

GRAYS HARBOR
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
MEETING MINUTES
October 20, 2016

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)
- City Councilmember John Pellegrini (City of Hoquiam)
- City Councilmember Tom Boling (City of Elma)
- Mayor Frank Chestnut (City of Cosmopolis)
- Commissioner Russ Skolrood (Grays Harbor PUD)
- Allison Grubbs (Timberland Regional Library)
- Commissioner Chuck Caldwell (Port of Grays Harbor)
- Michael Cardwell (Quinault Indian Nation)
- Ken Mehin (Grays Harbor Transit)
- Mayor Rob Bearden (City of Westport)

➤ Staff:

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

A quorum was established.

➤ Guests:

Dennis Engel (WSDOT)
Teresa Boling

3. **GHCOG BUSINESS**

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

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

Frank Chestnut made a motion to approve; second, Ken Mehin. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Chairman, Tim Alstrom, asked for approval of the September 2016 Minutes.

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

➤ **Administrative Sub-Council Report**

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

➤ **Action: Approval of October Claims Batch #16-10 and September Payroll**

Chairman, Tim Alstrom, asked for approval of the October Claims, Batch #16-10 in the amount of \$5,745.39 and October 2016 Payroll in the amount of \$13,985.44.

Frank Chestnut made a motion to approve; second, Chuck Caldwell. Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

➤ **Discussion: Annual Dinner Meeting**

The Grays Harbor Council of Governments Annual Dinner Meeting will be held at the Quinault Beach Resort and Casino on December 15th, 2016 at 7 pm with dinner to follow. We will gather at QBR at 6:30pm, the meeting will begin at 7:00pm and close shortly thereafter. We are arranging bus transportation from the GHCOG to the QBR if we have enough people interested. The bus will leave GHCOG about 5:45pm, the bus will then leave the QBR at around 9:00pm so there will be plenty of time to socialize and appreciate Quinault Beach Resort and Casino amenities.

➤ **Discussion: Regional Transportation Planning Organization Meeting**

The RTPO meetings are held quarterly. The next meeting will be on Friday, November 4th in the Port of Grays Harbor Commission Chambers at 11am. An RSVP is needed as the Port is providing lunch. A port tour will follow the meeting.

➤ **Action: Consolidated Public Transportation Grant Application Ranking**

Committee nominations

The RTPO's requested formal nominations to the Consolidated Public Transportation Grant Application Ranking Committee. The nomination form and process were made available to the board and sent out by the RTPO to Mayors and representatives. It is important that as many of our members as possible fill out the form and submit by the deadline – Nov 1st. People who are knowledgeable about transit operations and funding are needed to sit on this review committee. Each county in the RTPO gets two nominees. Ken Mehin from Grays Harbor Transit is a transit provider so he is automatically on the committee. We need two other people to help represent Grays Harbor. The GHCOG board officially nominated Commissioner Vickie Raines (she has not yet had a chance to respond) and Michael Cardwell (Quinault Indian Nation). Vicki Cummings is also well versed and capable of sitting on the committee if needed.

Frank Chestnut made a motion to approve; second, Chuck Caldwell. Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

➤ **Discussion: Regional Transportation Plan, Freight Strategies – stakeholder recommendations**

The next element of the Regional Transportation Plan we will be working on is Freight Strategies. In November the board will start looking at freight issues and

identifying strategies. Vicki is encouraging board members to have discussions with their communities about the freight issues to bring back to the November meeting.

In January the RTPO is going to form a stakeholder committee of freight providers. Vicki has asked the board to help identify what freight providers should be engaged in the process and provide contact information for them at the November meeting. We need providers that would be willing to sit on the committee and help us flush out the strategies.

4. **ALL- STAFF REPORT**

➤ **Vicki Cummings, Executive Director**

- Working on elements of the upcoming RTPO meeting.
- Westport Park Plan components.
- Held 2nd Open House for the Wishkah Road Flood Study.
- Completed support letters for Consolidated Transit Grants.
- Appointed to the Economic Development Fund Advisory Committee (.09 funds). Serving as Secretary.

➤ **Theresa Julius, GIS Coordinator**

- Attended the on-line annual State Data Center meeting.
- Completed maps for the Port of GH to use on grant application.
- Working on Historic Hoquiam map.
- The new demographic brochure is available.

➤ **Zana Dennis, Office Coordinator**

- Working on the 2017 Budget.
- Attending health benefit meetings.
- Attending State Auditor trainings.
- General 2017 office preparation.

5. **MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

- None

6. **MEMBER/PUBLIC COMMENT**

➤ **Quinault Indian Nation, Michael Cardwell**

- 25 Million dollar expansion to the QBR Casino.
- Looking to open another QMart.
- Prepped for storm, but thankfully it wasn't too bad.
- Attended State Transportation Conference.
- Attending Joint WA & OR State Planning Conference.

➤ **Port of Grays Harbor, Commissioner Chuck Caldwell**

- New cannabis growing operation at Satsop should bring 60-100 new jobs.
- In negotiations with a new auto company.

➤ **Grays Harbor Transit, Ken Mehin**

- Still in labor negotiations.

- GPS project is going well.
 - Finished state audit last week.
- Grays Harbor PUD, Commissioner Russ Skolrood
 - Prepped for storm, but thankfully it wasn't too bad.
 - BPA is saying they may get rate increases down to 3%.
- Timberland Regional Library, Allison Grubbs
 - One Book, One Community program went well.
 - Doing children's learning using STEM programs.
 - Introducing more workshops and a coding club.
- City of Hoquiam, City Councilmember John Pellegrini
 - Working on the bi-annual budget.
 - Crude by rail continues to be a topic of discussion.
 - Possible Simpson Avenue waterline replacement needed.
 - Finished ranking for WA Coastal Recreation Initiative Committee.
- City of Ocean Shores, City Councilmember John Lynn
 - Working on 2017 budget process.
 - Point Brown project is in works.
 - Continue to look for solutions to the erosion problem.
- City of Ocean Shores, Mayor Rob Bearden
 - Homeless encampment issue at a local church is being resolved.
 - Finished Complete Streets Ordinance for TIB.
 - Continue to look for solutions to the erosion problem.
 - Port projects for the Marina break wall and parking area will be starting soon.
 - Completed a letter of support for the parking area resurfacing.
 - One clam dig was allowed, hoping for more this year.
- City of Cosmopolis, Mayor Frank Chestnut
 - Working on 2017 budget.
- City of Elma, City Councilmember Tom Boling
 - Burger King is slated to open in November.
 - Summit Medical Group plans to build a large office/medical building.
- City of Aberdeen, City Councilmember Tim Alstrom
 - Working on the 2017 budget.
 - Signed a new 3 year contract with the Aberdeen Police.
 - Chair of the Public Services Committee. Hoping if the cities do want to combine services that the ambulance service be the first focus.
- WSDOT, Dennis Engel
 - Kevin Dayton took a position at HQ, so need to hire a replacement.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

GRAYS HARBOR COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

115 S. Wooding St.

Aberdeen, Washington 98520

Tim Alstrom
Chair

Date

Vicki Cummings
Executive Director

Date