

WASCO COUNTY UTILITIES COORDINATING COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

May 20, 2014

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

Attendance:

Ed Ortega	Northern Wasco County PUD
Scott Peters	ODOT
Greg Jensen	Crestline Construction
Nathan Pope	Chenoweth PUD
Jim Bailey	Wasco Electric Co-op
Arthur Smith	Wasco County Public Works
Dale McCabe	City of The Dalles Public Works
Brenda Huskey	City of The Dalles Public Works
Troy Klein	NW Natural
John Walker	NW Natural
Sheri Clark	NW Natural

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

Minutes:

Minutes of the April 15th, 2014 meeting were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report:

Our ending balance last month was \$3,079.43. Currently we have a balance of \$3,209.83 after paying \$200.00 to Tonya Brumley for candy for the cherry festival parade and \$109.60 to Ed Ortega for his hotel reimbursement at the OUCC meeting in Sun River. Arthur deposited 11 council dues checks (\$440.00). We only have one that's outstanding.

Damage Report:

No reported damages for April. The report did not include Charter, Century Link or NW Natural (which is reported online).

Old Business:

Ed asked about the signs at the OUCC meeting and was told the council is waiting for enough responses to place an order. They should have enough within the next 3 weeks or so.

We discussed ordering the Excavation Safety Guide and Directory magazine. It's an annual publication that costs \$2.60 per issue with a 25 copy minimum. To mail 25 copies would cost approximately \$10.00. That's a total of \$75/year. Arthur said he has a magazine that he really likes and he'll bring it to the next meeting so we'll hold off ordering for now. Sheri thought we could use this magazine as part of the giveaways at Contractor's Night. She'll ask Scott Gallegos if he has another publication he likes better.

Ed said there was a good turnout for the quarterly meeting, they shared lots of good information and Bryan Baxter and Tobin Werner gave an excellent presentation. He learned Oregon is divided into zones and our zone (IV) includes Hood River, Wasco, Sherman, Jefferson, Deschutes and Crook Counties. Don Patterson from NW Natural is our zone leader. Ed told us a new company from Wilsonville is making locate paint to use when the ground is wet. The new manuals are in the final editing phase and should be out next month. Ed showed us all kinds of new call-before-you-dig goodies which were distributed.

Ed was told the OUCC has approximately \$36,000 in their account so if our council decided to purchase a big ticket item, they would consider helping fund it. Ed mentioned some councils are sponsoring a baseball or little league team. We could see about purchasing a 4' x 8' advertisement board for \$200 a year and then we'd have a very visible advertisement on the field's fence. The cost of an advertisement board at Quinton Street ballpark is \$400 a year and we'd need to talk to Rod Runyon or Dean Dollarhide about that. It was decided to wait until next year at the beginning of the baseball season and discuss a sponsorship or board then.

The OUCC would like to create a spread sheet that tracks how effective an event is and justify the numbers. They don't have the format yet but they'll come up with something. Kenny again gave our council praise for having so many active folks and for putting on an informative and interesting Contractor's Night. He liked our utility emergency number cards. Brenda will send him some.

Ideas were discussed to increase participation by our local contractors which Art said hasn't been very good since 2008. Ed said the Linn Benton Council sponsors a breakfast and they give out \$5 gift cards to everyone that attends. The Baker City council hangs their banner at their booth at the county fair. Wasco County UCC could have a booth this year at the fair and John suggested sharing the NW Natural booth with Tonya. Dale suggested we ask Discover Rentals to piggyback with them when they have a barbecue and Sheri suggested doing a special invite to 3 or 4 contractors and give out Visa gift cards to those who come. Art suggested the council buy the contractors breakfast quarterly and since they start work early, have it around 5:30 or 6 am.

Sheri had lots of fun and worked her tail off at Dozer Days. Please volunteer next year if you can...they were really short-handed! She said it was laid out better this year and a new area for adult drivers had a line as long as the kid's line.

New Business:

Dave Johnson retired from Century Link and his replacement is Dyrk Pritchett. Dyrk works out of the Waucoma building in Hood River. Everyone was sent a new council distribution list with Dyrk's name and contact information on it.

Round Table:

Dale McCabe – City of The Dalles Public Works

- ❖ The Sorosis surge tank project is starting. Crestline Construction is the contractor.
- ❖ Sewer Department has found the "mystery pipe" and is investigating the lateral.
- ❖ Continuing with the design of W 7th Street for the Transit Center that will be located at Chenoweth Loop and W 7th Streets. Since it will be an LID the timeframe is still undetermined because of the property owners.
- ❖ Grinding and overlaying 3rd Place from Trevitt to Lincoln is slated for August. Two to three inches will be removed and ADA ramps will have to be redesigned.
- ❖ Sewer projects at Pentland from 8th to 9th and at 14th/Clark.
- ❖ Working on the Mark's Well collection pond. When Mark's well is kicked on, the water will go to the pond and collect until it can be discharged at a better release rate instead of surging down the ditch.
- ❖ Dale will visit with Bill about getting the paving schedule out.
- ❖ Chenowith Business Park project.

Nathan Pope – Chenowith Water PUD

- ❖ Wrapping up Floral Court in about two weeks.
- ❖ Summer maintenance.
- ❖ Need to locate 7th Street because of their water line that runs parallel with NW Natural.

John Walker – NW Natural Gas

- ❖ Working to remove the last bare main at Union/13th. They were pulled off for another project but will get back to it soon.
- ❖ Potholing on 7th by Home Depot to Chenowith Loop.
- ❖ Abandoning service from Home Depot to Hostetler but reconstructing at Hostetler/7th intersection.
- ❖ New dispatcher for NW Natural that handles The Dalles area.
- ❖ Replacing 150' of bare main on I Street by the Middle School.

Arthur Smith – Wasco County Public Works

- ❖ Crack sealing, ditching, culvert cleaning.
- ❖ Arthur will have the 2014 paving schedule after July 1st. All roads on it will be chip sealed. Wheat and cherry harvest have been taken into account but there are not exact dates yet.

Greg Jensen – Crestline Construction

- ❖ Finishing up State Street in Hood River.
- ❖ Starting the pump station at Sorosis.
- ❖ Drilling and shooting in the Chenowith Business Park.

Jim Bailey – Wasco Electric Co-op

- ❖ Miscellaneous services throughout their territory.
- ❖ Contractor is re-routing 40 poles in the Rail Hollow area outside Dufur due to winter storm damage.

Scott Peters – ODOT

- ❖ Work should be done on the Mosier bridge by the end of June. The load limit will be lifted.
- ❖ Chip sealing South Wasco County on Hwy 197.
- ❖ Bids are out for rock scaling along the eastern edge of Hwy 30 and at Rowena Crest below the view point and for one area at Clarno.
- ❖ New approach to Garnier Winery at Columbia View Orchards.
- ❖ MCFR approached Scott about installing a 2-sided digital billboard (like the one at Griffith Motors) across the street from Steve's Chevron on W. 6th. It would be used for public information and Scott thought this would be a good place for our council to advertise and educate. ODOT hasn't approved it yet but he feels they probably will.
- ❖ Multiple areas of chip sealing from Pole Road to Wapinitia Junction on Hwy 197.

Ed Ortega – Northern Wasco County PUD

- ❖ Tesla is putting in a new super charging station on Ash Street by Cousins. They will need 3-phase power UG primary to get 480 volts. They say a car can be charged in half an hour.
- ❖ Relocating a pole at W 7th and Chenowith Loop.
- ❖ Relocating a pole for the Marriott on W. 8th.
- ❖ UG primary going in for Hazel Dell Orchards since they are adding more migrant units.
- ❖ Paul has been busy with the Chenowith Business Park project.
- ❖ General UG services.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:15 a.m. Thanks to everyone who attended!

Remember next month's meeting: June 17th.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Huskey, Secretary