

GRAYS HARBOR
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
MEETING MINUTES
August 17, 2017

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

- The meeting, held in the Port of Grays Harbor Commission Chambers, Aberdeen, was called to order by Chairman Tim Alstrom at 6:30 p.m. Attendance was called.

2. **ATTENDANCE**

➤ **Members:**

- City Councilmember Tim Alstrom (City of Aberdeen)
- City Councilmember John Lynn (City of Ocean Shores)
- City Councilmember John Pellegrini (City of Hoquiam)
- Mayor Rob Bearden (City of Westport)
- Councilwoman Clarinda Pies Underwood (Quinault Indian Nation)
- Allison Grubbs (Timberland Regional Library)
- Mayor Vini Samuel (City of Montesano)
- Leonard Barnes (Port of Grays Harbor)
- Ken Mehin (Grays Harbor Transit)

➤ **Staff:**

- Vicki Cummings, Executive Director
- Theresa Julius, GIS Coordinator
- Zana Dennis, Office Coordinator

➤ **Guest:**

- Dee Depoe, Timberland Regional Library

A quorum was established.

3. **GHCOG BUSINESS**

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

Chairman, Tim Alstrom, asked for approval of the current meeting Agenda.

Clarinda Underwood made a motion to approve; second, John Pellegrini. Motion passed unanimously.

➤ **Action: Approval of July 2017 Minutes**

Chairman, Tim Alstrom, asked for approval of the July 2017 Minutes.

Clarinda Underwood made a motion to approve; second, Ken Mehin. Motion passed unanimously.

➤ **Administrative Sub-Council Report**

Chairman, Tim Alstrom, reported that August claims and August payroll were reviewed and approved.

➤ **Action: Approval of July Claims Batch #17-08 and August Payroll**

Chairman, Tim Alstrom, asked for approval of the August Claims, Batch #17-08 in the amount of \$4,242.17 and August 2017 Payroll in the amount of \$14,316.83.

John Lynn made a motion to approve; second, Clarinda Pies. Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

➤ **Discussion: Surface Transportation Program Process Update**

Vicki reported the final 2017 STP obligation reports from WSDOT were received and the target was met for Grays Harbor. Staff is working with the TAC Committee to distribute STP funds for 2019-2021 and trying to plan for projects that will need/want STP funding for the next 10 years. The new requirements for STP have increased the amount of coordination needed by GHCOG. The board has motioned to approve an additional yearly STP grant award of \$5,000 to GHCOG upon approval from the TAC Committee. An action item for the award will be presented to the board following the TAC Committee's approval.

NEW BUSINESS

➤ **Action: Resolution #616, GHCOG 2018 Preliminary Budget**

Vicki presented and outlined GHCOG's 2018 Preliminary Budget. The preliminary budget included a 2% dues increase for all participating members. Members are seeing a \$200,000 increase in revenue and expenditures to account for the EPA Brownfields Grant funds that will be passing through GHCOG. Budget letters will be going out by the end of August, but we have until the December meeting to make changes to the budget.

4. ALL- STAFF REPORT

➤ **Vicki Cummings, Executive Director**

- Working on Hoquiam Park Plan.
- Westport Park Plan is in 30 day public comment period from Aug 3rd to Sept 4th.
- .09 Committee had a grant funding project presentation meeting and will meet again for final recommendations next week.
- Met with Association of WA Cities, AWC, Government Relations Advocate in regard to the impact of the Capital Budget to our area and rural transportation.

➤ **Theresa Julius, GIS Coordinator**

- Made the Showcase map for September 5th tours.
- Helped Hoquiam with a public notice for land use action.
- Completed collecting data for TRL local resources project.
- Montesano Park Survey is getting substantial response. Open through Labor Day.

➤ **Zana Dennis, Office Coordinator**

- Put together the 2018 Preliminary Budget.
- Attended Open Government Training in Olympia.
- Working on 2019-2021 STP grant applications with TAC Committee.

6. **MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

The Recreation and Conservation Funding Board is proposing changes to policies that affect the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program's Local Parks, Trails, and Water Access Categories. The board is seeking comments on four policy proposals to provide less than the current 50 percent minimum required match. Comments are due by Sept. 10.

7. **MEMBER/PUBLIC COMMENT**

➤ Grays Harbor Transit, Ken Mehin

- If the grant for buses comes in early enough the buses may arrive by the end of 2018.
- Passenger Appreciation Day was a success.
- Sunday Service has had high usage.
- Transit is trying to arrange meetings with all the local city planners to ensure that bus routes are fulfilling everyone's needs.

➤ Quinault Indian Nation, Clarinda "Pies" Underwood

- The Nation has put the old marina up for sale.

➤ City of Ocean Shores, City Councilmember John Lynn

- Left the meeting after approval of motions for a family emergency.

➤ Port of Grays Harbor, Leonard Barnes

- Started the 2018 budget process. Budget goes to Commission in October.
- Having discussions with large Port tenants.
- REG has been busy and is doing well.
- A few large projects have been started at the Westport Marina.
- Overstock.com is already expanding.
- Logs have been steady this year.
- Pasha Automotive is up to 96 employees.
- Seeing growth in Roll on/Roll off and over high/over wide shipments.

➤ City of Westport, Mayor Rob Bearden

- Grayland Open Jet Ski was well attended.
- Salmon fishing is closing early this season.
- The Westport Art Festival is the weekend of August 19-20th.
- Close to approving plans for the water department building.
- Ordered four new Ford SUV's for police cruisers that arrive in October.
- Rural Fire District Authority passed.
- The visit from the governor was productive and beneficial.

➤ City of Aberdeen, City Councilmember Tim Alstrom

- City revenue is up in 2017.
- 19th Annual Art walk is the weekend of July 22nd with live music at Sam Benn Park from 3-6 pm.
- Founders Day Parade and Splash Festivities were a success.

➤ City of Hoquiam, City Councilmember John Pellegrini

- Attended a Public Safety meeting.
- Plywood business is doing well and looking to expand.

- Timberland Regional Library, Allison Grubbs
 - Introduced Dee Depoe, the new Elma Library Manager.
 - Started 2018 budget process.
 - Thank you to Theresa for collecting Community Wide Analysis information.
 - Working on making the Aberdeen Library a free Microsoft Certification location.
 - Starting a pilot program, “Explore Timberland” where they will find 20 public locations to put books for people to use and return without checking them out.

- City of Aberdeen, City Councilmember Tim Alstrom
 - Garage sales have been a big topic of recent city council meetings.
 - A portable toilet was put in downtown to try to help with public sanitation issues.
 - City is considering purchasing the Seafirst building.
 - New HR Director has been hired.
 - Working to replace the police chief that retired.
 - The City Attorney is also retiring and will need to be replaced.

- City of Montesano, Mayor Vini Samuel
 - Likes how GHCOG member comment gives her ideas to overcome challenges.
 - Sidewalks and streets are the focus of budget season.
 - Roglin’s won bid for Pioneer Project.
 - Looking at experimenting with cement on Spruce Street.
 - Thanks to Theresa and GHCOG for conducting the Montesano Parks Survey.
 - Full Monte is playing after the final 2017 Saturday Market.
 - Working on abatement properties.
 - Received permit for a 3rd courtroom at the courthouse.

8. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

GRAYS HARBOR COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
 115 S. Wooding St.
 Aberdeen, Washington 98520

 Tim Alstrom
 Chair

Date

 Vicki Cummings
 Executive Director

Date