



## WASCO COUNTY UTILITIES COORDINATING COUNCIL

### MEETING MINUTES

January 18, 2023

8:44 a.m.

#### Attendance:

Jennifer Lindsey – Wasco Electric Cooperative  
Dale McCabe – City of The Dalles Public Works  
Weslee Cyphers – The Dalles Irrigation District  
Jacob Gilbertson – NW Natural Gas  
Daniel Lopez – O.D.O.T.  
John Buckley – Hood River UCC President

John Amery – Aristo Networks/QLife  
Josh Smith – Northern Wasco P.U.D.  
Bill Vanek – Chenoweth Water  
Brewster Whitmire – Wasco Electric Cooperative  
Jerry Anderson – City of The Dalles Public Works

Jacob Gilbertson called the meeting to order at 8:44 a.m. from the boardroom at Wasco Electric Cooperative.

#### Minutes:

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022, meeting as distributed. Motion passed.

#### Report of Officers:

President, Jacob Gilbertson – None reported.

President-Elect, Brewster Whitmire – None reported.

Vice President, Weslee Cyphers – None reported.

Treasurer, Arthur Smith – Absent

Recording Secretary, Jennifer Lindsey – Non reported.

With the new officers and new members present, Jacob Gilbertson held a round table of individual introductions for members present.

#### Unfinished Business:

Jacob Gilbertson reopened the discussion for the proposed WCUCC Bylaw changes. The Third Revision of the Bylaws was presented. No changes were recommended. The council will present at the February meeting and look to approve the Bylaws as presented.

### **New Business:**

Jennifer Lindsey reviewed the OUCC annual funding procedures and requested budget events planned for 2023. A discussion was held by council members regarding the sponsorship of an archery target at the Celilo Bowman's Club to create awareness of 811 Call Before you Dig. After a lengthy discussion, a motion was made and seconded to approve an annual membership for 2023 in the amount of \$100.00 with Celilo Bowman's Club, following an amended motion to approve a scholarship for the annual membership for 2023 in the amount of \$100.00 to Celilo Bowman's Club for 2023, as memberships generally cover an individual or family. Motion passed. Dale McCabe will complete the membership application and submit it to Arthur Smith for payment. Jennifer Lindsey will send Dale the artwork files for the 811 advertisement.

Other discussed opportunities for budgeted events in 2023 were Cherry Festival sponsorship, the continued sponsorship of the City of The Dalles clean-up contribution towards the food that will be served, as the WCUCC has done in the past and donation to the Cherry Festival parade candy. Previously approved expenses included the, The Dalles Baseball Student-Athletes 10' x 6' field spot advertisement. Jennifer will report these budgeted events to the OUCC.

Jennifer reported that the use of 811 Call Before you Dig on council members social media platforms is acceptable with a few exceptions. Council members do have access to 811 messages and artwork, in terms of copywriting, members cannot switch out colors (pms color match), and bilingual materials are available free at <https://oregon811.mydormer.com/shop> or <https://digsafelyoregon.com>. Members can download the standard manual and excavator checklist in Spanish.

Jennifer will forward the artwork files she received from Kitty O'Keefe with OUNC to council members.

### **Damage Report:**

Jacob Gilbertson with NW Natural reported that they experienced 1 damage issue with a contractor installing new water service, white brackets were painted 10' outside of the property. The locates were done on the entire property with locate area painted in white. They ended up just outside of the property to tie into pole and hit neighbors' service. Locate did not confirm service inside the brackets. Had the locator go by the area that was indicated, he would have caused major damage. By locating outside of the area, damage was prevented.

Jerry Anderson with City of The Dalles reported that they experienced 3 main breaks within the last month. Inquired to see if NW Natural had any emergency contact information for locates; Jacob stated that Aaron Westfall is a first responder. Jerry concluded that 2 out of the 3 locaters never came out and he had to initiate a second emergency locate request. Jacob stated that he will get Jerry additional contacts.

### **Round Table:**

#### **Josh Smith - Northern Wasco P.U.D.**

- UG short crossing across River Road to get power to new substation.
- Winter maintenance

#### **John Amery – QLife**

- On hold due to transition challenges with contract engineering. There is some UG that will be going into port district in the near future.

**Round Table, Continued:**

**Bill Vanek – Chenoweth Water**

- Winter maintenance
- Building maintenance

**Jacob Gilbertson, NW Natural Gas**

- Winter/general maintenance

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

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

**Weslee Cyphers, The Dalles Irrigation District**

- Winter maintenance

**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.
- Some segmented line rebuilds in the area of Cherry Heights/Sandlin Rd., will be done in stages.
- Winter maintenance

**Daniel Lopez, O.D.O.T.**

- Winter maintenance
- Excavation work @ MP 93.5 EB, January 19
- MP 88 WB clean up spill in ROW on January 20

OUNC Board Meetings, February 8, 2023, 9:00 a.m. at the Wilsonville Training Center in Wilsonville, and March 8, 2023, 9:00 a.m., at the Best Western Oceanview in Seaside.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:54 a.m. Thank you to everyone who was in attendance. The next meeting will be **Wednesday, February 15, 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

*Reminder! April is Oregon Dig Safely Month!*