



**Mason County PUD No. 1
Regular Board Meeting
August 26, 2025
1:00 p.m.**

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85869053743>

Meeting ID: 858 6905 3743
1 (253) 215-8782

1) Call Regular Business Meeting to Order

2) Public Comment- *Members of the public wishing to comment may request permission to do so during the Public Comment portion of the agenda. Comments shall be limited to no more than 5 minutes per speaker. There will be no action or discussion of public comment items, although the board may defer to PUD management for any necessary response.*

3) Consent Agenda

Minutes:

Special Board Meeting August 8, 2025
Regular Board Meeting August 12, 2025

Disbursements:

Accounts Payable Wire	\$ 81,867.43
Check Nos. 127058 - 127110	\$ 756,637.81

Payroll Wire	\$ 94,458.70
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Grand Total	\$ 932,963.94
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4) Business Agenda

- a. July Financials
- b. Hwy 106 to Sunnyside Change Order No. 2

5) Staff Reports

- a. General Manager
- b. District Treasurer
- c. Water Resource Manager
- d. Legal Counsel

6) Correspondence

7) Board Comments

8) Other Business/Public Comment

9) Executive Session may be held as authorized by the Open Public Meetings Act (RCW 42.30.110)

10) Adjourn

2025 Calendar

Sept 3 & 4	Public Power Council	Portland
Sept 17-19	WPUDA Association Meetings	Grant PUD
Sept 24-26	WPUDA Water Workshop	TBD
Oct 1 & 2	Public Power Council	Portland
Oct 3	PUD 1 Customer Appreciation Event	PUD 1
Oct TBD	WPUDA/Energy Northwest Forum	Kennewick
Nov 12-14	WPUDA Association Meetings	TBD
Nov 5 & 6	Public Power Council Annual Meeting	Portland
Jan 14-16	WPUDA Association Meeting	Olympia
Jan 14	WPUDA Legislative Reception	Olympia
Feb 11-13	WPUDA Association Meeting	Olympia
Feb 11	WPUDA PUD Day on the Hill	Olympia
Feb 23-26	APPA/WPUDA Legislative Rally	Washington D.C.
Mar 18-20	WPUDA Association Meeting	Olympia
Mar 27	WPUDA Water Committee/WWUC	Vancouver
Apr 29-May 1	WPUDA Annual Conference	Suquamish
May 14	WPUDA Strategic Planning Committee	Olympia
May 18-21	NWPPA Annual Conference	Spokane
May 29	Water Committee/WWUC	Olympia
June 26-July 1	APPA National Conference	Boston, MA
July 15-17	WPUDA Association Meeting	TBD
Sep 16-18	WPUDA Association Meeting	TBD
Sep 30-Oct 2	WPUDA Water Workshop	Wenatchee
Oct 15	WPUDA Budget Committee	Olympia
Nov 18-20	WPUDA Association Meeting	Olympia



Mason County Public Utility District No. 1
Board of Commissioners Regular Board Meeting
August 12, 2025, Potlatch, Washington

Present:

Ron Gold, President
Mike Sheetz, Vice President
Jack Janda, Board Secretary (virtual)
Kristin Masteller, General Manager
Katie Arnold, District Treasurer
Brandy Milroy, Water Resource Manager
Rob Johnson, Legal Counsel
Holly Paul, Business Service Coordinator

Visitors:

None.

CALL TO ORDER: Ron called the regular meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:

Minutes:	Accounts Payable Wire	\$ 139,034.25
	Check Nos. 126976 - 127018	\$ 490,498.57
	Check Nos. 127021 – 127057	\$ 208,978.31
	Payroll Wire	\$ 103,518.66
	Check Nos. 127019 – 127020	\$ 5,383.82
	Grand Total	\$ 947,414.61

Jack made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented; Mike seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

Business Agenda:

Resolution 2097 Surplus Equipment – Jack made a motion to approve Resolution 2097 as presented; Mike seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

106 to Sunnyside – Change Order No.1 – Jack made a motion to approve Change Order No.1 in the amount of \$121,821.57; Mike seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

BPA – Rate Impact Model – The General Manager provided an overview of the BPA's Rate Impact Model. Highlighting that BPA is increasing its Tier 1 power rates by 3.52%.

June & 2nd Qtr. Financials – The District Treasurer provided a financial report for June 2025 and answered the Board of Commissioners' questions.



Mason County Public Utility District No. 1
Board of Commissioners Regular Board Meeting
August 12, 2025, Potlatch, Washington

Financial Highlights:

- Revenue – Gross Revenue was \$1,289,578 the month of June 2025.
- Expenditures –Gross expenditures were \$1,074,841 for the month of June 2025.
- As of June 30, the PUD has \$469,485 grant reimbursements outstanding for ongoing projects, which is an equivalent of about 16 days of our cash on hand.

Financial Metrics as Compared with Prior Year:	June 2025	June 2024
Total General Cash and Investments	\$848,475	\$945,196
Current Ratio (Current Assets/Current Liabilities)	2.08 to 1	2.44 to 1
Debt Service Coverage (O&M/ Debt Service)	3.88	3.44
Long-Term Debt to Net Plant	22%	26%
Total Debt to Equity Ratio (Total Liabilities/Total Equity)	33%	33%
Long Term Debt to Equity Ratio (Long Term Debt / Total Equity)	26%	30%
Times Interest Earned Ratio (Earnings before Interest & Taxes/Total Interest)	6.52	6.86
Cash on Hand (Total Available Cash/Average Daily Costs)	30 Days (General) 123 Days (All Funds)	33 Days (General) 107 Days (All Funds)

Staff Reports

General Manager – The General Manager provided an update on the current power projects: Hwy 106 to Sunnyside underground, stating they are ahead of schedule. The N. Valley Drive to Bourgault pre-construction meeting is scheduled for two weeks from now. The Manzanita substation cutover is scheduled for the end of September. Kristin submitted a grant proposal to the Department of Commerce, U.S. Economic Development Administration for the Jorstad Substation, and has started work on five additional grant proposals to support grid resiliency. She and Brandy were guest speakers at the monthly meeting of the Mason County Fire Chiefs regarding the PUD 1 fire hydrants. She informed them that a new map had been added to the website showing the locations of all PUD 1 fire hydrants. She will be attending a meeting with Lilliwaup Falls owners to discuss contract renewal options.

District Treasurer – The District Treasurer provided an update regarding the ongoing audit and the Commerce report.

Water Resource Manager – The Water Resource Manager provided an update on the current water projects, specifically for Lake Arrowhead, Shadowood, and Manzanita. She stated that Lake Arrowhead will be complete once the crew finishes the last five services. The land at Shadowood has been prepped, and the contractor is on schedule. Manzanita is scheduled to start in September.

Legal – No report.

Correspondence – Reviewed by the Board.



Mason County Public Utility District No. 1
Board of Commissioners Regular Board Meeting
August 12, 2025, Potlatch, Washington

Board Reports

Mike – Attended the PPC meeting.

Jack – No report.

Ron – No report.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – None.

Adjournment: 1:37 p.m.

Ron Gold, President

Mike Sheetz, Vice President

Jack Janda, Secretary



PUD1 – Executive Summary – July 2025

This report summarizes information on the current financial status of Mason County PUD No. 1 for the month of July 2025:

- **Work in Progress:**
 - Grant Applications – Ongoing
 - CEIP – 2026-2029
 - 2024 Financial, Accountability, and Federal Single Audit
- **Completed Projects:**
 - 2024 Annual Report (Due 05/30/25)
 - 2025 Budget
 - 2024 Privilege Tax Return (Due 02/25/25)
 - 2024 Form 7 (Due March 31, 2025)
 - 2022 / 2023 Accountability Audit
 - 2024 EIA Report (Due 04/30/25)
 - Pole Attachment Rate Update

Financial Highlights:

- Revenue – Gross Revenue was \$1,122,767 the month of July 2025.
- Expenditures –Gross expenditures were \$1,004,515 for the month of July 2025.
- As of July 31, the PUD has \$476,293 grant reimbursements outstanding for ongoing projects, which is an equivalent of about 16 days of our cash on hand.

Financial Metrics as Compared with Prior Year:	July 2025	July 2024
Total General Cash and Investments	\$858,556	\$1,066,526
Current Ratio (Current Assets/Current Liabilities)	2.12 to 1	2.25 to 1
Debt Service Coverage (O&M/ Debt Service)	3.88	3.44
Long-Term Debt to Net Plant	21%	25%
Total Debt to Equity Ratio (Total Liabilities/Total Equity)	33%	33%
Long Term Debt to Equity Ratio (Long Term Debt / Total Equity)	26%	39%
Times Interest Earned Ratio (Earnings before Interest & Taxes/Total Interest)	6.34	6.11
Cash on Hand (Total Available Cash/Average Daily Costs)	30 Days (General) 141 Days (All Funds)	40 Days (General) 165 Days (All Funds)



Mason County PUD No 1

Budget Summary by Division For the Month Ended July 31, 2025

	<u>Electric</u>	<u>Water</u>	<u>Sewer</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Total Revenue	\$ 803,568.07	\$ 318,214.46	\$ 984.05	\$ 1,122,766.58
Budgeted	\$ 774,617.33	\$ 297,438.33	\$ 1,018.00	\$ 1,073,073.66
Difference (-/+)	\$ 28,950.74	\$ 20,776.13	\$ (33.95)	\$ 49,692.92
% of Budget	104%	107%	97%	105%
 Total Expenditures	 \$ 780,495.69	 \$ 222,855.75	 \$ 1,163.69	 \$ 1,004,515.13
Budgeted	\$ 864,523.36	\$ 240,673.50	\$ 501.32	\$ 1,105,698.18
Difference (-/+)	\$ (84,027.67)	\$ (17,817.75)	\$ 662.37	\$ (101,183.05)
% of Budget	90%	93%	232%	91%
 Net Operating Margins	 \$ 23,072.38	 \$ 95,358.71	 \$ (179.64)	 \$ 118,251.45
Budgeted	\$ (89,906.03)	\$ 56,764.83	\$ 516.68	\$ (32,624.52)
Difference (-/+)	\$ 112,978.41	\$ 38,593.88	\$ (696.32)	\$ 150,875.97
% of Budget	-26%	168%	-35%	-362%



Mason County PUD No 1

Budget Summary by Division for the Seven Months Ended July 31, 2025

	<u>Electric</u>	<u>Water</u>	<u>Sewer</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Total Revenue	\$ 7,417,822.58	\$ 1,832,118.36	\$ 7,098.88	\$ 9,257,039.82
2025 Budget	\$ 11,676,446.00	\$ 3,089,780.00	\$ 12,399.00	\$ 14,778,625.00
Difference (-/+)	\$ (4,258,623.42)	\$ (1,257,661.64)	\$ (5,300.12)	\$ (5,521,585.18)
% of Budget	64%	59%	57%	63%
 Total Expenditures	 \$ 6,197,954.44	 \$ 1,509,027.30	 \$ 4,309.53	 \$ 7,711,291.27
2025 Budget	\$ 11,196,314.00	\$ 2,680,718.00	\$ 9,606.00	\$ 13,886,638.00
Difference (-/+)	\$ (4,998,359.56)	\$ (1,171,690.70)	\$ (5,296.47)	\$ (6,175,346.73)
% of Budget	55%	56%	45%	56%
 Net Operating Margins	 \$ 1,219,868.14	 \$ 323,091.06	 \$ 2,789.35	 \$ 1,545,748.55
2025 Budget	\$ 480,132.00	\$ 409,062.00	\$ 2,793.00	\$ 891,987.00
Difference (-/+)	\$ 739,736.14	\$ (85,970.94)	\$ (3.65)	\$ 653,761.55
% of Budget	254%	79%	100%	173%

Cash Flow

Beginning Cash (General Fund)	122,716.91	91,126.18	4,195.20	218,038.29
Net Operating Margin (Excluding Depreciation)	2,238,461.26	1,984,423.18	2,789.35	4,225,673.79
Cash Transferred to / from Special Funds	(168,809.64)	(373,253.56)	(280.97)	(542,344.17)
Change in Accounts Receivable	53,074.37	(13,277.21)	1,331.12	41,128.28
Change in Accounts Payable	842,112.18	(2,194.76)	0.00	839,917.42
Cash Expended on Utility Plant	(1,534,875.45)	(155,029.31)	0.00	(1,689,904.76)
Change in CWIP	(1,455,534.29)	(1,437,337.25)	(3,839.50)	(2,896,711.04)
Ending Cash (General Fund)	97,145.34	94,457.27	4,195.20	195,797.81



PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OF MASON COUNTY
N. 21971 Hwy. 101
Shelton, Washington 98584

MIKE SHEETZ, Commissioner
JACK JANDA, Commissioner
RON GOLD, Commissioner

PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACT

CHANGE ORDER FORM

NO. 02_____

The following changes are hereby incorporated into this Contract:

A. Description of Change:

It was determined that one of the vaults was not needed, reducing the installed vaults by 1.

B. Contract Price Adjustment:

As a result of this Change Order, the total Contract shall be decreased by the sum of \$3,000 plus sales tax, which the amount Contractor acknowledges is full and complete compensation for the Contract Work, including changes incorporated by this Change Order.

This Change Order shall not provide any basis for any other payments to or claims by the Contractor as a result of or arising out of the performance of the work described herein. The new total revised Contract Price is \$550,857.83, including sales tax.

C. Except as specifically provided herein, all other Contract terms and conditions shall remain unchanged.

CONTRACTOR

Company: Hanson Excavation

Accepted by: Jared Hanson

Title: Owner

Date: 8/15/2025

PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 OF MASON COUNTY

Accepted by: [Signature]

Title: [Signature]

Date: 8/19/25



Mason County PUD No. 1

22h · 🌐



Super grateful to all the partners who helped make the Vuecrest Water System Project a reality through grant funding- along with the other water projects at Ripplewood, Agate Beach, Shadowood, Lake Arrowhead, and many more in the pipeline!

Huge thanks to the **Mason County Commissioners**, **Washington State Department of Health**, and our 35th District representatives Travis Couture , **Drew MacEwen-State Senator**, and **Representative Dan Griffey** for sponsoring and championing these infrastructure projects.

PUD 1 customers are seeing real results in safe, reliable water service without impacting water rates. Thank you to everyone who continues to support our funding applications and projects, we couldn't do it without you.

Tagging our friends at **Economic Development Council of Mason County** for their partnership in making these investments happen. Full press release at **MasonWebTV**: <https://masonwebtv.com/archives/60998>

#WeHaveTheBestNeighbors



👍 31

3 shares



Like



Comment



Share

I was going to do. I'm an elderly Grandma, she had 3 heart procedures in less than a year and am still recovering.

I happened to call South Shore Apphine and they told me about the Grant. That's when God answered my prayer. "Coincidence is God's way of being anonymous."

"Thank You for being an answer to my prayer"

An 18 year Customer

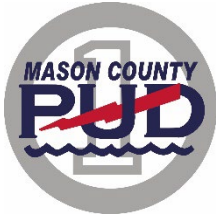
✓ Leather Williams
in Lillwaupe

Dear P D I,

Thank You for all you do for our Community. You are true heroes during our Power Outages.

A Special thank you for the Grant, Cassandra & Lisa. They are a real blessing.

It was an answer to my prayers. My washer was broken & I didn't know what



Media Release

For Immediate Release
August 19, 2025

Mason PUD 1 Celebrates Completion of Rural Water Projects

POTLATCH, WA- Mason County PUD No. 1 recently hosted a ribbon cutting to celebrate the completion of their water construction project in the Vuecrest neighborhood of Union. The PUD's Vuecrest system was one of several systems that had longstanding wait lists for connections due to system constraints on mainline and water storage capacity. Thanks to federal funding that became available in recent years through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), the PUD was able to partner with Mason County, the Washington State Department of Health, and the 35th District representatives to piece together funding packages to construct these projects that sat on the PUD's Capital Improvement Plan for years.



Ribbon Cutting at Vuecrest Water System in Union

Vuecrest, Ripplewood, Agate Beach, and Shadowood water systems all received funding from 35th District sponsors Travis Couture and Drew MacEwen in the state capital budget, along with additional ARPA funding from the Mason County Commission and the Department of Health Drinking Water State Revolving Fund. The first three projects have been completed and Shadowood is currently under construction. These projects replaced leaking mainlines, built new water reservoirs, assisted in the deployment of rural broadband in Agate and Union through joint trench opportunities, and opened more connections for property owners to connect to the public water system and finally sell or construct homes on their properties. Vuecrest also received emergency power and water interties to loop feed the development with the neighboring Union Ridge community, creating system redundancy in case of emergencies. "These PUD 1 projects are great examples of how the County and the State can partner with our special purpose districts to invest in rural infrastructure, so the high cost of construction doesn't fall solely on the public ratepayers," said Mason County Commissioner Sharon Trask, who voted to approve awarding over \$1.5 million in ARPA funding to support PUD 1 water projects.

PUD 1's General Manager, Kristin Masteller, agreed. "These partnerships have delivered extraordinary outcomes for our water customers- over \$23 million in total water system funding so far," she said. The PUD water department is already processing new applications for service on the systems that previously had wait lists and has received funding for seven additional water construction projects that are in various phases from planning to active construction. "Our water department is going to be very busy for the next several years," said Masteller. "I'm proud of the extra effort our team has put in to achieve these savings for our customers."

###

For 90 years, PUD 1 has provided non-for-profit electric, water, telecom, and wastewater services to approximately 9,000 customers in Mason and Jefferson Counties. The District's mission is to provide customers with safe, reliable and valued utility services.

For more information, contact:



Kristin Masteller
General Manager

N. 21971 Hwy. 101, Shelton, WA 98584

(360) 877-5249- Office * (360) 877-9274- Fax

EDUCATION BRIEFS

Donate supplies for Pioneer students at Walmart

The Pioneer School District hosts its annual Stuff the Bus school supply campaign from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, Saturday and Sunday at the Shelton Walmart.

Everyone is invited to donate school supplies to help Pioneer students prepare for the school year. A list of needed supplies is at the welcome tent next to the school bus and in the store. The list is also on the district's website at www.psd402.org. The supplies most in demand include crayons, Kleenex, wide-rule composition notebook paper, dry erase colored markers, small and large backpacks, tennis shoes for elementary students, inexpensive headphones, 1-inch binders and pencil sharpeners.

MMK back to school night

The Mary M. Knight School District hosts Back to School Night from 5 to 7 p.m. Aug. 22

New students and secondary students can register from 8 a.m. to noon today and from noon to 4 p.m. Friday, and from 5 to 7 p.m. Aug. 22.

The first day of the school year for students in grades one through 12 is Aug. 26. Kindergarten students start class on Sept. 2, preschool students on Sept. 9.

Back to School Festival for Shelton families

The Shelton School District hosts the annual Back to School Festival from 4:30 to 7 p.m. Aug. 22 at Olympic Middle School, 800 E. K St.

Attendees can receive information to help get a successful start to the school year. Students can pick up a free backpack filled with school supplies and get a free hot dog dinner. Community vendors



Mason County PUD No. 1 recently celebrated the completion of two large commercial lighting energy conservation projects in partnership with Brinnon School District and the Skokomish Tribe. The Skokomish Tribe partnered with the PUD to replace commercial lighting for their Tribal business offices, daycare, healthcare clinic, and police station. Brinnon School District also signed on to upgrade lighting in their K-8 school as part of their facility modernization project. PUD 1 serves electricity along the west end of Hood Canal into the town of Brinnon in south Jefferson County. The two commercial lighting grants, totaling \$28,828, are estimated to produce savings of 133,900.54 kilowatt hours each year, which translates to over \$10,734 in annual energy costs. *Photo courtesy Mason County PUD No. 1*

Highclimbers intrasquad game, parade Aug. 29

The Shelton Highclimbers Booster Club hosts the intrasquad Black vs. Red Scrimmage at 7 p.m. Aug. 29 at Highclimber Stadium at Shelton High School.

The event begins with a parade at 4 p.m. sponsored by Shelton first responders, including the

Mason County Sheriff's Office.

The Booster Club also hosts a cornhole tournament at 11 a.m. Aug. 23 at Loop Field in downtown Shelton to raise money for a safe and sober graduation party for the class of 2026. The entry fee is \$25 per team. Register your team by Aug. 21 by emailing allyson.lund17@gmail.com or calling 360-463-1528.

■ Compiled by reporter Gordon Weeks



Thank You!
 From our community to the firefighters and first responders
 battling wildfires in our area!

Mason PUD 3
 Mason County Garbage
 Mason County PUD #1
 The Mason Hotel
 Radio Fryer Foods, LLC
 Bowers Dental Group
 Dave & Brenda Windom
 Mayor Eric Onisko
 Bowman Financial Group
 Richard Beckman Realty
 Cary's Tire & Repair
 Shelton Floor Covering
 Arcadia Chevron
 HFH of Mason County

Mason County EDC
 Kevin & Catherine Shutty
 Karin Leaf
 Tiana Dunbar
 South Sound Mushroom Club
 Shop n Hop
 Windermere/Himlie, Inc.
 YSS Dive
 Tupperts Floor Coverings
 The Hardware Distillery
 Spencer Lake Bar & Grill
 Land Title Company
 Zeppelin Shipping & Tech
 The Health Care Center

Salmon Enhancement Group
 Shelton Family YMCA
 The Roof Doctor
 Olympic Mountain Millwork
 Olympic Lock & Key
 Mottet Fine Jewelry
 Edward Jones/Lori Morgan
 Kamryn Morgan
 Sally McCullough
 Shelton Dental Center
 Canalside Gifts & Liquors
 Jennifer & Roger Bly
 Nifty Thrifty
 Sunshine & Denny's Auto



TO ADD YOUR NAME TO THIS LIST:

Please join us in thanking the brave men and woman battling the wildfires in our area. Each week this month, the Journal will be running names of individuals and businesses in support of local firefighting efforts. On the last week of August, we will prepare a special "thank you card" section available to those fighting the fires that will include all names submitted. There is a one-time \$10 charge, payable at the time you add your name to the list. Names must be a maximum of 25 characters, including spaces, and are due by Tuesday at noon to be included in that week's edition. Submissions received after that time will appear in the following week's edition. Please contact Theresa Murray Biggs or Dave Pierik at 360-426-4412 to add your name or ask questions. Our hours are Monday - Thursday 8-5. CLOSED Friday.

From: [Kristin Masteller](#)
To: [Holly Paul](#)
Subject: FW: Friday Facts for Aug 22, 2025
Date: Friday, August 22, 2025 9:54:31 AM
Attachments: [image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)

For board packet.

From: wpuda@memberclicks-mail.net <wpuda@memberclicks-mail.net>
Sent: Friday, August 22, 2025 9:52 AM
To: Kristin Masteller <kristinm@mason-pud1.org>
Subject: Friday Facts for Aug 22, 2025

[WARNING] This email originated outside of Mason PUD 1, DO NOT click any links or open any attachments if you are not certain this is from a safe sender. Thank you!



A weekly update from the Washington Public Utility Districts Association

8/22/25

In this issue...

In the news

[Okanogan PUD names new General Manager](#)

[Mason PUD 1 celebrates completion of rural water projects](#)

Energy news

[BPA releases final Provider of Choice policies, decisions and contract templates](#)

[WPUDA submits comments on state's draft Comprehensive Climate Action Plan](#)

The Washington PUD Association values our Associate Members



Executive Director's Message

This week, I was saddened to learn of the passing of former Lewis County PUD Commissioner Chuck TenPas. Chuck served as WPUDA President in 2008, and many of us who had the opportunity to work with Chuck will remember him for his dedicated service to his community, our Association, and the public power community. He will be missed.

This was a busy week for our policy team. WPUDA submitted comments on the state's draft Comprehensive Climate Action Plan. The plan addresses emissions reductions to meet state goals for various sectors of the economy, including the energy sector. WPUDA's comments focused on the importance of ensuring the reliability of the grid as the state seeks to reduce carbon emissions through electrification (see story in Energy Report).

Calendar

Sept 17-19 Association meetings, Moses Lake/Grant PUD

Sept 24-26 Water Workshop, Leavenworth

Oct 8-9 Telecom Workshop, TBD

Oct 16 Budget Committee meeting, Olympia

Nov 12-14 Association Meetings, Olympia

2026 Meeting Dates

Jan 14-17 Association meetings, Olympia

[WPUDA provides input on clean energy siting and permitting recommendations](#)

[Commerce seeking to advance clean energy projects](#)

[Broadband news](#)

[NTIA publishes new guidance for BEAD funding recipients](#)

[Office of Equity wraps up 2025 regional digital equity coordination sessions](#)

[Water news](#)

[Water and wastewater operators can earn CEUs at WPUDA Water Workshop](#)

[CERB offers a new statewide network for infrastructure project collaborators](#)

[Ecology awards 300 wastewater treatment plants for top performance](#)

[Federal report](#)

[Federal nuclear power push focuses on reducing development time](#)

WPUDA also submitted input on draft recommendations by the Interagency Clean Energy Siting Coordinating Council for improving the efficiency and effectiveness of clean energy siting and permitting in Washington. Our comments underscore the state's pressing need for new transmission and generation infrastructure and the necessity of removing regulatory barriers and streamlining permitting processes (see story in Energy Report).

Next week, Friday Facts will be on vacation but will return to your inbox on September 5.

Liz Anderson
Executive Director

In the News

Okanogan PUD names new General Manager

At the August 18 Board Meeting of the PUD No. 1 of Okanogan County, the Board of Commissioners unanimously appointed Randy Bird as the utility's next General Manager.

Bird has been with Okanogan PUD for 30 years, starting his career as a Groundman before moving through various roles in operations, including his current position as Operations Manager, where he has served for the past 8 years.

"Randy has been a dedicated employee and an exceptional leader for our utility throughout his many years of service," said Board Chair Scott Vejraska. "He has deep roots in the community and a wealth of industry knowledge that will serve him well in this new role. I look forward to working with Randy as we continue to deliver exceptional service to our customers and meet the needs of our community".

Bird will officially assume the role of General Manager in October, following the transition plan established by the board

To return to main menu, click [here](#).

Mason PUD 1 celebrates completion of rural water projects

Mason County PUD No. 1 recently hosted a ribbon-cutting to celebrate the completion of their water construction project in the Vuecrest neighborhood of Union. The PUD's Vuecrest system was one of several systems that had longstanding wait lists for connections due to system constraints on mainline and water storage capacity. Thanks to federal funding that became available in recent years through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), the PUD was able to partner with Mason County, the Washington State Department of Health, and the

Jan 14 Legislative Reception, Olympia

Feb 11-13 Association meetings, Olympia

Feb 11 PUD Day on the Hill, Olympia

Feb 23-26 APPA/WPUDA Legislative Rally, Washington D.C.

Mar 18-20 Association meetings, Olympia

Apr 29-May 1 WPUDA Annual Conference, Suquamish Clearwater Resort and Casino, Kitsap County

May 29 Water Committee/WWUC meeting, Olympia

July 15-17 Association meetings, TBD

Sept 16-18 Association meetings, TBD

Sept 30-Oct 2 Water Workshop, Wenatchee

Oct 15 Budget Committee meeting, Olympia

Nov 18-20 Association meetings, Olympia

To return to main menu, click [here](#).

Department of Agriculture adds hurdle to solar development

Legal challenges to greenhouse gas plan loom over EPA hearing

DOJ wants to join lawsuits on emission limits for heavy trucks

35th District representatives to piece together funding packages to construct these projects that sat on the PUD's Capital Improvement Plan for years.

Vuecrest, Ripplewood, Agate Beach, and Shadowood water systems all received funding from 35th District sponsors, Travis Couture and Drew MacEwen, in the state capital budget, along with additional ARPA funding from the Mason County Commission and the Department of Health's Drinking Water State Revolving Fund.

The first three projects have been completed and Shadowood is currently under construction. These projects replaced leaking mainlines, built new water reservoirs, assisted in the deployment of rural broadband in Agate and Union through joint trench opportunities, and opened more connections for property owners to connect to the public water system and finally sell or construct homes on their properties. Vuecrest also received emergency power and water interties to loop feed the development with the neighboring Union Ridge community, creating system redundancy in case of emergencies. "These PUD 1 projects are great examples of how the County and the State can partner with our special purpose districts to invest in rural infrastructure, so the high cost of construction doesn't fall solely on the public ratepayers," said Mason County Commissioner Sharon Trask, who voted to approve awarding over \$1.5 million in ARPA funding to support PUD 1 water projects.

PUD 1's General Manager, Kristin Masteller, agreed. "These partnerships have delivered extraordinary outcomes for our water customers- over \$23 million in total water system funding so far," she said. The PUD is already processing new applications for service on the systems that previously had wait lists and has received funding for seven additional water construction projects that are in various phases from planning to active construction. "Our water department is going to be very busy for the next several years," said Masteller. "I'm proud of the extra effort our team has put in to achieve these savings for our customers."

Pictured below: Ribbon cutting at Vuecrest Water System in Union

