

**PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO.1
OF
JEFFERSON COUNTY**

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-005

A Resolution of the Board of Commissioners of Public Utility District (PUD) No. 1 of Jefferson County, Washington awarding a contract and authorizing the General Manager to execute all necessary contracts for the Olympic Corridor and In-Betweens Fiber Construction Project.

WHEREAS, the PUD has been working on the development of a Broadband fiber optic network to provide retail and wholesale Internet Services to serve the residents of Jefferson County, Washington over the past several years; and

WHEREAS, at its June 15, 2021 Regular meeting, the Board of Commissioners, authorized staff to apply for both state and federal broadband grant funding sources, and specifically authorized the PUD to apply for a Community Economic Revitalization Board (CERB) grant in Resolution No. 2021-016; and

WHEREAS, at the July 6, 2021 Regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners the staff presented a plan regarding the Quilcene, Discovery Bay and Gardiner communities in Jefferson County, Washington (the “Olympic Fiber Corridor Project”) demonstrating the unserved and underserved nature of Broadband services in these communities; and

WHEREAS, at the July 6, 2021 Regular meeting the Board of Commissioners of the PUD adopted Resolution No. 2021-018 authorizing PUD staff to respond to a Request for Information from the Washington State Broadband Office and for the PUD to commit the resources necessary to serve as a provider for retail and wholesale Internet Services for the Olympic Fiber Corridor Project; and

WHEREAS, on July 26, 2021, the Washington State Broadband Office notified the PUD that the Olympic Fiber Corridor Project had been selected to be included in the Washington State Broadband Office’s application for funding through a grant from the National Telecommunications Information Administration (“NTIA”). The NTIA grant provides new federal funding for deployment of broadband infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, consistent with Engrossed Substitute House Bill 1336 and Senate Bill 5383, the PUD has been consulting with the Washington State Broadband Office and provided formal notice regarding its intent to provide Broadband Services in Resolution No. 2021-037 and the PUD is authorized by state law to provide retail telecommunication services for all unserved areas;

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners were provided revised retail and open access rates that are consistent with state law and grant requirements, and the Board of Commissioners

reviewed all such policies at its regular meeting on November 7, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners authorized the General Manager to publish an invitation to bid for the Olympic Corridor and In-Betweens Fiber Construction Project (Bid No. 23BB0803) at a special meeting on December 19, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the bid was published on Dec 20th, 2023, and closed on January 31st, 2024; and

WHEREAS, after review by staff and the PUD's engineering consultants, Finley Engineering, two of the three submitted bids were deemed responsive, with the bid from North Sky Communications, LLC being deemed lowest; and

WHEREAS, North Sky Communications, LLC's bid amount was \$10,998,193.73; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Public Utility District No. 1 of Jefferson County, that the foregoing recitals are incorporated into this resolution by this reference; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the contract is hereby awarded to North Sky Communications, LLC and the General Manager is authorized to execute all necessary contracts for the Olympic Corridor and In-Betweens Fiber Construction Project (Bid No. 23BB0803)

ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Public Utility District No. 1 of Jefferson County, this 6th day of February, 2024.

DocuSigned by:

Jeff Randall

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Jeff Randall, President

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Daniel S. Toepper

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Dan Toepper, Vice President

DocuSigned by:

Kenneth Collins

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Kenneth Collins, Secretary