

WASCO COUNTY UTILITIES COORDINATING COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

May 21, 2013

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

Attendance:

Arthur Smith	Wasco County Public Works
Marty Matherly	Wasco County Public Works
Jeff McCall	Wasco County Public Work
Herb Watts	North State Telephone/Sunset Peak
Brenda Huskey	City of The Dalles
Dale McCabe	City of The Dalles
Jim Bailey	Wasco Electric Co-op
John Walker	NW Natural
Troy Klein	NW Natural
Sheri Clark	NW Natural
Yogi Rattay	NW Natural
Joy Marcum	Northern Wasco County PUD
Mike Richardson	The Dalles Irrigation District
Greg Jensen	Crestline Construction

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

Minutes:

Minutes of the April 16th, 2013 meeting were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report:

Account balance is \$2,830.69 with all invoices paid current. Contractor's Night expenses cost around \$1,000, Arthur said.

Damage Report:

One utility reported damages—North State Telephone. A farmer damaged a conduit pipe with no fiber in it yet so he was billed only for repairing the pipe.

Old Business:

Contractor's Night was discussed. There was a low turnout and Arthur feels we are missing the window of opportunity. Sheri suggested holding one in February like Klickitat County does but Marty liked it in April because it fit his crew's 10-hr schedule. So Arthur suggested having two contractor nights. Greg said February would work better for Crestline and he volunteered to give contractors a personal telephone invitation. He felt an ad in the paper would help too. Dale thought it might be a good idea to have one for individual contractors and one for the agencies, making the agency one more like a safety meeting. Shari wanted everyone that attended either event to receive a "call before you dig" hat. So...ideas to think about for next year!

Herb ordered more bumper stickers, adding “it’s the law” to them. He took several of them to the OUCC meeting at Sun River and Anita Floyd, who works in marketing, loved them. She wants the digital file so Herb will send it to her. She plans on making the bumper sticker out of thicker vinyl and she will provide them to all Oregon councils (with their local representation printed on them) free of charge. The large sign we had done will also be made available to other councils. Yogi suggested having some of our 811 signs made bigger and using them to advertise on local ball park fences. Herb said Anita could make them outdoor signs.

Herb asked if we knew about the recycle law regarding disposing of locate paint cans? Yogi said NW Natural uses a machine/barrel that punctures the can, taking out the excess paint, deflating the can so they can dispose of it in the trash. Herb wants everyone to do their homework and see if there is a new way we should be doing this for recycling and we’ll discuss it next month.

The state council has money set aside for individual county requests, Herb said, like a county in southern Oregon that requested money to purchase a snow cone machine that uses locate-colored syrups. Herb thought maybe we could ask for a locate paint can recycling machine or a tent for one of our events. All requests need to be approved by the state council.

The revised Bylaws were handed out so everyone can take a look at them and next month we will vote on them. **So please.....all officers attend next month’s meeting so the bylaws can be signed and dated** and then we can send Kenny Hamlin a copy.

Yogi and Herb had a ball at Dozer Days! Nothing like making the day for a kid and getting to operate a cool piece of equipment at the same time! Shari also volunteered along with Herb’s wife, Alice. Herb figured about 15,000 people turned out for the event. Next year...sign up, you won’t regret it.

New Business:

Has anyone had any trouble using 811? Kenny Hamlin posed that question in his last letter. No one on our council appears to be having any issues.

Round Table:

Sheri/John – NW Natural

- ❖ Eliminating long couplings on Scenic east of Jefferson Street. Putting in expansion joints that flex with the ground.
- ❖ Lowering the main on Bridge Street 14th to 18th and 16th Street Trevitt to Bridge so the City can complete their paving projects.
- ❖ Shari will re-permit the Laughlin project soon.
- ❖ Putting in 70-80 feet of new main on F Street between 9th and 10th after corroded main is removed.

Jeff McCall – Wasco County Public Works

- ❖ Chip sealing and hot patching. Grading gravel roads.

Dale McCabe - City of The Dalles Public Works

- ❖ River Road water line project is almost done.
- ❖ The Phase II LID on First and Bargeway is in the punch list phase.
- ❖ Survey locate on W 6th Street from Walnut to Snipes. Renewing the sanitary sewer line.
- ❖ The Street Department will be grinding and overlaying E 14th Street between Washington and Kelly Avenue the week of June 10th.
- ❖ Sewer upgrade underway at 12th/Mt. Hood and also at 15th/Mt. Hood.

- ❖ The Webber Street water line project is out to bid. Construction will start somewhere around August 15th because of the wheat harvest.
- ❖ Tenneson Engineering is finishing up the 4th Street Grade to 8th Street sanitary sewer survey.
- ❖ Working on the design for Kelly Avenue between 10th and 12th. Putting in new crosswalks and bulb-outs to shorten the crosswalks because of pedestrian issues.
- ❖ Still working on the Scenic drive design. It is a ways out yet.
- ❖ The Granada block is still on the books as is the Washington Street Undercrossing but no information on a timeline yet.

Greg Jensen – Crestline Construction

- ❖ Urban renewal project in downtown Hood River on State Street that will start within 2 weeks.
- ❖ Still working on Country Club Road in Hood River.
- ❖ Project in Odell.
- ❖ Constructing the Goodwill Store in The Dalles (formerly Albertson's).

Herb Watts – North State Telephone/Sunset Peak

- ❖ Installing new underground fiber services.
- ❖ Starting to remove abandoned overhead facilities.
- ❖ Responding to locates.

Joy Marcum – Northern Wasco County PUD

- ❖ No big projects at the moment, just normal maintenance.

Jim Bailey – Wasco Electric Co-op

- ❖ Maintenance and miscellaneous services throughout their territory.
- ❖ Remote line going in at Orchard View Farms because a new building is being constructed.

Mike Richardson – The Dalles Irrigation District

- ❖ Normal operations.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m. Thanks to everyone who attended!

Next month's meeting: June 18th.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Huskey, Secretary