

GRAYS HARBOR  
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
MEETING MINUTES  
February 16, 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 7:00 p.m. Flag salute was held and attendance was called.

2. **ATTENDANCE**

➤ Members:

- City Councilmember Tim Alstrom (City of Aberdeen)
- City Councilmember John Lynn (City of Ocean Shores)
- Mayor Rob Bearden (City of Westport)
- Mayor Frank Chestnut (City of Cosmopolis)
- City Councilmember John Pellegrini (City of Hoquiam)
- Commissioner Chuck Caldwell (Port of Grays Harbor)
- Clarinda “Pies” Underwood (Quinault Indian Nation)
- Ken Mehin (Grays Harbor Transit)
- Mayor Vini Samuel (City of Montesano)
- Valerie Jester (Timberland Regional Library)

➤ Staff:

- Vicki Cummings, Executive Director
- Zana Dennis, Office Coordinator

A quorum was established.

3. **GHCOG BUSINESS**

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

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

*John Pelegrini made a motion to approve; second, John Lynn. Motion passed unanimously.*

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

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

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

➤ **Administrative Sub-Council Report**

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

- **Action: Approval of February Claims Batch #17-02 and February Payroll**  
Chairman, Tim Alstrom, asked for approval of the February Claims, Batch #17-02 in the amount of \$9,155.44 and February 2017 Payroll in the amount of \$14,316.83.

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

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- None

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- **Action: 2017 Administrative Sub-Council, Election of Officers**  
Tim Alstrom told the members that the Administrative sub-council served as the nominating committee as approved during the January GHCOG meeting. During the January meeting Tim asked that anyone interested in holding a position on the Administrative sub-council contact him. Mayor Jim Sorensen, Elma, let Tim and GHCOG Staff know that he would like to be nominated for a position. Tim presented the slate of officers and asked for nominations from the floor. None were presented so the slate stood as is. The slate of Officers nominated to serve in 2017 was then voted into office:  
Chair – Tim Alstrom  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair – Jim Sorensen  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair – John Lynn  
Secretary – Russ Skolrood  
Member-At-Large – Ken Mehin.

*Vini Samuel made a motion to approve; second, John Pelegrini. Motion passed unanimously.*

- **Action: Resolution #611 Honoring Frank Chestnut**  
Approved a resolution and presented a certificate of appreciation to Frank Chestnut for serving the Grays Harbor Council of Governments for six years (2011 - 2017) in his capacity as designated representative of the City of Cosmopolis to the GHCOG Board.

*John Pelegrini made a motion to approve; second, Chuck Caldwell. Motion passed unanimously.*

- **Discussion: GHCOG Meeting Potential Time Change**  
Members discussed whether or not they would like to change the board meeting time from 7pm to 6:30pm. The board decided they would prefer that GHCOG staff conduct a survey so the members and the alternate members were able to weigh in prior to making a final decision. Motion tabled until the March meeting.

*John Lynn made a motion to table; second, Frank Chestnut. Motion to table passed unanimously.*

## **4. ALL- STAFF REPORT**

- **Vicki Cummings, Executive Director**
- Approved the Consolidated Grant Rankings at the January SWRTPO Meeting.
  - Mayor Dingler was elected as the Southwest Washington RTPO Chairman.

- Westport Park and Rec Survey is available until 3/15. Open House 2/23.
- Meeting with Hoquiam regarding an update to their Park Plan
- Working with Zana on STP Project Funding.
- .09 Advisory Meeting on February 28<sup>th</sup>.

➤ **Zana Dennis, Office Coordinator**

- Working on closing out 2016 Books.
- Pre-work before two week vacation in March.

**5. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

- None

**6. MEMBER/PUBLIC COMMENT**

➤ **City of Hoquiam, Councilmember John Pellegrini**

- Gave update on Crude by Rail and the ORMA decision, as it continues to be a hot topic in Hoquiam.

➤ **Grays Harbor Transit, Ken Mehin**

- In eighth month of union negotiations.
- Close to having GPS tracking on the buses. In Beta testing now.

➤ **Quinault Indian Nation, Clarinda Pies Underwood**

- Hired a new police Chief.
- Approved a plan for Wi-Fi.

➤ **City of Montesano, Mayor Vini Samuel**

- Enjoyed a day in the City of Westport.
- Spending a lot of time in Olympia putting in asks to the legislature.
- Hoping to make a request to legislature to increase maintenance and repairs funds.
- Initiative #1150 for 25% property tax cut would be detrimental to local revenue.

➤ **City of Ocean Shores, City Councilmember John Lynn**

- Spent some time in Olympia talking with legislature.
- Working with Association of Washington Cities.
- Please take time to talk to your representatives in regard to current bills and initiatives that you do or do not support.

➤ **Timberland Regional Library, Valerie Jester**

- Library District is conducting a technology survey.
- Libraries are offering tax filing assistance.
- Great book list on home page in honor of Black History Month.
- People should check out the “I have a dream” the library staff recorded.
- Magician Jeff Evans will be at the Montesano and Aberdeen Libraries in celebration of Dr. Seuss’s birthday.
- Library is doing SWAT Analysis for long range planning.

➤ **City of Westport, Mayor Rob Bearden**

- Homeless camp packed up and went away.
- Clam digging February 23<sup>rd</sup> through the 28<sup>th</sup>.

- Park and Rec Plan Open House on February 23<sup>rd</sup>.
  - Quigg Brothers construction is still working on the revetment.
  - Break-wall project is complete, but still working on inner harbor.
  - Port removed one of the sunken boats from the marina.
  - Sea lion problem needs to be addressed.
  - Princess Line donated 2 life boats to Seaport for Sea Scouts.
- Port of Grays Harbor, Commissioner Chuck Caldwell
- AGP reported on how the plants they are building in the Midwest are coming along and on how much product they project will be coming to this port from those plants once they are operating.
  - 50 people hired at Satsop.
- City of Cosmopolis, Mayor Frank Chestnut
- Darren Raines is the new City Administrator.
  - Had resolution at last board meeting to recognize a couple married for 78 years.
  - May be improving the police car fleet with cars from Quinault Indian Nation.
  - Council Retreat focusing on Economic Development was productive.
  - Mill Creek Dam project is going out to bid.
- City of Aberdeen, City Councilmember Tim Alstrom
- Steam Donkey Brewery should be opening soon.
  - Tap Room has new owners.
  - Encouraged instituting Transportation Benefits Districts.
  - Spoke about recreational opportunities in Tokeland.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

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

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 Tim Alstrom  
 Chair

Date

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 Vicki Cummings  
 Executive Director

Date