



CITY OF ELLENSBURG

Date of Meeting

Time of Meeting

Place of Meeting

Minutes of Utility Advisory Committee, Regular Meeting

May 21, 2026

3:30 PM

Council Conference Room

501 North Anderson Street

Ellensburg, WA 98926

Or remotely via Zoom

- <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83931522564>

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Bousson called the meeting to order at 3:30pm.

Members present in person: Jeff Bousson, Chair/CWU, Delano Palmer, City Council, Fred Springsteen, Utility Customer, Charolette Tullos, Utility Customer, Frederick Padjen, Utility Customer, Camber Owlsym, Utility Customer.

Others present in person: City Manager Behrends Cerniwey, Energy Services Director Stanavich, Energy Resources Manager Baker, Gas Engineer Yusi, Finance Officer Bair, Telecom Manager Hiede, and members of the public.

Others present remotely via Zoom: Rate Analyst Mooers, members of the public.

2. Approval of Agenda

Committee member Bouson moved to Approve the Agenda as presented. **Motion Approved 6-0**

3. Approval of Minutes

3.A Utility Advisory Committee Meeting 4-16-26 Minutes

Committee member Bouson moved to Approve the Minutes from the meeting.

Motion Approved 6-0

4. Correspondence and Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items

No public comment.

5. Electric, Natural Gas, and Telecommunications Discussion Items

5.A Bonneville Power Administration Provider of Choice Above-CHWM Election
Nichole Baker, Energy Resource Manager introduced Bonneville Power Administration Provider of Choice Above-CHWM Election. Introduced guest presenter Ted Light with Lighthouse Energy Consulting to present the CHWM election. Presenter Ted Light explained timeline, service options, and financial analysis.

Committee member Delano Palmer asked about the price variances between the service options. Committee Member Camber Owlsym asked which level of service is closest to our current operations. Energy Services Director Buddy Stanavich explained that we are currently operating closest to a tier-2 service option. Committee Member Camber Owlsym asked guest speaker Ted Light what surrounding communities are choosing and how it compares to our City operations and growth.

Energy Services Director Buddy Stanavich emphasized the importance of this decision and how it will secure power for the City for the next 20 years.

Committee member Jeff Bouson moved to forward a favorable recommendation to City Council to approve Option A Bonneville Power Administration Provider of Choice Above-CHWM Election. **Motion Approved 6-0**

- 5.B Capital Facilities and Utilities Comprehensive Plan Chapter - Energy Services Nichole Baker, Energy Resource Manager, introduced Stacey Henderson, Planning Manager, who presented the Capital Facilities and Utilities Comprehensive Plan Chapter — Energy Services. Stacey Henderson explained what the comprehensive plan is and when the comprehensive plan is used; Stacey Henderson explained how the Comprehensive Plan is applied to community decisions and growth, and asked the committee to provide feedback.

Stacey Henderson will distribute the redline comprehensive plan document to the committee members after the meeting, for the opportunity to review and bring comments to the next UAC meeting.

- 5.C Natural Gas Supply and Asset Management Agreement Nichole Baker, Energy Resource Manager introduced Natural Gas Supply and Asset Management Agreement.

Committee Member Bouson asked for clarification on the length of the term, which will be 5 years. Energy Services Director Buddy Stanavich explained the areas that were evaluated prior to the selection of the Natural Gas Supplier.

Committee Member Delano Palmer moved to forward a favorable recommendation to City Council to authorize the Energy Services Director, Buddy Stanavich, to sign and execute Natural Gas Supply and Asset Management Agreement. **Motion Approved 6-0**

6. Energy Services Updates

- 6.A Energy Services Updates
Committee Member Frederick Springsteen asked for more information on the image of the transformer damage during the recent power outage within the City. Committee Member Frederick Padjen asked for more information on what caused the SR97 Gas utility expansion loop. Committee Member Camber

Owlsym asked for information on the Geothermal Resource Project. Committee Member Camber Owlsym asked what technology the City has to signal power disruptions or fault indicators.

Energy Services Director Buddy Stanavich announced the retirement of our two Gas Division leaders, Darren Larsen and Marcello Martinez.

7. Commission Representative Update

No commission representative updates.

8. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 5:08 pm.