the council, a motion was made and seconded to change the council meetings to every other Wednesday with a start time of 8:30 a.m. Motion passed. Locations of meetings will be sent via email once confirmation of location has been confirmed.

Follow Up:

Jennifer Lindsey reported that she spoke with Traci Brock regarding the utilization of social media platforms within Wasco Electric. Jennifer received confirmation that Wasco Electric would need a print ready file 8 x 11 advertisement to run in the Ruralite and for social media they would just need the graphic and verbiage that would accompany the graphic. Would need to have necessary files/information to Traci no later than February 10th for advertisement in the March Ruralite issue. For social media, if files are received by mid-February, Traci can prep and start running in March.

Jennifer will follow-up with Kitty with OUNC for standard message materials and artwork. Will also inquire about any copywrite issues, bi-lingual materials.

Dale McCabe stated that the City of The Dalles were thinking about doing an insert with their April billings.

Damage Report:

None reported.

Round Table:

Josh Smith - Northern Wasco P.U.D.

- Doc crew coming in 2023 to assist with projects
- Winter maintenance

John Amery – QLife

- QLife was recently purchased by one of their customers. Working through logistics.

Round Table, Continued:
Bill Vanek – Chenoweth Water

- Winter maintenance

Jacob Gilbertson, NW Natural Gas

- Excess flow valves on services
- Residential maintenance
- Winter maintenance

Dale McCabe – City of The Dalles Public Works

- Sewer crews on 9th Street installing new sewer line as weather permits.
- Contract going out for water portion of the 9th Street project – bid to be available later Spring 2023.
- Crestline in alley ways (new sewer line) at Garrison between 10th and 12th and in alleys off of Trevitt Street – as weather permits.
- Bidding for project on 2nd and Webber for utility project for sanitary and storm near 2nd and Webber.
- Work occurring on 6th Street & Hostetler.
- Winter maintenance

Weslee Cyphers, The Dalles Irrigation District

- Pressure releasing valves
- Looking for funding for surge tank project at river pumping plant to help with the surge mitigation on plant going to Mt. Hood reservoir.

Brewster Whitmire, Wasco Electric Cooperative

- Pole changeouts
- Will be larger scale project out to bid next month – project goes from Cherry Heights through Ericksons Addition behind new addition at Sorosis Park. Look for locates to be going out.
- Have full construction workplan for 2023
- Winter maintenance

As a reminder, the next scheduled OUNC Board of Directors meeting will be held on December 14th, 2022, at The Grand Hotel, in Salem, Oregon.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:44 a.m. Thank you to everyone who was in attendance. The next meeting will be **Wednesday, January 18, 2023 beginning at 8:30 a.m.**, and will be held in the Board Room at Northern Wasco P.U.D. on River Road in The Dalles. A link to attend via Zoom/Teleconference will also be available for those who would like to attend remotely.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Lindsey
Recording Secretary