

GRAYS HARBOR
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
MEETING MINUTES
September 15, 2016

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

- The meeting 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 Holly Plackett (City of Ocean Shores)
- 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)

➤ **Staff:**

- Vicki Cummings, Executive Director
- Theresa Julius, GIS 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.

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

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

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

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

➤ **Administrative Sub-Council Report**

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

- **Action: Approval of September Claims Batch #16-09 and September Payroll**
Chairman, Tim Alstrom, asked for approval of the September Claims, Batch #16-09 in the amount of \$3,519.03 and September 2016 Payroll in the amount of \$13,985.44.

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

OLD BUSINESS

- **Discussion: Regional Transportation Plan Update**
Over the year GHCOG has worked on various elements of the RTP. Vicki reminded the Board that they completed and adopted the Roadway Strategies component. SWRTPO has been working on Transit Strategies for the RTP directly with the providers, but Vicki reviewed and commented on the component that will be approved on September 23rd. The next component of the RTP that GHCOG will be working on is Freight Strategies, which will continue to be the focus of the RTP into 2017.
- **Discussion: WSDOT 2016 Call for Freight Projects**
WSDOT issued a call for projects as a way to update the WA State Freight Mobility Plan. They are only accepting projects that fit into the Fast Act or the National Highway Freight Program. Based on those criteria, Grays Harbor would not have any eligible projects. Vicki worked with our RTPO partners to get sections of US 101 and US 12 reclassified as Critical Rural Freight Corridors and that allowed Grays Harbor to add three projects to the update list; E. Aberdeen Mobility, Truck Route and ITS. Vicki also notified the RTPO and WSDOT freight division of two new potential projects for the Port.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Action: Resolution #608, Grays Harbor Council of Governments 2017 Preliminary Budget**
Vicki presented and outlined GHCOG's 2017 Preliminary Budget. The preliminary budget included a 2% dues increase for all participating members. Expenditures increased in the Benefits/Salary category, due to an increase in health benefit costs. Budget letters will be going out next week, but we have until the December meeting to make changes to the budget.

Michael Cardwell made a motion to approve; second, John Pellegrini. Motion passed unanimously.
- **Discussion: Consolidated Transit Grants review & ranking, Southwest Washington RTPO Application Process**
The September RTPO meeting will approve criteria for rating and ranking Consolidated Transit Grants within the SWRTPO. In November the RTPO board will appoint a stakeholder (transit employee) and up to two reps from each County. It is important that Grays Harbor be represented at the November meeting to ensure we have nominees on the committee.
- **Discussion: Annual Dinner Meeting Staff Recommendation**
Vicki made the recommendation that we hold the annual dinner meeting in the Port Commission Chambers on the 3rd Thursday in December and have O'Brian's cater

like we did in 2015. Board member feedback was limited, but Michael Cardwell proposed holding it at the Quinault Beach Resort, but had to check with the Nation to confirm. Ken Mehin offered to provide a bus to transport the members from Aberdeen to the QBR. We hope to have confirmation by the October meeting.

4. **ALL- STAFF REPORT**

➤ **Vicki Cummings, Executive Director**

- Finalized the Annual Report for the UPWP.
- GHCOG Presentations at Ocean Shores and Port Commission.
- Helping GHTA & CCAP with Consolidated Transit Grants.
- Reviewed TDP for GHTA.
- Provided traffic data white paper report to Mayor Samuels.

➤ **Theresa Julius, GIS Coordinator**

- Mapping for the Westport Park Plan.
- Starting and ongoing GIS data inventory and cleaning.
- Working on field data collection solutions and opportunities.

5. **MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

- None

6. **MEMBER/PUBLIC COMMENT**

➤ **Quinault Indian Nation, Michael Cardwell**

- Hand-out on “Native Americans Fight the Dakota Access Pipeline”.
- Senator Maria Cantwell’s visit will be highlighted in the Nugguam.
- Worked hard to complete the 2016 Tribal Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- Attending Tribal Transportation Program Coordinating Committee Meeting.
- Attending the Tribal State Transportation Conference.
- Updating Shoreline Management Plan.
- Canoe won 1st prize in Logger’s Playday.

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

- It looks like the Port will be on budget for 2016.
- Working on some new potential projects.

➤ **Grays Harbor Transit, Ken Mehin**

- New Route, *The Wave*, the downtown Aberdeen Shuttle.
- Planning to employ GPS Lead Buses by the end of the year.
- Hoping to deploy Wifi on buses by the end of the year.
- New LED lights in bus yard. Will pay for themselves in 13 months.
- Ridership is up 11% since last month and 50% since last year.

➤ **Grays Harbor PUD, Commissioner Russ Skolrood**

- Working on Preliminary Budget and looks like a 4-9% increase from BPA.
- September 26th is the PUD’s ARC Demonstration Trailer Workshop.

➤ **Timberland Regional Library, Allison Grubbs**

- Amanda Park building project is going. Should be complete by end of October.

- Overall library user-ship is up.
- City of Hoquiam, City Councilmember John Pellegrini
 - Logger’s Playday was a success.
 - Sits on WA Coastal Recreation Initiative Committee that ranked 19 grant projects.
 - Appointed to the Consolidation Task Force.
 - Approved Shoreline Management Plan.
 - Working on Preliminary Budget for 2017.
- City of Ocean Shores, City Councilmember John Lynn
 - Working on 2017 Budget Process.
 - Working with a new marketing group.
 - Point Brown project is moving ahead.
- City of Ocean Shores, City Councilmember Holly Placket
 - On Planning Commission working on backyard chicken policy.
- City of Cosmopolis, Mayor Frank Chestnut
 - Public Works Department complimented Theresa and GHCOG staff’s work.
 - The September 11th, 125th Anniversary Celebration was a success!
 - Received permit for water rights/wells and for Mill Creek Dam from DOE.
- City of Aberdeen, City Councilmember Tim Alstrom
 - Supported resolution for the Westport State Park naming.
 - Signed charging station contract with Tesla. Parking lot revisions are underway.
 - Passed a resolution in support of the East Aberdeen Mobility Project.

7. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

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

 Tim Alstrom
 Chair

Date

 Vicki Cummings
 Executive Director

Date