

# PRESTON COUNTY PSD#1 MINUTES (REGULAR MEETING)

Date: 11/04/25 (Oct 2025 meeting)

Time: 2:00pm

Facilitator: Preston County PSD 1 Office

## Board members

Rodney Liston (Chairman)

John Bishoff (Secretary)

Justin Icard (Treasurer)

TIME	Item
2:00PM	Call to Order –
	Timecard Review:
	Welcome Visitors:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Cullin – Update on the Masontown connection from the contractors, the pump station is expected to be delivered the end of March to beginning of April. M O Herra is expected to be back to repair roadways the second week of November. They will be performing work to return everything to original conditions. Robbie Baylor noted that the contractors won't be paid while the government is shutdown in the event the project is funded through federal grants, Funding will be delayed until the government is reopened.</li></ul>
	<p>The DEP is looking to move forward with the proposed lime station upgrade on Birdscreek Road. Cullin to reach out to Todd Swanson at Steptoe and Johnson regarding a legal agreement limiting how much the lime station could pull monthly.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Marvin Bolyard, Sandra Bolyard &amp; Jeff Bolyard – Expressed their concerns on why it took so long for their tap on the Kingwood Pike to be installed. The state road permit wasn't approved until August and the tap wasn't</li></ul>

## TIME

## Item

installed until October 28<sup>th</sup>. The explanation given from the operators to the board was that the PSDs main contractor for that jobs boring machine was broke down during that period putting his company behind schedule. The PSD has no backup contractor for that specialized equipment. The board requested the operators look into back up boring contractors and a retainer.

- Gary & Penny Nicholson – The board motioned for an executive session to discuss the concerns brought forward by the Nicholson's after executive session the board made note to return at the end of the meeting to further discuss their concerns

Ashley Shilingburg

Other customers in attendance not on the agenda were given the opportunity to share concerns regarding the rate increase. Customers expressed concerns whether the rate increase was to provide employees with a pay raise.

PSD1 filed for a 19A rate increase through the public service commission which covers the cost of operation and maintenance. At this point the PSC has completed the field work side of the audit but it is still in preliminary stages.

Dorinda Kisner noted the PSD filed for a 19A Rate increase because of diminishing control over cash flows.

All utility rates are published on the PSC website.

Customers expressed their concerns over water quality and whether the rates will help improve quality.

Noted by Robbie Baylor, Dorinda Kisner and Samantha stone, Rates very based on how many large users a utility has, the plants capacity and how many hours it runs to keep up with demand, the age of the distribution system, the number of residential customers per mile, and where the water source comes from.

Also noted is the Median household income varies from district to district affecting the rates.

Customers requested an itemized list of what the rates will go to and data on the cost increases to prove an increase is needed.

The PSC posts the annual report on its website.

Commissioner Stone requests that PSD1 better update their website to keep customers informed on the rate increase.



## TIME

## Item

Some customers voiced they believe rates should be based off how much is used and not a flat rate.

Also noted the last rate increase was approved in January of 2023 due to the increase of costs from Covid.

Robbie Baylor expressed that the PSC recommends utilities increase rates every 3 years.

Based on inflation averages, rates should increase 2% to 3% every year.

Customers shared concern over who does the audit.

With a 19A Rate increase the PSC Performs the audit and reports back to the PSD where it is then filed with the county commission.

Customers shared concerns over how and who make purchases, and how purchases are approved.

PSD employees are expected to acquire multiple bids for large purchases, bring them to the board's attention and check with the accounting staff to ensure monies are available for those purchases. As for smaller purchases the board requests anything over \$1,000.00 is brought to their attention for approval.

Customers request PSD1 do a forensic audit to prove the rate increase is necessary.

Dorinda Kisner Provided that the PSC has an established way to catch theft and embezzlement based off the annual report. The PSC notes in almost all annual reports the lack of segregation of duties. But to segregate duties would require multiple extra employees and added wages to catch small amounts of theft. The wages to theft ratio would not balance out.

Concerns regarding the sale of the house and that it was not advertised. And that past/present employee's jobs have been threatened over exposing abuse of monies and that the board could not do that because of the whistleblower law.

Christina Strahin responded that she contacted the PSC over the sale of the house and that we could not make money off of it. She also noted she acquired the tax value of the house and that through word of mouth found someone who wanted to purchase the property.

Customers noted that the PSC also requires any sales be advertised 4 times before it is sold. Customeres also noted that the PSD sold a pickup truck for \$2,500.00 and did not



TIME	Item
	<p>advertise it either.</p> <p>Many customers shared distrust of PSD1 water quality over the past 5 years regarding brown and discolored water.</p> <p>Robbie Baylor stated that the state is not concerned with brown water as long as it meets the testing requirements.</p> <p>Commissioner Stone recommended that the PSC utilize its website to update meeting dates and times.</p> <p>She recommended that the PSD implement a quarterly night meeting to accommodate customers who can't attend during the day and post the monthly agendas on the website.</p> <p>She also noted that the PSD is required to file its minutes with the county commission.</p> <p>Captain Mitter made note to the customers to attend the meetings when the can to be more informed of the decisions being made at the meetings.</p> <p>Commissioner Stone urged anyone with concerns of improper use of funds to go through the proper channels.</p>
	Public Relation: NONE
	<p><b>Correspondence:</b> The Benedum's sent a letter regarding the state of their driveway after the contractors installed the water line to Masontown. The Contractors are to replace the culvert and driveway the second week of November. Plan B would be for the PSD to repair the driveway and culvert and be compensated by the contractors for the work.</p>
	<p><b>Staffing for PSD1:</b> Brandon is studying for his class 2 test.</p> <p>Good of the District. -</p>
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	<p><b>Chief Operator Report:</b> - Finished 3 Taps in October and fixed 3 leaks</p>
	<p><b>Business Office Updates:</b></p> <p>*State Audit completed work at PSD in 3 days</p> <p>*Leak Adjustments</p>

TIME

Item

Bissett – Board approved leak adjustment  
\*Letter From David and Patty Benedum

Board signed the return of two security deposits to closed accounts.

Financial Report from Dorinda Kisner: emailed from Dorinda

Executive Session:

Board moved to go into executive session to speak with Penny Nicholson

Adjournment :

Rodney Liston

*Rodney Liston*

John Bishoff

*John Bishoff*

Justin Icard

*Justin Icard*