

**JEFFERSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

AGENDA REQUEST

TO: Board of County Commissioners
Mark McCauley, County Administrator

FROM: Brent A. Butler, AICP, Chief Strategy Officer

DATE: January 22, 2024

SUBJECT: Water Utility Coordinating Committee Appointments

STATEMENT OF ISSUE:

On January 16, 2024, the Chief Strategy Officer recommended that the Board of County Commissioners ("BoCC") adopt a resolution repealing action formally appointing the existing Water Utility Coordinating Committee ("WUCC") members to establish a new WUCC, as set forth by resolution (see Attachment 1). After accepting public input, the BoCC directed staff to include in the resolution that all newly appointed members would receive full voting rights and to amend language specific to WUCC position number 7 to state that this Water Utility Coordinating Committee member shall represent a purveyor with less than 50 customers.

ANALYSIS:

The resolution incorporates the BoCC's direction after accepting public input.

FISCAL IMPACT/COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS:

A scope of work will be advertised within the next three weeks to obtain the cost for a consultant to update the Coordinated Water System Plan. Pursuant to the BoCC's direction, the scope of work will separate optional from mandatory Coordinated Water System Plan deliverables.

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt the attached resolution.

REVIEWED BY:


Mark McCauley, County Administrator


Date

Attachment 1 – Water Utility Coordinating Committee Resolution

STATE OF WASHINGTON

County of Jefferson

A Resolution Repealing Water Utility
Coordinating Committee Appointments and
Establishing New Water Utility Coordinating
Committee Appointees

RESOLUTION NO. _____

WHEREAS, the Water Resources Act of 1971, RCW 90.54, sets forth Washington State's fundamentals for water resource management recognizing the critical importance of providing and securing sufficient water to meet the needs of people, farms, and fish; and

WHEREAS, the Public Water Systems Coordination Act of 1977 formerly codified as RCW 70.116.010, and currently codified in RCW 70A.100.010 creates Critical Water Supply Service Areas in Washington State pursuant to RCW 70.116.040 where uncoordinated planning, inadequate water quality or unreliable service appear to exist; and

WHEREAS, as set forth in resolution 97-83, Jefferson County Commissioners participated in a meeting concerning a preliminary assessment of problems related to public water supply service with more than 60 representatives of public water systems in the county, the Jefferson County Public Utility District Commission and staff, Jefferson County Planning Department and other interested parties on September 27, 1983; and

WHEREAS, as set forth in resolution 97-83, the Jefferson County Commissioners declared the whole of Jefferson County a Critical Water Supply Service Area and granted the Jefferson County Public Utility District the principal responsibility for the staffing, funding and administration of the Public Water System Coordination Act and related activities; and

WHEREAS, as set forth in resolution 118-83, the Board of County Commissioners reaffirmed their acceptance of the preliminary assessment prepared for the implementation of the Public Water Service Coordination Act in Jefferson County and the Water Utility Coordinating Committee's recommendation that the external boundaries for the Critical Water Supply Service Area (declared in Resolution 97-83) be established as the boundaries of Jefferson County

WHEREAS, the Jefferson County Community Development Department, the Jefferson County Public Health Department and the Washington State Department of Health participated in meetings on October 27, 2023 and January 5, 2024 with the Jefferson County Public Utility District (PUD), as set forth in the January 16, 2024 agenda request before the Board of County Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, the PUD continues to find uncoordinated planning, inadequate water quality or unreliable service and recommends that the Jefferson County Board of Commissioners update the Coordinated Water System Plan to resolve those issues; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners determined that it is necessary to repeal the appointment of existing members to the Water Utility Coordinating Committee (WUCC), and appoint new members since there is no reliable record of the existing members given its establishment more than thirty years ago; and

WHEREAS, Jefferson County is a political subdivision of the state of Washington as provided by [Title 36 RCW](#) and the Washington State Constitution [Article 11](#), and may revise the membership of the Water Utility Coordinating Committee when carried out in a manner consistent with the Washington Administrative Code, Chapter 246-293-150.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF JEFFERSON COUNTY:

Section 1. The “Whereas” Clauses stated above are adopted as findings of fact.

Section 2. The Water Utility Coordinating Committee shall consist of the following members, all with full voting rights:

Water Utility Coordinating Committee	
Member (Position Number)	Alternate
(1) County Commissioner	Determined by BoCC
(2) Jefferson County Public Health Director	Determined by PH Director
(3) Jefferson County Community Development Department (DCD) Director,	Determined by DCD Director
(4) City of Port Townsend Public Works Director	Determined by City Public Works Director
(5) Public Utility District Number 1 General Manager	Determined by PUD General Manager
(6) Olympic Sewer and Water, Inc. President	Vice President of Olympic Sewer and Water
(7) Stakeholder appointed by the Board of County Commissioners Representing a Group A or Group B water utility in Jefferson County with fewer than 50 customers	Determined by the Board of County Commissioners

Section 3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption by the Board of County Commissioners.

(SIGNATURES FOLLOW ON THE NEXT PAGE)

APPROVED and ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2024.

JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS

Kate Dean, Chair

SEAL:

Greg Brotherton, Member

Heidi Eisenhour, Member

ATTEST:

Carolyn Gallaway, CMC Date
Clerk of the Board

Approved as to form only:

Philip Hunsucker Date
Chief Civil Deputy Prosecuting
Attorney