

GRAYS HARBOR
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
MEETING MINUTES
January 21, 2016

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

- The meeting was called to order by 1st Vice-Chair, Tim Alstrom at 7:00 p.m. Flag salute was held and Attendance was called.

2. **ATTENDANCE**

➤ Members:

- Mayor Rob Bearden (City of Westport)
- City Councilmember Robert Parnell (City of Westport)
- Mayor Frank Chestnut (City of Cosmopolis)
- City Councilmember Tim Alstrom (City of Aberdeen)
- Mayor Jim Sorensen (City of Elma)
- City Councilmember John Lynn (City of Ocean Shores)
- Mayor Crystal Dingler (City of Ocean Shores)
- Commissioner Chuck Caldwell (Port of Grays Harbor)
- Commissioner Russ Skolrood (Grays Harbor PUD)
- Allison Grubbs (Timberland Regional Library)
- Michael Cardwell (Quinault Indian Nation)
- Ken Mehin (Grays Harbor Transit)

➤ Staff:

- Theresa Julius, GIS Coordinator
- Zana Dennis, Office Coordinator

A quorum was established.

➤ Guests:

Ray Brown

3. **GHCOG BUSINESS**

➤ **Action: Approval of Current Meeting Agenda**

1st Vice-Chair, Tim Alstrom, asked for approval of the Current Meeting Agenda.

Frank Chestnut made a motion to approve; second, Russ Skolrood. Motion passed unanimously.

➤ **Action: Approval of December 2015 Minutes**

1st Vice-Chair, Tim Alstrom, asked for approval of the December 2016 Minutes.

Michael Cardwell made a motion to approve; second, Frank Chestnut. Motion passed unanimously.

➤ **Administrative Sub-Council Report**

1st Vice-Chair, Tim Alstrom, reported that January claims and January payroll were reviewed and approved.

➤ **Action: Approval of December Claims Batch #15-12 and December Payroll**

1st Vice-Chair, Tim Alstrom, asked for approval of the December 2015 Claims, Batch #15-13 in the amount of \$2,268.26, the January 2016 Claims, Batch #16-01 in the amount of \$4,052.82 and approval of the January 2016 Payroll in the amount of \$13,985.44.

Ken Mehin made a motion to approve; second, John Lynn. Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

➤ None

NEW BUSINESS

➤ **Discussion: 2016 Administrative Sub-Council Officers Nominations**

1st Vice-Chair, Tim Alstrom, briefly explained the responsibilities of being on the GHCOG Administrative Sub-Council and directed the board to reference the 2016 Election of Officers handout that listed who was eligible for each of the five positions. He then asked for anyone that was interested in serving as a 2016 Administrative Sub-Council Officer to let him, Frank Chestnut or Russ Skolrood know and they would add them to the list of nominees for elections at the February board meeting.

4. **ALL- STAFF REPORT**

➤ **Theresa Julius, GIS Coordinator**

- Handling IT issues for the current week.
- Got new IT Maintenance person acquainted with GHCOG systems.
- Updated GHCOG brochures with 2016 data/information.
- Working on Aberdeen hydrant maps.
- Updated GHCOG website with 2016 data/information.
- Made a property map for the City of Montesano.
- Made maps for the Port of GH rec plan.

➤ **Zana Dennis, Office Coordinator**

- Completed the map and records purge.
- Assisting with the Port of GH rec plan.
- Making 2016 file, form and financial updates.
- Worked on STIP amendments for January 2016.

5. **MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

➤ None

6. MEMBER/PUBLIC COMMENT

- Timberland Regional Library, Allison Grubbs
 - Announced the “Book a Getaway” Contest. An adult reading contest where you read or listen to five books between January 1st and March 15th and can enter to win great prizes, with the grand prize being an overnight getaway.
 - Talked an article in the Timberland newsletter that highlights the three ladies who purchase library materials for all 27 libraries.
 - Now selling GH Transit passes at 8 library locations.

- City of Cosmopolis, Mayor Frank Chestnut
 - Two new houses are being built and permits are in for more new houses.
 - Mill Creek dam is in final design and engineer phase. Waiting on permits that they hope to be approved by spring or summer of 2016.
 - Attended a great natural resources seminar at Aberdeen High School that did studies on Mill Creek.
 - Hired a police officer that is graduating from the academy at the top of his class.

- Grays Harbor Transit, Ken Mehin
 - Partnership with the library has been effective. Sold 27 passes in 2 months.
 - Ridership was 1% even with fuel prices being down.
 - Had a very successful toy drive.
 - Participated in the light parade.

- Port of Grays Harbor, Commissioner Chuck Caldwell
 - AGP is building two processing facilities one in North & South Dakota.

- City of Ocean Shores, City Councilmember John Lynn
 - Attended PGH Foundation Members Meeting.
 - Gave support for the Timberland Library.
 - The Oyehut development has sold 19 units.

- City of Ocean Shores, Mayor Crystal Dingler
 - Urged the local and tribal agencies with coastal or tidal influences to reinstate the Coastal Coalition. A revived Coastal Coalition could propose specific legislation or projects to tackle issues such as coastal resiliency, impacts from coastal warming and climate change, or how to combat a rising sea level. The effort is supported by U.S. Rep. Derek Kilmer’s office.

- Quinault Indian Nation, Michael Cardwell
 - Tribal Elections will be held in April.
 - Sign up for free Nugguam newsletter.
 - Tsunami-safe parking garage part of \$25 million QBRC expansion.

- City of Westport, Mayor Rob Bearden
 - Happy to be at meeting and meet everyone he’ll be working with.
 - Westport has erosion and overtopping problems, interested in Coastal Coalition.
 - Crab season is in full swing.
 - Processing facilities are up and running.

- City of Westport, Councilmember Robert Parnell
 - Echoed Mayor Bearden’s interest/need for the Coastal Coalition.

- Grays Harbor PUD, Commissioner Russ Skolrood
 - Welcomed the new representatives/members.
 - PUD has done well through storms and been able to help other areas with outages.
 - Watching Legislature to see if the new renewable portfolio standards affect PUD.
 - Spoke to members of the importance of attending Utility Coordination Meetings.
 - Suggested GHCOG go over our services and functions at the February meeting.

- City of Elma, Mayor Jim Sorensen
 - Got to go on a Firetruck ride along.
 - Figuring out how to deal with the storm water runoff issues.
 - The Eagle’s Landing development is coming along and will house 10 businesses.
 - May need to do a levee or sales tax increase to for pay for public safety.
 - Hope to work with the Port about opportunities at Satsop Business Park.

- City of Aberdeen, Councilmember Tim Alstrom
 - Welcomed the new representatives/members.
 - Reminded everyone that GHCOG is a great resource.
 - Secured all the properties for the Visitor Center and the feasibility study is almost complete, now need to secure funds for design and engineering.
 - Spoke about the benefits of a Transportation Benefit District.
 - Revenue continues to stay the same as expenses continue to increase.

- Guest, Ray Brown
 - Reminded people about the current state of politics, changes that could be occurring and the importance of being involved.

7. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

GRAYS HARBOR COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

115 S. Wooding St.

Aberdeen, Washington 98520

Tim Alstrom
1st Vice-Chair

Date

Vicki Cummings
Executive Director

Date