



WASCO COUNTY UTILITIES COORDINATING COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

November 20, 2024

8:33 a.m.

Attendance

Jennifer Lindsey, Wasco Electric Cooperative
Geoffrey Lacefield, Northern Wasco PUD
Aaron Westfall, NW Natural Gas
John Buckley, Hood River UCC
Dale McCabe, City of The Dalles
Greg Jensen, Crestsline Construction

Alyssa Shoaf, Wasco Electric Cooperative
Jake Gilbertson, NW Natural Gas
Jesse Adams, Heath (NW Natural Gas)
Arthur Smith, Wasco County Public Works
Jerry Anderson, City of The Dalles
Weslee Cyphers, The Dalles Irrigation District

President, Weslee Cyphers called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m. from the Banquet Room at Cousins Restaurant.

Minutes

After review by the attending council, consensus was reached and the minutes from October 16, 2024, meeting were approved as submitted.

Report of Officers

President, Weslee Cyphers

- None reported.

Vice President, Brewster Whitmire - absent

President-Elect, Jesse Adams

- None reported.

Treasurer, Arthur Smith

- Reported an ending balance in the US Bank Checking Account as of November 15, 2024, \$393.38, with no outstanding payables.
- 2025 Dues will be mailed to entities in January 2025
 - Dues are \$50 annually

Recording Secretary, Jennifer Lindsey

- December WCUC meeting date, Tuesday, December 10, 2024
- 2025 Officer Nominations (voting will occur on December 10, 2024)
 - President, Jesse Adams, Heath/NW Natural Gas
 - President Elect, Brewster Whitmire, Wasco Electric Cooperative
 - President Elect, Jacob Gilbertson, NW Natural Gas
 - Vice President, Jacob Gilbertson, NW Natural Gas
 - Vice President, Weslee Cyphers, The Dalles Irrigation District
 - Treasurer, Arthur Smith, Wasco County Public Works
 - Recording Secretary, Jennifer Lindsey, Wasco Electric Cooperative
- WCUC Cousins banquet room reservation for 2025 – Jennifer will send to Addy

Unfinished business

- None reported.

New Business

- Dale McCabe with the City of The Dalles reported that the 2025 annual advertisement at Celilo Bowman Archery Range is up for renewal. The annual cost is \$100. After discussion with the Council, a motion was made and seconded by the Council to approve the 2025 annual advertisement at Celilo Bowman Archery Range for \$100. Motion approved.
 - Jacob asked the Council for recommendations for future sponsorship opportunities. If you hear of any, please let him know. In prior years WCUCC sponsored/advertised with:
 - Wasco County Fairgrounds
 - Celilo Bowman Archery Range
 - Wasco County Community Clean-Up Event
 - Cherry Festival parade

Follow-Up

- None reported

Damages

- Jacob Gilbertson with NW Natural reported that Beam Excavation hit 6 separate lines on Montello Street in Hood River.
 - The first 2 lines that were damaged, locate tickets were called in but they were expired.
 - The next 3 lines that were damaged were caused by pulling grade with bucket and snagging services
 - Last line that was damaged pulled a “T” off of main
 - Jacob filed a report with PUC
- Jacob reported that last month Wasco County had 9-12 project damages per 1000 locates; currently we are at 54 project damages per 1000 locates.
- Jerry Anderson with City of The Dalles reported that while installing a water main in the alley off 2nd & 3rd Street / The Dalles Inn, they ran into oil tank (unmarked) and multiple unmarked water lines. Locates were called in and appropriately located. Jerry inquired how any entity is supposed to know where “private” lines are located. These may or may not be included with the locates that are completed; it was suggested that when locates are requested, to reach out to the owner of the property and request any permitting that has occurred.
- Jerry Anderson also reported that utility locates were called in for jobs The City of The Dalles was working on, near 7th Street (extremely rocky area). Heath/NWN was responsive and located utilities very responsive and completed the request on time. This was appreciative of the crew.
- Sennza was boring outside of locate request on Webber & Bargeway Rd., near UPS facility, across from the storage units, The City of The Dalles didn’t have their locates marked yet and boring had started outside of the requested locate area. Jacob Gilbertson took note of this.

Round Table

Greg Jensen – Crestline Construction

- The Utility Points of Contact list that was provided, requested that a “Utility” column be added. Jennifer Lindsey will add this and requested that the council reviews the information and provides updates at the December 10, 2024 meeting.

John Buckley – Hood River UCC

- Has not had any response from the Department of Treasurer – will follow up to see if he can get things moving again
- Will reach out to Wicks Emmet and see if there is any additional information needed for the Hood River UCC

Dale McCabe – City of The Dalles Public Works

- Will be working with Crestline Construction on the following projects soon:
 - East 12th St./new storm line – from E. 12th St. & Thompson St., almost to Richmond St. City of The Dalles Council will be awarded soon.
 - W 6th St./road widening from Webber St. to Hostetler St., adding center turn lane, upgrading curbs, sidewalks
 - Storm work utility upgrades/adding storm lift station
- Winter preparations
- System maintenance

Jerry Anderson – City of The Dalles Public Works

- Vince Cobb will be retiring in the Spring of 2025. I am working on transitioning all locate requests to Lance Harrington.

Arthur Smith – Wasco County Public Works Department

- Regular maintenance
- Winter preparations

Weslee Cyphers – The Dalles Irrigation District

- Working on installing a new shut-off valve in City of The Dalles ROW on Richmond St. & 14th

Jacob Gilbertson – NW Natural Gas

- Reminding utilities that due to the new fiber initiative, we are/will see new companies in the area; just wants everyone to be prepared. You can request and pull their permits; if you are experiencing any problems or have concerns, please reach out to Jacob; he is available for all permitting issues and training both onsite and virtual.

Aaron Westfall – NW Natural Gas

- Working with the City of The Dalles on the 6’ widening project on West 6th St from Webber St. to Hostetler St.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:29 a.m. Thank you to everyone

who was in attendance. **The next meeting will be Tuesday, December 10, 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

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Recording Secretary