

GRAYS HARBOR  
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
MEETING MINUTES  
February 18, 2016

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

- The meeting was called to order by 1<sup>st</sup> 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)
- Mayor Frank Chestnut (City of Cosmopolis)
- City Councilmember Tim Alstrom (City of Aberdeen)
- City Councilmember Tom Boling (City of Elma)
- City Councilmember Pat Herrington (City of Montesano)
- City Councilmember John Lynn (City of Ocean Shores)
- Commissioner Chuck Caldwell (Port of Grays Harbor)
- City Councilmember John Pellegrini (City of Hoquiam)
- Commissioner Russ Skolrood (Grays Harbor PUD)
- Allison Grubbs (Timberland Regional Library)
- Clarinda “Pies” Underwood (Quinault Indian Nation)
- Ken Mehin (Grays Harbor Transit)

➤ Staff:

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

A quorum was established.

➤ Guests:

Ray Brown  
Dennis Engel  
Teresa Boling

3. **GHCOG BUSINESS**

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

1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chair, Tim Alstrom, asked for approval of the current meeting Agenda.

*Frank Chestnut made a motion to approve; second, John Pellegrini. Motion passed unanimously.*

➤ **Action: Approval of January 2016 Minutes**

1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chair, Tim Alstrom, asked for approval of the January 2016 Minutes.

*John Pellegrini made a motion to approve; second, Frank Chestnut. Motion passed unanimously.*

➤ **Administrative Sub-Council Report**

1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chair, Tim Alstrom, reported that February claims and February payroll were reviewed and approved.

➤ **Action: Approval of February Claims Batch #16-02 and February Payroll**

1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chair, Tim Alstrom, asked for approval of the Claims, Batch #16-02 in the amount of \$9,014.57 and February 2016 Payroll in the amount of \$13,985.44.

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

**OLD BUSINESS**

- None

**NEW BUSINESS**

➤ **Discussion: GHCOG Member Benefits and Services**

Vicki Cummings gave a Power Point presentation on the benefits and services that GHCOG can provide to members. Benefits vary and include; transportation, mapping, GIS and data analysis, coordinated planning, park and recreational planning and grant and loan research. Our services are flexible to meet the needs of our members and include a range from planning and to facilitation. All of our benefit and service information can be found in more detail on our website, [www.ghcog.org](http://www.ghcog.org).

➤ **Action: 2016 Administrative Sub-Council Officers Elections**

A list of Administrative Sub-council positions and eligible members was included in the meeting packets. Vicki explained the voting process according to the By-Laws. 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chair Tim Alstrom opened the floor for nominations:

- **Chairman:** Frank Chestnut nominated Tim Alstrom for the position of Chairman.  
*With no additional nominations Tim Alstrom closed the nominations for Chairman. Motion to approve Tim Alstrom for Chairman passed unanimously.*
- **1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chair:** Russ Skolrood nominated Frank Chestnut for the position of 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chair.  
*With no additional nominations Tim Alstrom closed the nominations for 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chair. Motion to approve Russ Skolrood for 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chair passed unanimously.*
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chair:** John Pellegrini nominated John Lynn for the position of 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chair.  
*With no additional nominations Tim Alstrom closed the nominations for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chair. Motion to approve John Lynn for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chair passed unanimously.*

- **Secretary:** Frank Chestnut nominated Russ Skolrood for the position of Secretary.  
*With no additional nominations Tim Alstrom closed the nominations for Secretary. Motion to approve Russ Skolrood for Secretary passed unanimously.*
- **Representative at Large:** Tim Alstrom nominated Ken Mehin for the position of Representative at Large.  
*With no additional nominations Tim Alstrom closed the nominations for Representative at Large. Motion to approve Ken Mehin for Representative at Large passed unanimously.*

Welcome new 2016 Officials!

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

##### ➤ **Vicki Cummings, Executive Director**

- Meeting with members on project coordination.
- Wrapping up the Port's Park and Rec Plan.
- Work on Bike/Ped for RTP with the SWRTPO.
- Attended PUD Coordination Meeting.
- Assisting WSDOT with Corridor Sketch process for Grays Harbor.
- Reorganizing of ColPac Economic Development District.

##### ➤ **Theresa Julius, GIS Coordinator**

- Working on map for Aberdeen Fire Department.
- Working to resolve IT issues with Techline.
- Annual zoning updates for maps.
- Working on Timberworks Project for Aberdeen/Hoquiam.

##### ➤ **Zana Dennis, Office Coordinator**

- Working on elements of Bike/Ped RTP project.
- Contacting TAC regarding STP project projections.
- STP historical funding data collection.

#### 5. **MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

- None

#### 6. **MEMBER/PUBLIC COMMENT**

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

- Tribal Elections will be held in April.
- Casino expansion will have non-smoking area and tsunami parking garage.

##### ➤ **Timberland Regional Library, Allison Grubbs**

- Currently doing a trial access to a program called Mergent Intellect. It is a more robust and user friendly version of Reference USA and may replace it depending on the response to the Mergent Intellect program.
- Offering AARP tax assistance through most local library locations.
- Shared a heartwarming story about a boy who announced to patrons that he just completed his GED, due to the services the library provides to the community.

- City of Hoquiam, City Councilmember John Pellegrini
  - Hoping to complete the roof repairs on the Hoquiam library.
  - 9<sup>th</sup> Street Boat launch project is almost complete.
- WSDOT, Planning Manager, Dennis Engel
  - Thanks for participating in the Corridor Sketches. There are a few local entities that WSDOT still needs input from.
- City of Westport, Mayor Rob Bearden
  - Met with the CORPS, Ecology and local entities to come up with short term solution for erosion problem by the Westport by the Sea condominiums.
  - Met with department heads about GIS mapping.
  - Need another water source in Westport, partially due to new canneries.
  - Looking to hire a City Administrator.
- Grays Harbor PUD, Commissioner Russ Skolrood
  - Keeping an eye on legislative decisions. Columbia River treaty would affect the PUD, as well as carbon taxing.
  - Important that all local entities participate in the Utility Coordination meetings. Contact Dave Ward at 360-538-6234 for details.
- City of Elma, City Councilmember Tom Boling
  - Annexation of west end of Elma is at the County review board.
  - Received \$380,000 from the Chehalis Flood Authority for sewer out flow system.
  - Received a grant for sidewalks, turn lanes and street lights at Eagle Landing.
- City of Ocean Shores, City Councilmember John Lynn
  - Erosion problems continue and the Mayor continues to work to on solutions.
  - New Council retreat on March 5<sup>th</sup> to discuss short and long-term planning.
  - Ocean Shores has many projects going on, including the airport and Pt. Brown.
- Port of Grays Harbor, Commissioner Chuck Caldwell
  - Hoping the President's budget includes money for Deeper Draft project.
- City of Montesano, City Councilmember Pat Herrington
  - Council is regrouping due to the fact that 5 of the 7 members are new.
  - Looking to hire a City Administrator.
- City of Cosmopolis, Mayor Frank Chestnut
  - New police officer is on the streets as of 2/18/16.
  - 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration will be on 9/11/16.
  - Dealing with the cost of Cosmo's property reassessment.
- Grays Harbor Transit, Ken Mehin
  - Settled union contracts.
  - Getting four new buses in 2 weeks.
  - Now going to Centralia to meet up with Amtrak.
  - Planning to start going to Raymond via Tokeland.
  - Hoping to have a Summer Sunday Bus Service.

