



## WASCO COUNTY UTILITIES COORDINATING COUNCIL

### MEETING MINUTES

June 18, 2024

8:31 a.m.

#### **Attendance (13)**

Jennifer Lindsey, Wasco Electric Cooperative  
John Amery, QLife  
Arthur Smith, Wasco County Road Dept.  
Jacob Gilbertson, NW Natural  
Jake Carter, Hood River Cooperative  
Dale McCabe, City of The Dalles  
Aaron Westfall, NW Natural

Brewster Whitmire, Wasco Electric Cooperative  
Brian Logsdon, One Call Concepts  
Jesse Adams, Heath Locating / NW Natural  
John Buckley, Hood River UCC  
Weslee Cyphers, The Dalles Irrigation District  
Scott Gallegos, One Call Concepts

President, Weslee Cyphers called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m. from the banquet room at Cousins Restaurant and asked for introductions of those present.

#### **Minutes**

After review by the attending council, consensus was reached and the minutes from the May 15, 2024, meeting were approved as submitted.

#### **Report of Officers**

President, Weslee Cyphers

- None reported

Vice President, Brewster Whitmire

- The next scheduled WCUC meeting on July 17 conflicts with the OUCC meeting that will be held in Gleneden Beach at the Salishan Resort. Understandably Jacob Gilbertson and I will be attending the OUCC meeting. Jennifer Lindsey suggested postponing the WCUC meeting from July 17 to July 24. The attending members of the Council mutually agreed that this would be beneficial, and Jennifer will send out notification to the Council of this date change.

President-Elect, Jesse Adams

- None Reported

Treasurer, Arthur Smith

- Reported an ending balance of \$1,275.76 which included the cleared checks, \$283.64 for the Community Clean-Up (reimbursed City of The Dalles) and \$110.80 to Pepsi, also for the Community Clean-Up, totaling \$394.44. Each of these above expenses was previously approved at the February 21, 2024, meeting with a budget of \$500. Currently the monthly service charge has not been assessed.

Recording Secretary, Jennifer Lindsey

- Reminder of Wasco Electric's 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Member Appreciation Event at the Wasco County Fairgrounds, Saturday, June 22, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The 811 Trailer will be onsite to educate the attendees about "Call Before You Dig", Tonya Brumley & Jesse Adams have volunteered their time for this event.

## **Unfinished business**

- None reported

## **New Business**

- President Weslee Cyphers reported the Council received information regarding sponsorship packages for the Wasco County Fair & Rodeo that will be taking place August 15 – 18, 2024, in Tygh Valley, OR. In 2023, the Council provided a sponsorship of \$250, providing a banner that was displayed at the event, at that time, that was the only sponsorship available. After discussion by the Council, a motion was made and seconded to approve a \$250 Area Banner Sponsorship for the 2024 Wasco County Fair & Rodeo. Motion passed unanimously.
- Brian Logsdon, with One Call Concepts provided a presentation on the iSite Ticketing system that offers advanced Ticket Search capabilities, Locator Ticket Management and Positive Response, and ITICnxt, their latest version of the online ticketing system. Brian provided valuable information and insights at the benefits to the users and the efficiencies this new ticketing system provides. This presentation created good communication amongst the group.
- Scott Gallegos continued the discussion from the May 15, 2024, Council meeting regarding the merging of the Hood River UCC or the possibility of resuming their Council.
  - The suggestion was made to inquire about interest in Hood River County to see if there would be interest in either option of merging or resuming a Hood River UCC. Jesse Adams did inquire over the past month to various utilities and contractors, response was little to no interest.
  - Attendees suggested meeting on a bi-monthly basis vs. monthly basis.
  - Scott reminded attendees that they need to elect 3 officers to have a quorum. There were interested parties in attendance to fill these 3 positions.
  - Agreement was made to host a Contractors & Business Meeting on Wednesday, September 5, 2024, at Tabby's Hole in One Clubhouse in Hood River from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Those in agreement to volunteer and assist in the planning are Jacob Gilbertson, Jesse Adams, John Buckley, Scott Gallegos, and Jennifer Lindsey. If anyone else is interested in assisting, please let one of us know.
  - Please reach out to John Buckley, [johnr.buckley1954@gmail.com](mailto:johnr.buckley1954@gmail.com) to RSVP or if you know of anyone interested in attending.
  - An update will be provided at the August 21, 2024, WCUCC meeting.

## **Damages**

- Jacob Gilbertson, NW Natural Gas
  - The Dalles – 2<sup>nd</sup> & Webber – hit gas line; contractor failed to call in locate
  - Hood River – 221 Montello Ave. (no charge for this event) – pulled large rock, gas line was installed over the top of the rock and back down the side of the rock, hit gas line that was located on top of the rock. They did have a locate ticket.

## **Round Table**

### **Brewster Whitmire – Wasco Electric Cooperative**

- General Maintenance
- Upgrades – Wasco County Fairgrounds/Tygh Valley
- Camp Morrow
- Line rebuilds in Sherman County

### **Arthur Smith – Wasco County Public Works**

- Chip sealing:
  - Old Moody Road (Deschutes Park) – Hwy 30 to end of the pavement
  - Skyline Road – Olney Road to the end of the pavement
  - Lower 8 Mile Road – 15 Mile to Emerson Loop
  - Carroll Road – State Road to Vensel Road
  - Huskey Road – State Road to the end of the pavement
  - State Road – 7 Mile Hill to Mosier Creek Road
  - 7 Mile Hill Road – Harvey Pit (County Pit) to State Road
  - Cherry Heights Road – Patton Drive to Wells Road
- Pavement patching

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

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Street (2<sup>nd</sup> and Webber) Utility Project- new storm and sanitary sewer – under way; completion middle of June
- Still working on 10<sup>th</sup> street; Safe Routes to School Projects – finishing up design – Construction to begin summer 2025; there will be some NWPUD poles that will need to be relocated, will also contact NW Natural regarding the gas lines in that area.
- Sidewalk and storm project for surveying and design – Centurywest Company - Thompson/12<sup>th</sup> & Richmond – calling for locates – surveying has started - bidding next fall
- RBC – installing big fiber line down by river – Crates Way to Crates Way – currently working off of west 2<sup>nd</sup> street (google side before they go over to River Road portion)
- Sewer line on East 9<sup>th</sup> & Thompson; new water line
- Design for upgrading sewer on 1<sup>st</sup> between Webber and cherry growers (quite a ways out) Locating on 1<sup>st</sup> Street & Webber with Public Works Dept for sewer project
- RBC – 9<sup>th</sup> & Quinton – Fiber relocation beginning June 18<sup>th</sup>

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, July 24, 2024**, beginning at 8:30 a.m., and will be held at Cousin's Restaurant in The Dalles in the Banquet/Meeting room.

Respectfully submitted,

*Jennifer Lindsey*

Jennifer Lindsey

Recording Secretary