PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO.1 OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, WASHINGTON

RESOLUTION NO. 2015 – 018

A RESOLUTION of the Board of Commissioners to prohibit signs, banners, and other non-utility messages from PUD#1 of Jefferson County property.

WHEREAS, PUD#1 of Jefferson County (JPUD) is a Municipal Corporation organized under RCW 54 that owns property throughout Jefferson County including but not limited to poles, buildings, fences, vehicles, and real property necessary to provide utility services to its ratepayers; and

WHEREAS, JPUD has a policy known as "Non-Utility Attachments on Jefferson County PUD Poles" that establishes criteria for members of the public requesting to attach signs, banners, and similar items to JPUD power and light poles; and

WHEREAS, recently the United States Supreme Court in the decision of Reed versus Town of Gilbert, 135 S. Ct. 2218 (June 18, 2015) held that a "strict scrutiny" test applies to any content-based sign regulation established by a public entity, making regulation of content in all but rare situations unconstitutional; and

WHEREAS, it is expected that at some yet undetermined time that further guidance from the United States Supreme Court, lower courts, and municipal attorneys associations will be available; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners, upon advice of General Counsel, wishes to protect the utility and its ratepayers from potential liability arising out of the aforementioned Reed versus Town of Gilbert decision.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Board of Commissioners of Public Utility District No. 1 of Jefferson County, Washington does hereby prohibit the hanging, placement, attachment, and any other affixation of signs, banners, and other methods of conveyance of non-utility messages on all JPUD property, whether by letters, words, pictures, sounds, or symbols, or a combination thereof, effective January 15, 2016.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the aforementioned JPUD policy for non-utility pole attachments is suspended and no pole attachments will be permitted under said policy consistent with this Resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, said prohibition will remain until the Board of Commissioners, upon advice of General Counsel, determine that JPUD and its ratepayers are no longer subject to an unreasonable risk of liability.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this resolution does not prohibit JPUD from conveyance of any messages by any method including signs, attachments, or otherwise, either directly by JPUD or through its agents, partners, contractors, and others acting on JPUD's behalf and with its permission, necessary for operational, safety, convenience, and other utility-related or government functions.

ADOPTED by the Commission of Public Utility District No. 1of Jefferson County, Washington, at a regular open meeting held this 3rd day of November 2015.

Wayne G. King

President

Ken Collins

Vice President

Barney Burke

Secretary