



## WASCO COUNTY UTILITIES COORDINATING COUNCIL

### MEETING MINUTES

June 21, 2023

8:35 a.m.

#### Attendance:

Jennifer Lindsey – Wasco Electric Cooperative  
Brewster Whitmire – Wasco Electric Cooperative  
Conner Reed – Oregon Dept. of Transportation  
Weslee Cyphers – The Dalles Irrigation District  
Arthur Smith – Wasco Co. Public Works

Dale McCabe – City of The Dalles Public Works  
Daniel Lopez – Oregon Dept. of Transportation  
Jacob Gilbertson – NW Natural Gas  
Aaron Westfall – NW Natural Gas  
John Buckley – Hood River UCC President

President Jacob Gilbertson called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m. from the banquet room at Cousin's Restaurant.

#### Minutes:

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the May 17, 2023 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 – Reported the ending balance as of May 31, 2023, of \$1,668.31.

Did receive an invoice for the Community Clean Up banner. \$792.75; after the invoice is paid the ending balance will be \$869.56; no other outstanding payables.

Recording Secretary, Jennifer Lindsey – Reported that she will be absent from the July and August WCUC meetings, Jean Corbin will be the Recording Secretary in her absence. Appreciation was also stated for Jacob Gilbertson for picking up and returning the 811 trailer to Sherwood and Aaron Westfall for working the 811 trailer during Wasco Electric's Member Appreciation Event on June 17.

#### Unfinished Business:

Aaron Westfall reported on the Wasco Electric Member Appreciation Event he attended and said he was able to discuss the importance of 811 with those who attended.

The continued discussion was held regarding a contractor's event. With further discussion, Lunch would be preferred, will try to have an event in April 2024. Jennifer Lindsey and Jacob Gilbertson will continue to plan the event. An inquiry was proposed to see if the Hood River UCC would like to pair with WCUC on this event. John will discuss this with the council and report back.

### New Business:

None reported.

### Damage Report:

Jacob Gilbertson reported that in White Salmon, during the weekend of June 17<sup>th</sup>, a homeowner was doing his own work; new footing he was digging out for new water service feed for the house, hit gas service while digging (scraping it with a shovel) and didn't have locates called in. NW Natural crew was called to the site and made the repair. Jacob educated the homeowner on requesting locates prior to any digging/excavation on his property.

Aaron Westfall reported that they are experiencing some locate issues on a job in Hood River on 12<sup>th</sup> and Montello; Jacob Gilbertson has talked to Will about this and he reported that Heath Consultants will do gas locates in the future and that it seems to be a good transition and they are very responsive.

### Round Table:

#### Dale McCabe, City of The Dalles Public Works

- Still working on 9<sup>th</sup> Street, around 10<sup>th</sup> and Oregon – The City has put in the storm line, the contractor installed the water main, and have run into conflicts with Zayo (fiber). The city hit fiber lines due to the lines being mismarked. The water contractor who hit the fiber was told it was deeper than it was. Zayo will need to relocate its fiber line and move it. Don't have a timeline on when this will be happening. This is creating too many problems. Once the fiber line has been relocated, the city will have the storm main installed.
- Chip sealing projects with the county the week of June 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Artistic still working on the 7<sup>th</sup> Street storm line for the Myrtle and navigation center project
- 8<sup>th</sup> & Liberty sewer project
- Install sewer on Chenowith St. & 6<sup>th</sup> - Finished needs paved back – probably around the First part of July
- 6<sup>th</sup> St. widening between Snipes & Hostetler – called in for locates, done, now need to survey and design, around the Spring of 2024
- 10<sup>th</sup> St. project – Snipes & Chenowith Loop – sidewalk and widening shoulder on east/north side of 10<sup>th</sup> St. Sidewalk from 10<sup>th</sup> to Chenowith Loop – calling for locates and Tenneson Engineering the first part of July.
- Lots going on in port area

#### Weslee Cyphers, The Dalles Irrigation District

- Pumping water

#### Brewster Whitmire – Wasco Electric Cooperative, Inc.

- Line replacement Cherry Heights across Ericksons Addition to Skyline complete – waiting on communication transfers – double wood in the area.
- Sandlin Rd to Cherry Hts. Project – currently about 90% complete, UG section along Shears' airstrip taking place in the next few days; may need to call in locates again.
- New Services
- Maintenance

**Round Table, Continued:**

**Jacob Gilbertson/Aaron Westfall, NW Natural Gas**

- Montana /Nevada projects
- Upgrade gas service to Cherry growers off Madison and 1<sup>st</sup>; 1" to 2"

**Josh Smith via Nikki Fimple, Northern Wasco P.U.D.; reported by Jennifer Lindsey**

- Yates finished reconductoring in Wamic and moving back to The Dalles – all OH work.

**Conner Reed/Daniel Lopez, Oregon Dept. of Transportation**

- Major sign replacements/installation to Arlington to Cascade Locks started the week of June 19<sup>th</sup>, big green signs along I-84 new ones going in
- New mile markers from TD to Mosier on the Old Hwy. Calling for locates (16 miles)
- Couple of crossings – Fossil water boards across / city of Wasco new approach; working on one in Maupin. Several for Biggs.

Upcoming events with OUNC:

- July 25<sup>th</sup> – Policy & Procedure Committee Meeting, 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. – Zoom Meeting:  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87226539279?pwd=Wmc2Vlp3UFNKs05zRWMYOGYyeGF3dz09>  
Meeting ID: 872 2653 9279 / Passcode: 246297
- August 23<sup>rd</sup> – Budget & Audit Committee Meeting – 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. – Zoom Meeting:  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85215204090?pwd=elc0ekVLZHJFWjB4eVo2RGFURUFEQT09>  
Meeting ID: 852 1520 4090 / Passcode: 273478
- September 21<sup>st</sup> – OUNC Board Meeting – Eagle Crest Resort, Redmond, OR – 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. \*\*OUNC quarterly meeting is Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 p.m. in Redmond at Eagle Crest Resort.
- December 14<sup>th</sup> – OUNC Board Meeting – The Grand Hotel, Salem, OR – 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. \*\* OUNC quarterly meeting is December 13<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 p.m. in Salem, at The Grand Hotel.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:28 a.m. Thank you to everyone who was in attendance. The next meeting will be **Wednesday, July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023, beginning at 8:30 a.m.**, and will be held at **Cousin's Restaurant in The Dalles in the Banquet/Meeting room**. There will not be a link to attend remotely for this meeting.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

*Jennifer Lindsey*

Recording Secretary