


Herb Jenkins
Grant County PUD
12-22-59

EPHRATA --- D. T. Martin of Quincy and Eric Peterson of Moses Lake, both long-time residents of Grant County, have been appointed Commissioners At-Large for the Public Utility District of Grant County, it was announced today by the Grant County PUD Commissioners, William Schempp, George Schuster and Paul Neihart.

The new Commissioners will take office January 4. Martin will serve until December 1, 1960 and Peterson until December 1, 1962. At the end of each initial appointive period the office will be open for election for a four-year term. The other Commissioners serve 6-year terms.

Appointment of the two Commissioners At-Large was made possible by the Legislative Act of 1959 which said that any public utility district that had a Federal Power Commission license to construct a hydro-electric project costing more than \$325, 000, 000 was a First Class Public Utility District. Voters of a First Class Public Utility District may approve a five-member board of Commissioners. Public Utility District No. 2 of Grant County, now constructing Priest Rapids and Wanapum Dams, is the only First Class Public Utility District in the State. Voters of the District last fall approved a five-member Commission. The two Commissioners At-Large were appointed by the existing PUD Commission.

Herb Jenkins
Grant County PUD
2-16-60



EPHRATA: The appointment of Hovind, Harthorne and Smith of Moses Lake as architects for the 6-room elementary school building to be built by the Grant County PUD between Beverly and the 30-home housing development in the vicinity of Wanapum dam was announced today by the Commissioners of the Public Utility District of Grant County.

The school is being built primarily to care for children of construction workers at Wanapum dam and for permanent PUD personnel living in the Wanapum housing, but also will be available to children of farm residents of the area. It will be operated by the Lower Crab Creek School District.

In announcing the selection of the Moses Lake firm as architects for the new school building, William Schempp, president of the PUD Commissioners, said: "Time is of the essence in making this selection. We must have this school building finished and ready for operation by the start of the school year next September. Because of the crowded construction schedule it was decided to adapt existing plans rather than design an entirely new structure from the ground up. "

Bids will be called for construction of the school in the near future.

Schempp said the Hovind, Harthorne and Smith architectural firm is well known in Grant County. The firm has designed nine school buildings in Moses Lake and one in Connell, as well as a number of others in the State.

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The Commission president said the problem of caring for school children of construction workers at Wanapum dam has been under study for several months. At present, the children in the Vantage area are being taken by bus some 21 miles to Kittitas. With the influx of Wanapum construction workers these additional children have resulted in overcrowding in the Kittitas schools. The construction of the school at Wanapum will relieve this congestion.

Since the beginning of construction on Priest Rapids dam the Grant County PUD has paid burdened school districts one-third of the average operation and maintenance cost for school children of construction workers. The State pays approximately two-thirds of the cost. Therefore, although an influx of children of construction workers does not place any great financial burden on a school district for operation and maintenance expense, a problem arises when additional classrooms are needed to care for these children.

It was estimated that it would require an elementary school building costing approximately \$160,000 and a \$35,000 addition to the high school in Kittitas to relieve the situation. It was suggested to the PUD that it finance a major portion of the cost of these buildings.

PUD officials pointed out that under terms of the bond resolution for Wanapum dam the PUD could not make contributions to school districts for capital expansion. It also was brought out that after construction ended on Wanapum dam in 1964 the need for these school facilities would be reduced, but the problem of providing school facilities for children of permanent personnel at Wanapum would still exist.

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Schempp said that the Commissioners decided that the best solution to the problem would be to build a 6-classroom and multi-purpose elementary school building near the Wanapum housing in Grant County. This would care for the elementary school children of construction workers at Wanapum, the permanent PUD personnel at Wanapum and of the farm residents of the area.

Children of the Vantage area could go by bus about 6 miles to the new school. High school students will have to continue to commute to Quincy, Kittitas and other schools of their choice until the new high school at Royal City becomes available in 1962.

"Our main thought has been to do what is best for the school children," Schempp said. "We believe that by providing school facilities within 6 miles rather than 21 miles of Vantage, and by providing a building that may be used by residents of the area after the construction work has been completed we are doing what is best for the children."

Herb Jenkins
Grant County PUD
1-4-61

EPHRATA --- An increase of an estimated \$300,000 in electric revenue and a gain of an estimated \$51,000 in net income is foreseen in the Electric System Operating budget adopted for 1961 for the Grant County PUD, E. B. Gibbons, manager, said today. The Construction budget also has been approved by the Commissioners for the year.

It is estimated that the electric revenue will increase to \$3,400,000 compared to \$3,100,000 for last year, and gross receipts will show a gain of \$310,604 for a total of \$3,448,380 for 1961.

Gibbons said even though operating costs will be higher, the District will show an estimated net income increase of 9.5% over 1960, for a total net income of \$578,242 for 1961.

Seven main items of expense total an estimated \$2,265,239 in the budget. The largest of these seven items is purchased power, which will cost 36% of the electric revenue, or an estimated \$1,240,000 for the year. Operation will be \$219,230; maintenance, \$156,914; billing and collecting, \$160,600; sales expense, \$70,614; administrative and general, \$218,881; and taxes \$199,000; which are estimated at 5.8% of electric revenue. Fixed costs for depreciation, interest and amortization debt discount total \$604,899.

Gibbons said \$222,334 will be used for bond retirement, \$5,830 for bond reserve, with \$350,078 for the contingency fund.

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"We lived well within our estimate for 1960," John Hinkle, Chief Accountant said. "Expenditures for the first 11 months of the year were \$27,750 under the estimate for that period and when we get all our year-end bills we expect that actual expenditures for the entire year of 1960 will be approximately 16% under the budgeted amount. This also was made possible, in part, by the fact that during the year we had little storm damage necessitating major repairs."

The construction budget for 1961 totals \$973,100. Of this amount, approved 1960 work orders in progress total \$74,500. Transportation (largely replacements of vehicles) totals \$29,000; buildings and property, \$228,000; equipment, \$17,100 and miscellaneous, \$1,000. Distribution line extensions to customers are estimated at \$623,500.

Herb Jenkins
Grant County PUD
April 20, 1961

EPHRATA---"The Public Utility District of Grant County is vitally interested in the preservation of the sports and commercial fisheries in the Columbia River," E. B. Gibbons, Manager said today. The Grant County PUD is investing \$21,000,000 in fish passage facilities in its Priest Rapids and Wanapum dams. In addition it has contributed \$454,000 to the establishment of a game fish hatchery north of Moses Lake and also has been requested to build an artificial spawning channel for salmon at the site of the Wanapum dam.

Gibbons said the Grant County PUD for several years has employed Dr. F. A. Davidson, aquatic biologist with years of experience in fisheries research, as a consultant on ways to protect the migratory fish population in the river affected by its dams. A recent study conducted by the District revealed the following information on the total cost of fish protection at the dams in the Columbia River system:

The total investment by public and private utilities and Federal agencies in fishways at the dams in the Columbia River system now complete or under construction, is \$155,747,000. The fishways in the dams are not the only facilities necessary for the protection of the migratory fish populations in the river system. Fish hatcheries are of equal importance in that they compensate for the loss of natural spawning in the streams that are used for other purposes.

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The laddering of impassable falls in the streams and the installation of fish screens in the irrigation canals are likewise of importance in the protection of the migratory fish. The capital investment in these facilities by the public and private interests amounts to \$21,486,884 to make a total investment in fish facilities in the river system of \$177,233,884.

In addition to capital investment there is an annual cost for operation and maintenance. Assuming an annual cost of 10 percent of the total investment in fish protection facilities (a formula used by the Washington State Department of Fisheries) there would be annual investment of \$17,723,000 in the protection of the migratory fish populations in the river system. The Grant County PUD has a capital investment in fish facilities at its dams of \$21,454,000 to date which according to the above annual cost percentage would involve an annual investment in fish protection of \$2,145,400. This is equal to approximately one-seventh of the total annual value, estimated at \$15,141,998, of the fish caught commercially and by sportsmen in the river system.

"I believe these figures show that the electric utilities and State and Federal agencies are working together on a highly important problem of protection and conservation of the salmon and steelhead fisheries in the river system," Gibbons said.

Herb Jenkins
Grant County PUD
April 3, 1962

EPHRATA --- Priest Rapids dam will be dedicated Saturday, June 2, with Luther Hodges, Secretary of Commerce, as the main speaker, it was announced today by E. B. Gibbons, manager of the Public Utility District of Grant County. Professor C. W. Miller of the University of Washington will be the master of ceremonies.

Details of the ceremony are being arranged by a special committee of the Upper Columbia Basin Chambers of Commerce, which includes representatives of the chambers of Moses Lake, Warden, Quincy, Soap Lake, Coulee City and Ephrata. The actual dedication ceremony will be from 11 a.m. until noon, with tours of the powerhouse in the afternoon. A program of band music and other entertainment will precede the dedication.

Priest Rapids dam is located 24 miles downstream from Vantage, Washington. The construction contract for the \$139,000,000 hydroelectric development was let on July 9, 1956 with Merritt-Chapman & Scott Corporation of New York as the prime contractor. The actual construction contract was approximately \$98,000,000, with land acquisition, bond financing and interest and other items contributing to the final cost.

The dam has a total length of 10,138 feet, including earth abutments on each end. The powerhouse is 1,025 feet long and contains 10 generating units with a total nameplate rating of 788,500 KW. However, in a one-hour test conducted October 30 the ten units produced 912,000 KW, or some 15-1/2 percent above the rated capacity.

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Priest Rapids dam is owned by the Public Utility District of Grant County. It was financed by long-term revenue bonds to be retired through the sale of power. No tax monies or government appropriations were used in its construction.

Twelve public and private electric utilities of the Northwest have signed contracts with the Public Utility District of Grant County for the purchase of 63.5 percent of the power from Priest Rapids. The Grant County PUD is retaining 36.5 percent of the power for its own use. Power from Priest Rapids will be integrated with the Northwest Power Pool.

Herb Jenkins
Grant County PUD
May 24, 1962

*for your information
another copy sent to you on the paper*

EPHRATA -- Final arrangements are being made for the dedication of Priest Rapids dam Saturday morning, June 2, from 10 a. m. until 12 noon. Secretary of Commerce, Luther H. Hodges, will be the main speaker, with Professor C. W. Miller of the University of Washington as Master of Ceremonies.

Music for the ceremony will be furnished by a 128-piece band from the Soap Lake, Ephrata and Hartline high schools.

Other events for the day will be the introduction of community Queens and Princesses. Following the dedication ceremony there will be tours of the dams, displays in the powerhouse by the Bonneville Power Administration, the U. S. Corps of Engineers and the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation, a display of antique cars, and a visit to an Indian Village. Food and soft drinks will be available from a concessionaire.

Visitors who make the tours will get to see the generator hall, which is more than three blocks long, and contains ten generating units with a total nameplate rating of 788,500 KW, sufficient to supply the summer power needs of a city the size of Seattle. They also will see a giant generator shaft, 44 inches in diameter and weighing 93 tons, as it turns to drive a rotor. Other sights will be the east bank fish ladder, 2,700 feet long, and the west bank ladder, 1,700 feet long; a fish counting station, five huge transformers, and a spillway 1,142 feet long, containing 22 gates, each 40 feet wide by 50 feet high.

The Public Utility District of Grant County, owner of the dam, and the Upper Columbia Basin Chambers of Commerce are co-sponsors of the dedication ceremony.

Herb Jenkins
Grant County PUD
Kittitas County PUD
July 26, 1962

EPHRATA -- Kittitas County PUD and Grant County PUD have filed applications with the Director of Conservation of the State of Washington for the formation of a joint operating agency to be known as the Central Washington Power Agency, with the two Districts as members.

The purpose of the Central Washington Power Agency is the construction and operation of a coal-fired steam-electric plant in the Roslyn-Cle Elum area. Officials of the two Districts said formation of the CWPA establishes the formal legal entity of a previous agreement reached by Kittitas and Grant County PUDs for the joint development of the steam plant.

Officials of the two Districts said that under the present law a Joint Operating Agency does not pay taxes on its operations, but the two member Districts of the Central Washington Power Agency intend to ask the State legislature to establish a formula for taxing the operation of the steam plant under the proposed Joint Operating Agency.

The two Districts have filed an application with the Director of Conservation for water rights in connection with the proposed steam plant. They also are negotiating with the United States Bureau of Reclamation to arrive at terms for use of the water. Officials of the two Districts say that although a relatively large amount of water must be run through the plant, the actual consumptive use is insignificant as the water is returned to the lake or stream.

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after being used for cooling purposes. Also, the steam itself is recirculated and the only loss will be tiny amounts from leakage. Engineers say the plant will not create any water pollution problems.

Kittitas County PUD and the Grant County PUD have reached an agreement for the joint construction and operation of a 500,000 KW coal-fired steam-electric plant near Cle Elum, to be fueled from extensive coal deposits under option from the Northern Pacific Railway by the Kittitas County PUD.

The two Districts have employed Sargent & Lundy Engineers of Chicago as the designing and construction engineering firm for the steam plant. The engineering firm is now preparing specifications for the call for bids for items of major equipment such as boiler, turbine, condenser and main power transformer. It is expected this work will require another two months. After the call for bids is issued it will require another two months to receive the bids and analyze them. A cost estimate for the entire project can then be prepared and bids called for construction of the entire plant.

Simultaneously with the preparation of specifications for major equipment, site analysis and other engineering and economic studies are being made. Much of this information has been collected over the years, but all material will be reviewed and studied before the actual start of construction.

It is expected that actual construction of the plant can get under way by the middle of 1963, or slightly earlier, with completion in the fall of 1965.

Both the Kittitas County PUD and the Grant County PUD have employed Chapman & Cutler, Chicago, as bond counsel in connection with the financing

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of the plant. The steam plant will be financed by revenue bonds to be retired through the sale of power.

H. Zinder and Associates will continue as consulting engineers for both Districts.

Power from the Cle Elum steam plant will be blended with the secondary and dump power from Grant County PUD's Priest Rapids and Wanapum dams, and other hydroelectric plants in the Northwest to produce firm energy at a cost comparing favorably with that of any other known source.

Kittitas County PUD has an option from the Northern Pacific Railway on extensive coal deposits in the Cle Elum-Roslyn area sufficient to supply the fuel needed for a coal fired steam-electric plant over and beyond a period necessary to amortize the cost of such a plant.

It is estimated the plant and associated coal-producing facilities will provide employment in Kittitas County for approximately 1,000 men during its construction period, and for approximately 400 to 500 men thereafter.

Herb Jenkins
Grant County PUD
April 25, 1963

EPHRATA --- In an opinion written by Judge Harold Medina of the Circuit Court of Appeals, New York, in the case of Merritt-Chapman & Scott, Priest Rapids contractor, versus the Grant County PUD, the judge remanded the case back to the District Court to allow both sides to present additional evidence.

On March 9, 1962 Merritt-Chapman & Scott brought suit against the Grant County PUD for \$17,000,000 and attached the Priest Rapids construction funds held by the Bankers Trust Company in New York. The jurisdiction of the court depended upon the validity of the funds held in the New York bank, according to N. W. Washington, special legal counsel for the PUD.

The Grant County PUD successfully moved to have the case transferred from the State Court to the Federal Court and moved that the case and the attachment be dismissed on the grounds that the attached funds were the funds of a public agency performing a governmental or public function, Attorney Washington said. M C & S contended that in building Priest Rapids dam the PUD was performing a private or proprietary function.

The District Court in July 1962 upheld the contention of the PUD and dismissed the attachment and the suit.

M C & S appealed to the Circuit Court of Appeals. The Circuit Court agreed that the PUD in building the dam was performing a public or governmental function, but remanded the case to the District Court.

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The Circuit Court, however, adopted what it termed a new interpretation of the law, Attorney Washington said. It held that even though the PUD was engaged in a governmental or public undertaking the PUD would have to show that the attachment of the funds had impaired its ability to carry on its functions.

Attorney Washington said that under previous court rulings it was possible to defeat an attachment and defeat jurisdiction of the New York court simply by showing that the PUD was engaged in a public or governmental function.

Herb Jenkins
Grant County PUD
April 26, 1963

EPHRATA --- Any way you look at it, the filling of the Wanapum reservoir some time during the month of May will not be any garden hose operation, according to Herb Jenkins, Information Officer, for the Grant County PUD. More than 107 billion 530 million gallons of water will be impounded during the 48-hour filling period which will raise the water behind Wanapum dam from 491 feet to 560 feet above sea level. This will be a rise of 69 feet at an average rate of 17 inches an hour.

The reservoir is behind the 831,250 KW Wanapum dam being built on the Columbia River, 6 miles downstream from Vantage, Washington, for the Grant County Public Utility District. The Wanapum Development will be completed in 1964. The reservoir is 38 miles long and reaches from Wanapum to the tailwater of Rock Island dam. It is from three-fourths of a mile to two miles wide, the narrow section being bordered by towering basalt walls on both sides. The pool will cover 23 square miles.

It is believed this is the first time any large reservoir has been filled in such a short time. It is necessary to fill the pool within the 48 hour period because the upstream migration of fish cannot be delayed for a longer time. The fish are now going upstream through the future intake units, which will be closed off with steel bulkheads and massive concrete stop logs when the pool filling begins. Water required for downstream power operations will be regulated by the spillway gates. After the pool is filled the fish will use the fish ladders at either end of the dam to continue their journey upstream.

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How high will the water be when the pool is filled? It will cover much of the Crescent Bar area below Trinidad, will cover the old town of Vantage, and will reach a point equivalent to four feet above the floor boards of the main span of the old Vantage Bridge, which was dismantled to make way for the pool. The new four-lane Vantage Bridge will be 75 feet above the surface of the reservoir. Incidentally, the Grant County PUD contributed \$4,200,000 toward the cost of the construction of the new bridge and the relocation of the road on the east side of the river.

The 330,000 acre feet of water to be added to the pool would be enough to cover 515 square miles of land to the depth of one foot.

The 107,530,000,000 gallons of water will pour into the reservoir area at the rate of 2,240,000,000 gallons an hour, 37 million gallons a minute, or 622,000 gallons a second. This is the water that will be impounded. Additional hundreds of thousands of gallons still will be released over Wanapum dam to take care of the power generation requirements of other hydroelectric plants downstream.

For the mathematically inclined reader, it might be mentioned that an acre foot of water equals 325,850 gallons and weighs 1359 tons. The 330,000 acre feet of water which will be impounded during the 48 hours will be held at the rate of 6,875 acre feet an hour, or a staggering 9,320,000 tons of water an hour. Pursuing it farther, this amounts to 155,332 tons of water a minute, or 2,590 tons a second. That's a lot of water, whether measured in acre feet, gallons, pounds or teacups.

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Because the water in the reservoir area will rise rapidly, fishermen, visitors and sightseers are cautioned to stay out of the pool area during the filling operation. Rock slides or sudden break-throughs of natural barriers could cause a quick change in the course of the water and trap an unwary visitor. Because of these and other hazards, everyone is warned to stay out of the pool area during the filling period.

Construction of Wanapum dam was started July 16, 1959 by Grant County Constructors, a five-firm combine with Morrison-Knudsen as the sponsoring contractor. Pete Piedmont is the Project Superintendent for M-K. The Harza Engineering Company of Chicago is the designing and supervising engineering firm for the Grant County PUD for the Wanapum Development. U. V. Engstrom is Resident Engineer for Harza. Wanapum, 96 percent complete, is one year ahead of construction schedule, and has been described by one engineering journal as "the smoothest running construction job on the Columbia." The dam will be completed in 1964. It is 8,707 feet long. Its powerhouse contains ten generators with a total nameplate rating of 831,250 KW.

Priest Rapids dam, also owned by the Grant County PUD, is located 18 miles downstream from Wanapum. It went into production in the fall of 1961. Priest Rapids' ten generators have a total nameplate rating of 788,500 KW.

When both Wanapum and Priest Rapids are in full production the Grant County PUD will be the second largest non-federal producer of hydroelectric power in the nation, being surpassed only by the New York State Power Authority.