

GRAYS HARBOR
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
MEETING MINUTES
July 20, 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 Carl Sperring (City of Cosmopolis)
- 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)
- Commissioner Chuck Caldwell (Port of Grays Harbor)
- Ken Mehin (Grays Harbor Transit)

➤ Staff:

- Vicki Cummings, Executive Director
- Theresa Julius, GIS Coordinator
- 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 Lynn made a motion to approve; second, Ken Mehin. Motion passed unanimously.

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

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

Carl Sperring made a motion to approve; second, Clarinda Underwood. Motion passed unanimously.

➤ **Administrative Sub-Council Report**

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

➤ **Action: Approval of July Claims Batch #17-07 and July Payroll**

Chairman, Tim Alstrom, asked for approval of the June Claims, Batch #17-07 in the amount of \$6,247.16 and July 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: EPA Brownfield and Assessment grant**

GHCOG was successful in obtaining a \$600,000 EPA Brownfield and Assessment grant for the Cosmopolis, Aberdeen and Hoquiam coalition, which GHCOG will administer. Staff is working with the EPA on the scope of work and will submit that by June 22nd. A negotiation period happens, and then the final work plan is submitted in mid-July. By September 30th the cooperative agreements will be awarded so that the projects can begin. A community wide open house to explain what the project looks like moving forward will be held in October. This will be a three year project where we work with identified Brownfields and assess how to best redevelop and utilize the properties.

➤ **Discussion: Pre-Engineering Study Funding for the East Aberdeen Mobility Project**

The East Aberdeen Mobility Project was awarded \$300,000 to conduct a Pre-Engineering Study through the Freight and Rail Assistance Program. GHCOG is currently working on finalizing the contract. The process will take 9 months to a year to complete once the study has started.

NEW BUSINESS

- None

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.
- Working on Regional Transportation Plan updates. Thanks to Mary from the Port for her help providing much needed information for the plan.
- Met with BHP, the Potash company, to discuss becoming a community partner.
- 2017 STP projects obligated in time to meet obligation and target requirements.

➤ **Theresa Julius, GIS Coordinator**

- Working on compiling data for a Timberland Library project.
- A new Demographics Highlights brochure is available.
- Updated the website with the new data information.
- A new Funding Newsletter has been sent out/ is available.
- Compiled data for the Ocean Shores Comp Plan.

➤ **Zana Dennis, Office Coordinator**

- Completed 2018-2023 county wide TIP building and review. STIP off to RTPO.
- Working on Montesano Park Plan with Theresa.
- Ensured 2017 STP projects were obligated and the 2017 target was met.

6. **MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

- None

7. **MEMBER/PUBLIC COMMENT**

➤ Grays Harbor Transit, Ken Mehin

- Received \$2+ million grant for 5 new 35ft. buses, ready in 2019.
- Received a \$1.5 million grant for operations.
- August 16th is Passenger Appreciation Day from 7am-2pm.
- Providing transportation for the Governor in Westport on July 24th.
- Negotiated a 3year contract with the union.
- Saturday service and service to Centralia is growing.
- Looking at possibilities of shared and coordinated services throughout the state.

➤ Quinault Indian Nation, Clarinda “Pies” Underwood

- Nation bought the property at Hogan’s Corner for QMart expansion and maybe a mall. The property also included an old airport.
- Formed a Planning Commission and are working on forming a Police Commission.
- In process of revamping the Housing Committee.
- Clarinda is now serving on the board of the ITC (Intertribal Timber Council).
- 2018 ITC Convention will be at the Ocean Shores Convention Center in June.

➤ City of Ocean Shores, City Councilmember John Lynn

- Getting input on Point Brown project. Deciding how to proceed.
- Safe Routes to School project starting.
- Lots of candidates running for Ocean Shores Council positions.

➤ Port of Grays Harbor, Commissioner Chuck Caldwell

- BHP, the Pot Ash company is deciding between our Port and one other location for distribution. Hopefully the decision will be made by October.

➤ City of Cosmopolis, City Councilmember Carl Sperring

- City budget is looking good.
- Started work on Mill Creek Dam, camera with time lapse photos on city website. The pond has been shaped and rebar is in for the dam and fish passage.

➤ City of Westport, Mayor Rob Bearden

- Awarded \$30k for emergency road repair from TIB.
- The new flag pole was raised.
- Pirate Days was well attended.
- Hot Rod show was also well attended.
- The Kite Festival and 4th of July celebrations were a success.
- August 1st at 7am they will be doing Military Emergency Exercises in Westport.
- National Night out will be held at Harriet Dorland Municipal Park.
- July 24th a show called State Plate will be filming in Westport.
- Retirement Home project going into clinic by Anchor Bank.
- Working on Ocean Avenue sidewalk extension.
- Demoing part of the old Police Department building due to safety.
- New playground equipment for Harriet Dorland Park is out for bid.

- 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
 - Received a grant for street maintenance.
 - Starting work on the Ramer Street pump station.
 - Looking at coding for allowing ATV's on city streets.

- Timberland Regional Library, Allison Grubbs
 - Summer Reading Programs have had record attendance.
 - Amanda Park's Friends of the Library Book & Bake sale is July 21st.
 - Aberdeen Library is still waiting to hear if they got the grant for the digital lab.
 - Completed interviews for the Westport Library and should have a decision soon.

- City of Montesano, Mayor Vini Samuel
 - Saturday Morning Market has been a success.
 - Montesano is hosting city forest tours via hike and bike June thru August.
 - Construction for the Pioneer Avenue project is going out to bid.
 - City budget is looking strong.

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