

WASCO COUNTY UTILITIES COORDINATING COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

April 15, 2014

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

Attendance:

Ed Ortega	Northern Wasco County PUD
Arthur Smith	Wasco County Public Works
Steve Wilkins	Wasco County Public Works
Brenda Huskey	City of The Dalles Public Works
Mike Richardson	The Dalles Irrigation District
Troy Klein	NW Natural
John Walker	NW Natural
Sheri Clark	NW Natural
Scott Gallegos	NW Natural
Jim Bailey	Wasco Electric Co-op
Herb Watts	North State Telephone/Fastercom

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by President, Ed Ortega.

Minutes:

Minutes of the March 18th, 2014 meeting were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report:

Our ending balance last month was \$4,145.39. Currently we have a balance of \$3,079.43 after paying \$505.21 for door prizes and \$560.75 for food and drinks for Contractor's Night on April 2nd. Tonya will be asking for her \$200 check soon for candy money for Cherry Festival. Arthur is sending out our council invoices this week.

Damage Report:

Oops, somehow one damage was reported for the City but for once, they didn't have any! So our council report should be zero for March. The damage report does not include Charter, Century Link or NW Natural (which is reported online).

Old Business:

The council critiqued Contractor's Night. Kenny Hamlin sent an e-mail to Brenda saying it was one of the most interesting and informative meetings that he and his wife had attended. We had a fairly good turnout but Arthur felt maybe we should have a change of venue next time that doesn't serve beer. He felt some of those present didn't take it seriously, didn't listen to the program and were more interested in the food and drink. It was suggested to next time have the program first before the food and drinks are served or have an outreach on a smaller scale to one contractor and his employees and buy their lunch. Sheri suggested buying one big prize like a fishing trip with a local guide (who would be willing to display our 811 banner/flag) in hopes of drawing more contractors to the event. Winner would have to be able to spend the entire day fishing. Or even a pancake breakfast around 7 a.m. where council members cook.

Herb said private contractors and crews are busy working so our event should coincide with their off-work hours. Jim Bailey said the Linn County/Lebanon Council had some speedway tickets donated and a fishing trip for their booth at Safety Days and that really draws in the contractors. Ed asked council members to keep thinking of ideas to make Contractor's Night work better and we'll talk about it at a later date.

Arthur recommended we ask the state council for five 811 signs to hang on fences at various utilities and not put them in highway right-of-ways. John suggested putting them on already existing sign posts underneath the current sign but wind velocity and more surface area were a concern with this suggestion. Ed will request from Trevor, three 24" x 30" high intensity, prismatic signs and two 18" x 30" high intensity, prismatic signs. Both are rated for 10 years.

New Business:

Sheri reminded everyone that it is Dozer Days 10th anniversary coming up May 16th and 17th at the Clark County Fairgrounds just off I-5. The event will happen, come rain or come shine, so bring your kids, grandkids or spend the day volunteering.

Cherry Festival is Saturday, April 26th. NW Natural will have their pickup with the 811 banner and lots of candy to give out. Come help pass out candy and get a good walk in at the same time!

Ed is registered for the president's meeting in Sun River. He is going down the evening of the 13th and heading back the 14th. If there are any topics you want Ed to bring before the council, please e-mail him.

Ed talked about an emergency locate he received on 3/25 from Roto Rooter to repair a sewer mainline at 1701 Liberty Way. It **did not** say the occupant was out of service and it had a respond time of 4 p.m. on 3/26. He said it wasn't really an emergency locate and he even received a call to see if PUD had received it. Scott said locates are either an emergency or have a 48-hour time frame.

Jim showed the council a magazine called Excavation Safety Guide & Directory which he feels has some really good information in it. Sheri felt it was worthwhile getting a subscription so Brenda will check out the cost.

Jim had an 811 decal from Designer Decals in Spokane, WA. These stick on the side of your rigs or windows and the price is very affordable Jim said. The magnetic ones we had before are coming off too easy. Jim will get us some sizes and prices from Designer Decals.

Sheri asked if any of the council members had heard about 7 huge transformers being off-loaded at Bernert Barge Lines and hauled over city streets to the Celilo Substation. Most of the council members had so Ed informed everyone what the proposed route would be but said it was still subject to change. Moving these transformers is a huge undertaking and still about a year away. Sheri was told to call Bill Barrier at the City for more information.

Round Table:

Dale McCabe – City of The Dalles Public Works

- ❖ Re-doing the sewer main at 14th/Clark and rerouting a line that runs under a house. Re-doing the sewer main at 8-9th/Pentland.
- ❖ Installing 2 new manholes on Trevitt Street in April, one at 15th and the other b/t 13th and 14th.
- ❖ Sewer Department is finishing up the root cutting list and winter maintenance.
- ❖ The City is still working on the design of 7th Street for the Transit Center that will be located at Chenoweth Loop and W 7th Streets. The design is for W 7th between Chenowith Loop and Hostetler that will be an LID.
- ❖ Today the water department is starting installation of a water line/drain line on Skyline Road by Mark's Well.

- ❖ Two blocks of water service renewals are still left to do from the Junior High School to Kelly Avenue.
- ❖ Grinding and overlay of 3rd Place from Trevitt to Lincoln in July. Just taking the asphalt down to the concrete so anywhere from two to three inches will be removed.
- ❖ On May 6th the street department is going to profile and pave the east approach lanes at Second and Webber Streets. The approaches at the RR crossing on Webber will be fixed also so the crossing isn't so rough.

Herb Watts – North State Telephone/Fastercom

- ❖ Putting in underground fiber up Easton Canyon

John Walker – NW Natural Gas

- ❖ Finishing up the last two bare main replacements on W. 8th Street from Liberty to Lincoln and W. 8th from Pentland to Garrison in the alley. These will be done by the end of October.
- ❖ NW Natural will move to Union/13th after they finish W. 8th from Liberty to Lincoln. They have 300' of bare main to replace there which should take them about 3 weeks.

Arthur Smith – Wasco County Public Works

- ❖ Grading gravel roads.
- ❖ Prepping paved roads for this summer's oiling. Most of these are country roads. Arthur will hand out the road maintenance list at our next meeting.

Mike Richardson – The Dalles Irrigation District

- ❖ Pumping water and starting to irrigate in a week to 10 days.

Jim Bailey – Wasco Electric Co-op

- ❖ A variety of services throughout their territory.
- ❖ Relocating, rebuilding and replacing lines at six to seven sites throughout their territory from last winter's ice storm.
- ❖ Putting in underground just before you break over the top of 7-Mile Hill with a tap to Ortle and the radio station receiver.

Ed Ortega – Northern Wasco County PUD

- ❖ Later this summer UG will be coming off Chenowith Loop and a pole will have to be relocated for the new Transportation Center.
- ❖ Customer services.
- ❖ Service to new homes on Heritage Way and one on Oakwood.
- ❖ Tesla Motors has made several inquiries about a 6-stall charging station for electric cars by Cousin's Restaurant. They are willing to pay for the 3-phase needed.
- ❖ Underground going in at Google.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9 a.m. Thanks to everyone who attended!

Remember next month's meeting: May 20th.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Huskey, Secretary