# PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 OF FERRY COUNTY REGULAR MEETING OF COMMISSIONERS May 21, 2007

The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order by President Chris Kroupa at 9:02 a.m. Present were Commissioners Chris Kroupa, Gregg Caudell and Nathan Davis, Manager Roberta Weller, General Foreman Randy Sage, Attorney Steve Graham who joined the meeting at 10:02 a.m., Auditor Jennine Groth and Secretary/Treasurer Jayne Jurgensen.

Visitors: Hugh Maycumber, Vicki Guilliott, Kim Gillen, Cleave Ives, and Todd Bowe

All stood for the Flag Salute which was lead by Commissioner Davis.

The minutes of the March meeting were reviewed, corrected and approved by a motion duly made, seconded and carried.

The meeting was turned to the visitors. Dr. Maycumber stated that he had been asked to attend by American Legion Commander Dennis Wuerth.

Ms. Gillen, representing the Forget Me Not Animal Shelter, was seeking assistance for their building project. The Shelter has recently relocated and, as a non-profit entity, is hoping for a reduction in the cost of the electrical installation. Commissioner Kroupa questioned the legal status of such a request of Attorney Graham. Attorney Graham advised, by way of disclosure, that he does have a tie with the Shelter as he has adopted an animal and also provided private donations and has assisted their board with legal services. He is aware that the Utility has in the past made donations to different non-profit organizations i.e., school events. He is also aware that the Utility is different than the County who has specific tourism funding which can be used for a specific project. There is also a prohibition of the Government making gifts of public funds. Would have to research the matter further. Commissioner Kroupa stated that it would not be possible to waive the installation fees and recommended an application to the Economic Revolving Loan Fund be obtained. Mr. Cleave Ives joined the meeting at 9:14 a.m.

The Board was in concurrence.

Mrs. Guilliott stated that she is present as a concerned citizen regarding the firing of Marilee Schertenleib. Mrs. Guilliott added that Ms. Schertenleib is a very dedicated employee who loved her job. Commissioner Kroupa advised that the Board has not had an opportunity to discuss the matter with the Manager and is not prepared to provide an answer. The matter will be discussed later in the day. Commissioner Caudell added that Mrs. Guilliott could request a copy of the meeting minutes and further urged her to visit with the Manager who could answer any questions or concerns. Mrs. Guilliott thanked the Board and exited the meeting at 9:18 a.m.

Mr. Ives stated that he was interested in the meetings and wished to observe.

Ms. Gillen exited the meeting at 9:19 a.m.

## Reports:

The General Foreman's Report was presented by Randy Sage:

- 1. Will be working closely with the American Legion regarding the various banners they will be displaying throughout the year. Dr. Maycumber questioned whether it would be possible to have a light mounted on the flag pole in the park in order to permanently display a flag.
- 2. The line extension has been completed for the Beal Pit.
- 3. There are approximately twenty line extension work orders to be completed.

Commissioner Caudell questioned the work being done on the Chris Jurgensen property. General Foreman Sage explained that the service will be converted to underground. Payment has been received and the Utility is now waiting for the water to drain from the ditch. The ditch location is acceptable and once the cable is laid and the ditch backfilled there will be no further issue. It is not possible to lay the cable in the water filled ditch as the cable tends to float out of place. The primary wire used comes inside a poly duct and when purchased as a unit cost \$2.75 per foot. When purchased separately the cost is \$2.85 per foot.

4. Basin Tree Service crew is working on both sides of Curlew Lake. This portion of the system will again be left on normal reclosure with the taps going into forested areas put on non-reclosure when the fire danger warrants a change. The Utility is now using what is considered the first generation in mechanical reclosures with other utilities using improved units which are second or third generation. As other utilities replace their reclosures they become available to the District.

Mr. Dennis Wuerth joined the meeting at 9:32 a.m.

5. Specialty Engineering performed the annual regulator and reclosure maintenance and were able to

- complete seven regulators. At this time, the Utility has twenty-four reclosures in operation.
- 6. A consumer in the Lost Lake area reported an outage approximately two weeks ago. They also reported that the power line had been torn down and a pole broken off. Upon meeting with the customer and viewing the area, it became obvious that the damage was the result of the logging done in the area. The timber had been purchased by Vaagen Brothers Lumber who then hired a contractor to remove the timber. The Tonasket Ranger District was contacted and the sale administrator advised that he was aware of the downed power line. He felt that this had been a natural occurrence and did not feel it necessary to report it to the Utility. Have met with representatives of Vaagen Lumber as well as other mechanical feller operators and all have agreed that the damage was the result of the mechanical tree harvesting. Vaagen Brothers Lumber has agreed to pay the cost of repairs which is approximately \$3,700. The Tonasket Ranger District had requested that the power in the area be turned off during the logging period. This request had been denied due to the number of consumers in the area. The Forest Service stated that they were not aware that the lines were energized. The line did go down on a barbed wire fence which was then energized. In the event any of the Commissioners have the opportunity to meet with the Forest Service they were asked to encourage the Forest Service to be more vigilant. Commissioner Caudell recommended that a letter of appreciation be written to Vaagen Lumber thanking them for paying the bill. He also asked that a letter be written to the Forest Service in Tonasket encouraging them to advise the Utility if they encounter similar issues in the future and to also remind them that we are partners and to provide them with an outage report. Commissioner Kroupa asked that the letter to the Forest Service be more specific regarding this issue and should explain the danger created for the public and the forest. Commissioner Davis agreed that the Forest Service should be made aware of the danger created. Manager Weller will prepare both letters on behalf of the Board.

Mr. Wuerth questioned how the Utility learns of an outage. It was explained that the District relies on it's consumers to report outages as it uses no automated type of outage reporting system.

7. Attended the CAB meeting. The primary focus was on the customer concern process. The water issue at the mine site has extended the process for approximately thirty days.

Commissioner Kroupa questioned letters sent to each member of the Board from Michael and Kathleen Lust regarding a meter installation issue. As the letter explained, these customers purchased a CT meter last year, the Utility installed the meter and now these customers have been notified that an error was made in the billing and there is a sizeable bill due. Commissioner Kroupa questioned how errors as this can be eliminated. He further expressed concern as the same situation occurred at the new Keller medical clinic. General Foreman Sage stated that, in the future, he will review the connect data for these specific meters before the information is entered into the computer system.

Commissioner Davis explained that he received a telephone call from consumers regarding a hazardous tree. General Foreman Sage explained that he will visit with this customer today. This customer, and another individual representing them, contacted the office quite a number of times late last week requesting that a tree leaning over their trailer home be removed. It had been explained to these folks that the land owner must be contacted to have the tree removed as the power line was not in danger. The customers also contacted the Sheriff's office on Saturday for a call-out regarding the emergency leaning tree. The tree was not removed and it was suggested that the travel trailer be relocated.

Mr. Sage was thanked for his time and he exited the meeting at 10:09 a.m.

A brief recess was called at 10:10 a.m. with the meeting reconvening at 10:15 a.m. Conservation Director John Friederichs joined the meeting and Mr. Maycumber and Mr. Ives did not return.

Mr. Friederichs presented the Conservation Report.

- 1. Attended a very worthwhile B.P.A. sponsored energy efficiency workshop in Portland. Was a member of a panel discussing the Energy Smart grocer program.
- 2. One customer has shown very favorable interest in the Renewable Energy System Cost Recovery Program. Have yet to be advised by the Department of Revenue whether the customer is approved.
- 3. The public utility tax credit for transportation services did not pass. Hospital Administrator O'Halloran has begun working on the project for 2008.
- 4. Have no further word from PECI regarding the Energy Smart Grocer Program. They have yet to set the date for further work with local businesses.
- 5. Will be promoting a \$1,250.00 rebate on Energy Star manufactured homes.
- 6. If the Utility hasn't expended more than one-half of the allocated CRC funding by June a plan is to be submitted detailing how the conservation goals will be met.
- 7. Eich's Mercantile will be offering high-quality compact fluorescent lights again. The Utility will issue a vendor rebate to defray the cost and enable them to sell the cfl's at a lower cost. There are two different credit rates offered by B.P.A. A \$2.50 rebate will be offered for regular bulbs and

\$4.50 will be offered for hard to reach areas. Hard to reach bulbs will be installed by Mr. Eich's employees, for those individuals who have qualified under the Utility's low-income senior citizen program.

- 8. Planning for the photovoltaic system for the Assisted Living Facility will be started anew as the agreed upon supporting infrastructure was not installed prior to the roof installation.
- 9. Work continues on the wood waste-to-Methanol project.
- 10. Participates in a working group that is working on a utility-grade solar inverter. A proto-type should be available and testing completed by the end of June and an operating field version available in August. The group is trying to develop an inverter that can be installed by either the homeowner or utility. Labor and Industries is now determining if this would be termed as a wiring device if it is installed above or below the meter.

Manager Weller questioned the status of the proposed pellet manufacturing facility. Mr. Friederichs reported that the gentleman is moving forward independently. The proposed industrial park is still moving forward. The Republic PDA has been approved for the funding to purchase the Torboy property and Kinross has offered all of the buildings from the Lamefoot site. Kinross has also agreed to provide the equipment and labor to dismantle and load the buildings on trucks for transport to the new site. The buildings must be relocated by the fall of 2007.

Mr. Friederichs was thanked for his report and he exited the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Jayne Jurgensen:

- 1. Operating Funds available as of May 10, 2007 were \$1,587,851.34 with restricted funds of \$1,303,205.37. There were eight outages in the month of April for a year-to-date total of twenty-four compared to forty-five for the same period in 2006. The Revolving Loan/Grant Fund and the High Cost Grant repayment reports were reviewed.
- 2. Summaries of revenue and expenses of the credit card program, B.P.A. Power and Transmission payments, Treasurer's monthly funds available, and Kinross monthly kWh consumption and revenue were presented.
- 3. A report on a workshop entitled "How to Understand and Comply with Collection Law" attended on May 8, 2007 was presented.

A brief recess was called at 11:20 a.m. with the meeting reconvening at 11:25 a.m. Auditor Groth joined the meeting at this time.

The Auditor's Report was presented by Jennine Groth:

- 1. The voucher listing was reviewed with the Board and questions answered. The Board approved Warrants Numbers 1182 through 1365 in the amount of \$613,258.67 by a motion made by Commissioner Caudell, seconded by Commissioner Davis and unanimously carried.
- 2. The Energy Statistical Data portion of the Financial and Statistical Report was reviewed by the Board. The balance of the report is not available as the month of March has yet to be closed in the new computer system. The D. Hittle report was also not presented due to the absence of month end closing reports.
- 3. A telephone call was received from B.P.A. account representative Ken Hustad drawing the Board's attention to an email discussing B.P.A.'s suspension of the REP payments.

Commissioner Caudell stated that the WPUDA has made the decision to delegate the B.P.A. issue <u>added at 06/18 Board Meeting: for residential exchange issues</u> to PPC. Also, Mr. Saven with N.R.U. is one of the better sources to keep everyone informed. It is not know <u>n</u> at this time whether a refund for previous payments will be coming and if so, how much that refund may be. Asked that the Board write a letter to our Congressional Delegation celebrating our victory and thanking them for holding the line. Commissioner Kroupa added that he didn't see any harm in writing the letter even though it would strictly be for public relations purposes as the delegation had little to do with the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals. Commission Davis was in agreement with the letter in so much that it was supportive of what the delegation has already done. Commissioner Caudell stressed the importance of knowing how this will affect the Utility's B.P.A. rates. This information will be needed for the June Board meeting.

Auditor Groth exited the meeting at 11:47 a.m.

The Manager's Report was presented by Roberta Weller: Correspondence:

- 1. The Northwest Power and Conservation Council's revised 2008 budget is available on-line.
- 2. APPA is questioning whether the Utility wishes to participate in the EPRI Trouble Truck Project. This is intended to send a strong message to the automotive industry stressing the need for plug-in vehicles.
- 3. APPA has also notified the Utility that Alan Richardson, President and CEO, is retiring in December. A letter of appreciation or appropriate notes were requested.
- 4. Nominations of individuals interested in serving on the NW Power & Conservation Council's Fish Passage Oversight Board are due by May 23. No response.

- 5. Information has been received from B.P.A. advising that they have reached the proposed settlement on three lawsuits with B.P.A. and Southern California Edison.
- 6. Notice has also been received from B.P.A. that the new western services representative is Scott Coe.
- 7. A request has been received from the Omak Chronicle for the cost of advertising in this newspaper. Decision was tabled until the June Board meeting. It was pointed out that the Republic News-Miner is the official newspaper of Ferry County.

Commissioner Davis questioned the status of the Internet advertising. Manager Weller explained that there is currently an issue with Mr. Brian Ellis as he is unable to provide the services as detailed. Mr. Ellis has cashed the payment. Attorney Graham has been contacted regarding the matter and has advised that the Utility did make an oral contract with Mr. Ellis. There is the possibility that a refund may be due the Utility as no spring sports advertising was presented. An invoice detailing what the advertising was to consist of was provided to the Utility for payment.

Mr. Wuerth questioned why the Utility would not have a contract in place for services to be provided. He also questioned the status of the availability of the Board Meeting minutes and Agenda on the website. It was explained that the website is being updated to accommodate this information. Mr. Wuerth further questioned the employee satisfactory survey as discussed during the April Board Meeting. Commissioner Kroupa explained that the results of the survey have recently been provided to the Board and that no discussion has occurred regarding the information. Mr. Wuerth further questioned whether a survey would be extended to customers in order to have a better understanding of the service provided. Mr. Wuerth was thanked for his input.

The meeting recessed as 12:08 p.m. for lunch reconvening at 1:12 p.m.

Effective July 21, 2007 the Commissioners will receive a salary increase. <u>Corrected at 06/18/07 Bd Mtg - not salary increase but per diem increase due to legislation SHB1458.</u>

#### Manager Weller continued her report:

- 8. A letter has been received from the Republic Mat Club Wrestling Team. The letter detailed what the group has accomplished and requested any financial assistance available. Attorney Graham was again asked for his opinion. He advised that he has not researched the Utility's position on financial support and will have an answer for the June Board Meeting. This request and any others to be presented were tabled until the June Board Meeting. Manager Weller advised that the Board Meeting Minutes always reflect the wording "sponsor" which indicates the Utility will be receiving something of value in return. Attorney Graham added that Manager Weller is on top of the situation and he would concur with her. The Board briefly discussed the Mat Club's request and was in concurrence that they would sponsor the group in the amount of \$50.00.
- 9. An advertisement has been received for the Wauconda Hall Fabulous Sock Hop and Car Show scheduled for July 21. The Board was in concurrence that they would sponsor this event in the amount of \$50.00.
- 10. A letter has been received from the Curlew Civic Club requesting \$48 to help cover the cost of the rental of a portable toilet. The toilet will be located in downtown Curlew through the summer. The Board was in concurrence that the Utility would sponsor this much needed addition in the amount of \$48.00.

### Meetings:

- 1. A one-hour audio conference has been scheduled for May 24 for all office personnel. The conference is entitled "REV How to Create and Sustain a Positive Workplace Culture" and the cost is \$199.00.
- 2. The notification for the 2007 APPA Community and Economic Development Conference has been received. The conference will be held in Portland, OR July 29 through August 1 and is sponsored by NWPPA.
- 3. The 67<sup>th</sup> Annual NWPPA Conference is being held in Spokane beginning May 21 through May 24. The Board has been invited to attend the NW Requirements Breakfast hosted by John Saven. Commissioners Caudell and Davis will attend.

Mr. Todd Bowe joined the meeting at 1:41 p.m.

## General Business:

- 1. Commissioner Kroupa was thanked for obtaining \$2,000 from Energy Northwest to help cover the Jolts and Volts display at the September Ferry County Fair. B.P.A. has also agreed to provide \$500 for the program as well. Continuing to work with the Ferry County Memorial Hospital in hopes that they will sponsor the sister program in the amount of \$2,500.
- 2. Lineman Bill Knutz will participate in the Curlew Job Corps Career Day on May 23.
- 3. Two used laser printers have been received from Energy Northwest. Have requested additional printers with hopes that the next ones will be color printers.
- 4. The AED machine has been received. Charlie Jones with ESCI has agreed to review the machine

- and include the use and operation at the June 7 First Aid and CPR training for District personnel.
- 5. Changes have been developed for Sections 4.3 and 25 of the Utility's Policy Handbook. These sections pertain to damage to Utility property and how individuals will be charged for the repairs. Attorney Graham has assisted in developing the proper terminology. The changes were discussed with no decision made. The matter was tabled until the June Board Meeting.
- 6. Attended the Manager's Section Meeting. The main topic of discussion was the climate change. Commissioner Caudell questioned the Manager's opinion of the topics discussed. He added that he has been considering holding the Commissioner and Manager meetings at the same time so that all hear the same information.
- 7. The new computer system is moving along. All of the needed files have been provided to PCS with the exception of payment history. Commissioner Caudell questioned whether Mr. Beckner was charging more than was in the budget. Manager Weller advised that he is less expensive than PCS. The live billing in July is dependent upon the information PCS was provided through the past weekend. The head of PCS came to Republic to work with Auditor Groth.
- 8. The documentation has been received showing that Justin Koepke has obtained his Lineman Certification.
- 9. The option of transferring funds into the Revolving Loan Fund was presented to the Board. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Caudell to increase the donation amount to \$50,000 with a \$25,000 reduction in taxes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Davis and unanimously approved. The transfer will be effective after the State has provided their approval.
- 10. Working with an individual, representing the Colville Confederated Tribes, who has requested a refund of excise and privilege taxes paid on the commercial accounts. There are a total of nineteen commercial account on the Indian Reservation. A letter has been written to the Department of Revenue requesting a refund from the State. When this refund is received the amount will be refunded to the Tribes.
- 11. The Board was asked to select a jacket style for Utility jackets. Two commissioners do not have Utility jackets as well as a number of new employees. No decision was made.
- 12. An email was sent to the Board Friday afternoon advising that the employment of the Deputy Auditor has been terminated. The Board went into Executive Session at 2:02 p.m. for approximately thirty minutes for the purpose of discussing pending litigation. The Board came out of Executive Session at 2:30 p.m. to extend the length of the Executive Session one-half hour. The Board came out of Executive Session at 3:00 p.m. for the purpose of extending the Executive Session an additional one-half hour. The Board came out of Executive Session at 3:30 for the purpose of extending the Executive Session for an additional twenty-five minutes. The Board returned to regular session at 3:45 p.m.

### The Attorney's Report was presented by Attorney Graham:

1. The Service Area Boundary with Ferry County P.U.D. and Okanogan County P.U.D. continues to be discussed. The Okanogan County P.U.D. Attorney has requested a statement on arbitration regarding boundary disputes in relation to services area.

### Mr. Todd Bowe returned to the meeting at 3:50 p.m.

- Established service areas are effective for twenty-five years unless terminated earlier by mutual agreement of all parties. Resolution 07-05 "A Resolution to Establish Service Territory Boundary" was adopted by a motion made by Commissioner Davis, seconded by Commissioner Caudell and unanimously carried. The Board authorized Manager Weller to sign the Agreement.
- 2. The Board was provided an update of the Steinbock case. Attorney Anthony Castelda has withdrawn as their representative. To date, is not aware of a new attorney. The Utility has requested a jury trial
- 3. A letter sent to the Board from a consumer who did not feel that they should be back-charged for a Utility error was discussed. Attorney Graham advised that it is immaterial whether the customer should have noticed an obvious error. They received unjust enrichment, they received the service and power and compensation to the Utility needs to be rendered. The consumers have yet to contact the Manager. Commissioner Davis added that this was a Utility mistake and that a little give and take may be helpful. Would like to see another letter written stating that the Utility would like to work through the situation. He further questioned if there was a possibility of reducing the billing. Attorney Graham advised that it is the Utility's decision whether the consumer owes the entire amount. It is important that the District treat all customers in such a scenario the same. Commissioner Davis asked that the Policy be reviewed for future situations. Commissioner Kroupa was in agreement and added that he does not want the same thing to happen again.
- 4. Commissioner Caudell has emailed information regarding commissioner district boundary adjustments that were accomplished in Benton County and requested research on the matter. Commissioner Caudell stated that he was in fact asking Attorney Graham to determine how the Utility can change it's Commissioner boundaries. He added that the Utility is twenty years behind in looking at the voting districts although this was attempted recently, the changes were not handled correctly. When territory is changed the District has to look at voting districts and with the possible

annexation of Okanogan County residents it is again time to look into redistricting. The previous change was implemented based on voters rather than population. Mr. Bowe stated that he is of the understanding that the districts are established to represent different areas not just population and that the Census stopped at the Reservation Boundary. Mr. Bowe added that it has been explained to him that Commissioner Caudell is particularly interested in re-zoning because he is living outside of his district. Commissioner Caudell stated that he has a post office box in Keller and that he lives just North of Bridge Creek and that the home they are living in is being renovated to be sold. The majority of his time is spent at 12936 Highway 21. Mr. Bowe then asked to learn the motives for changing the boundary. Commissioner Caudell advised that he would like to see the votes equalized for those running for office. Mr. Bowe stated that he was interested in seeing that things were going the right way and as Commissioners it is their job to minimize costs and to pass it on. He wants to make certain the Commissioners are doing their jobs. Commissioner Caudell explained that there is an area in Wauconda served by the P.U.D. and has been for a number of years. This is part of the reason the Okanogan boundary was moved to include that area. People in that area have the right to run for P.U.D. Commissioner even though they don't live in this County. Some of these individuals approached the Utility to be annexed by the P.U.D. to allow them to vote on issues pertinent to this Utility. The largest population is currently in District 2. Commissioner Kroupa added that the Okanogan County service area boundary clarification included an issue with the new mine. He further explained that the Utility's customers living in Okanogan County are putting together a petition, a grass roots effort, to have input into the Utility that serves them. This proposal was not begun by the Utility. Mr. Bowe stated that he would like to know more about the change and he was encouraged to contact Sonny Rounds.

Commissioner Caudell exited the meeting at 4:20 p.m.

Commissioner Kroupa stated that any sensitive matters would be tabled until the June Board meeting.

A brief recess was called at 4:25 p.m. with the meeting reconvening at 4:27 p.m.

Manager Weller provided a copy of the letter that she sent to Mr. and Mrs. Lust regarding the back charges. Commissioner Kroupa advised that nothing further can be accomplished until the Utility understands their decision. Manager Weller stated that this matter was handled in the same manner that all of the others have been handled. Commissioner Kroupa stated that he is certainly sympathetic to the situation and restated that he wants to fix the problems so that this doesn't happen again. Anything further on the matter will be tabled to the June Board Meeting.

Mr. Bowe stated that he is new to the P.U.D. Board meetings and questioned whether evening meetings were ever scheduled. This would allow those people who work during the day to attend. Commissioner Davis stated that he would not be opposed to evening meetings and presented the possibility of half day meetings with an additional half-day evening meeting. Commissioner Kroupa advised that if a meeting is less than four hours the Board would not receive compensation and that adding meetings will increase the mileage costs of the Board. He stated that Commissioner Caudell should be present before any decisions are made and that this could be brought to the June Board meeting.

Commissioner Davis stated that he had expressed an interest in having the minutes in a more accessible area on the website. He would also like to see the Minutes for a minimum of twelve months.

Commissioner Davis stated that the Board voted at the April Board Meeting to send a reply to the Utility employees acknowledging the receipt of their letter. He questioned whether this had taken place. Commissioner Kroupa stated that there wasn't an effort made to avoid the employees and that the Board had directed Manager Weller, more or less, to send the letter. Manager Weller stated that the Board had not directed her to write the letter and that she had confirmed this with Attorney Graham. Mr. Bowe questioned the Board as to the content of the letter and whether it would be available to him. Attorney Graham stated that the Board had decided that there would be a response and that Commissioner Caudell had abstained from voting. Mr. Bowe again questioned the contents of the letter. Commissioner Kroupa explained that there is a certain displeasure as to what is happening within the Utility. This matter could lead to litigation and he is reluctant to discuss. Commissioner Davis stated that he wants to recognize that the Board did get the letter. He continued by stating that concern has been expressed regarding the process of dealing with problems in that it is not fair and equal which leads to contention with morale dropping. Commissioner Kroupa stated that he wanted to make it clear that what Mr. Bowe was being told was one Commissioner's opinion and not that of the whole Board and that he was not certain of the legal issues involved. Attorney Graham advised that the letter is public record and that Mr. Bowe would need to talk to those individuals who signed the letter to obtain first hand information. He further advised Commissioner Kroupa who, as President of the Board, can receive questions from a member of the public when they are present at Board meetings. He can state that questions will be answered only when all Commissioners are present. Commissioner Kroupa explained that the Utility conducted an employee survey and that a clean-cut response

is not available and that it will be a couple of months before there is a result to the survey. Mr. Bowe questioned whether he could talk to anyone who signed the letter to the Board. Attorney Graham again advised that he could speak to those individuals who signed the letter. Commissioner Kroupa again stated that he does not have any clear-cut answers and until the Board comes to a resolution as to what they are going to do he can't really help. The letter in question did not provide specifics as to what their concerns were and the Board is working very hard to resolve issues and is working very hard to satisfy things and would further ask that Mr. Bowe be careful and not stir things up. He prefers to not talk about the letter until all Commissioners are present as there are not specific answers to be given at this time.

Commissioner Davis again brought the response to the Utility employees before the Board. He stated that this can't be ignored for months on end. He suggested mailing to each employee, a simple memo explaining what the Board agreed to say. Commissioner Kroupa agreed to a simple memo, posted in the office and shop, stated as per the April Board Meeting Minutes. Attorney Graham stated that this was very vague and questioned who would sign the memo, the Commissioners or Manager. The Board will sign the memo which will be drafted by Commissioner Davis and emailed to the other two Commissioners.

Mr. Bowe questioned whether the financial reports were of public record. Commissioner Kroupa advised that they were available and that Mr. Bowe should contact Manager Weller for the information. Manager Weller recommended that Mr. Bowe come to the office to review the reports that are available as there will be a fee associated with copying the documents.

Lobbying: None

With no further business to come before the Board, the Meeting was adjourned at 4:56 p.m.

	BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. ONE FERRY COUNTY, WASHINGTON
	President
ATTEST:	Vice-President
Secretary	APPROVED:
	Manager