

GRAYS HARBOR
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
MEETING MINUTES
April 22, 2010

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair John Pellegrini at 7:10 p.m. He led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

2. ROLL CALL

Members in Attendance:

Bob Crumpacker (City of Ocean Shores)
Mayor Brandon Atoch (City of Oakville)
Tim Alstrom (City of Aberdeen)
Mike Wincewicz (City of Montesano)
Mayor Dave Osgood (City of Elma)
Commissioner Chuck Caldwell (Port of Grays Harbor)
Christine Peck (Timberland Regional Library)

Administrative Sub-Council:

Chair – John Pellegini (City of Hoquiam)
1st Vice- Chair – Mayor Vickie Raines (City of Cosmopolis)
Representative at Large – Commissioner Russ Skolrood (PUD)

Guests

Gary Nelson and Leonard Barnes, Port of Grays Harbor

Council Staff:

Vicki Cummings, Nancy Trask

A quorum was established.

3. PRESESENTATION: The Growth of Rail in Grays Harbor County, Gary Nelson and Leonard Barnes (Port of Grays Harbor)

Gary Nelson, Executive Director of the Port of Grays Harbor, stated AGP recently announced a \$60 million expansion project which will add meal and grain storage. The Port estimates that by 2020 the number of cars will grow from 7,500 cars now to 30,000 cars. The Port needs to plan for rail in the marine terminal to accommodate that potential growth, which will basically fill up the Port. Gary then shared a rail plan that will take care of the Port's expansion needs for the next 20 to 25 years.

Gary stated the City of Hoquiam has enough money to make repairs to the Hoquiam River Bridge from the 2007 storm. The city and Puget Sound Pacific have \$350,000 to refurbish the bridge. This is important to the Port's ability to market the Rayonier property. This year the Port made an appropriations request to Norm Dicks' office in conjunction with the railroad to refurbish the Wishkah River Bridge to increase the speed from 5mph to 10 mph. "So we will be able to clear the east Aberdeen area twice as fast. We are planning on putting in 5 tracks to the Port with the idea that when we bring a full unit train in it doesn't stop but comes right in to the Port," Gary said.

Port Commissioners have been supportive of the plan. The plan is not just to mitigate the surface traffic but there are some operational advantages as well. This project is approximately \$15 million. The Port may have to finance the first phase of this plan themselves. They are hoping to find either state or federal dollars to finalize the project.

Phase 1 will be to build 3 of the grain tracks and those tracks will be used for autos this year. The Port is almost permitted and will be designed by the end of May; probably go out to bid this summer and try to build the 3 tracks this year. Phases 2 through 4, which includes a second loop, will service AGP facility. Phase 1 is 9,000 feet of track; the second phase will be 25,000 feet of track.

Leonard Barnes stated the Pasha Group has hired 45 people since January. They are moving 25,000 cars per year hope to increase that number to 80,000 cars per year. The Port is also working on securing GM, Ford and Volkswagon contracts.

4. **GHCOG BUSINESS**

➤ Approval of the Meeting Agenda

Mayor Raines made a motion to approve the meeting agenda; second, Commissioner Caldwell. Motion passed.

➤ Approval of the March 25, 2010 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Caldwell made a motion to approve the GHCOG March 25, 2010 meeting minutes; second Mayor Raines. Motion passed.

➤ Administrative Sub-Council Report

Chair John Pellegrini reported the Administrative Sub-Council approved the April bills and the May payroll. They discussed the "Non-Member Costs and Data Request Policy" and Nancy's position replacement. No further action was taken.

➤ **Old Business**

▪ STP County-Wide Paving Project Update

Vicki stated that she is expecting the second round of stimulus money to come through when the JOBS bill gets signed. The county-wide paving project is solidified and she has been working with Russ Esses at the county. The JOBS bill did get passed, but what did not get passed was the section of the JOBS bill that actually created the transportation stimulus money. The JOBS bill that was passed, called the H.I.R.E Act, did fund COBRA, unemployment benefits, flood

insurance, that type of thing. At this point they think it is still alive, but it is just not moving.

➤ **New Business**

- Resolution No. 517, Amendment #2 to the 2010-2015 Regional TIP
Vicki presented Resolution No. 517, Amendment #2 to the 2010-2015 Regional TIP in that the amendment include the Grays Harbor County 2010 cities and county paving project; total project cost to be \$7.762 million. *Mayor Raines made a motion to approve Resolution No. 517; second Mayor Osgood. Motion passed.*

5. **STAFF REPORTS**

➤ Vicki Cummings, Executive Director

Direct

- Working on a proposal that will be submitted to the RC&EDD; they submitted Phase 3 of their economic recovery grant and part of that grant requires a reporting coordinator. If GHCOG is chosen as project coordinator the Agency could receive up tot \$30,000 for the project. The final amount needs to be negotiated.
- Working with the Port on rail funding.
- Performing background research related to Marine Highways for the Port of Grays Harbor to facilitate their decisions as to whether or not to be included if thy qualify.
- Working with the City of Oakville on a rural development loan application for their community building. Friends of the Oakville Library are presenting a 2-day workshop on grant writing for non-profits to be held May 14 and May 15 at the Oakville library; cost is \$45 per participant. Flyers were distributed to the Council members. Also working with Oakville to examine sewer planning funds.
- Working with the City of Montesano on their Senior Center community development grant.
- Have been attending the Mayors meetings discussing the regional jail facility. The mayors will be setting up an advisory board at their meeting on May 13.

Regional

- Hosted both Senator Murray and Senator Dicks, both of those meetings went very well.
- Attended Columbia-Pacific RC&EDD annual meeting.
- Attended GH Chamber of Commerce meeting.

➤ Julia Gibb, Planner/Community Development Coordinator

Direct

- **Ocean Shores Comprehensive Plan:** Reviewed and reformatted the original 1998 Comprehensive Plan to incorporate recent major amendment package in 2007; noted any inconsistencies or needs for further amendments because of reformatting. Researched formatting options with MRSC librarian.
- **Port of Grays Harbor:** Marine Highway Program; researched and wrote memo on new federal program with potential grant resources for the Port.

- **Montesano:** Reviewed and summarized informational needs and other requirements of Community Development Block grant Planning Only Grant requirements. \$400,000 is available to jurisdictions in Washington State for the current round. Montesano is interested in rehabbing its Old Public Works shop for possible use by the Montesano Senior Center.
- **Cosmopolis:** Reviewed final draft, Hazard management Plan in preparation for Open House in May.

Regional

- **Chehalis River Flood Authority Meeting:** Attended public meeting at Montesano City Hall April 6, from 6-8 pm.
- **Researched COG Library for waterfront plans:** Requested by the Historic Seaport
- **Office Policies Discussion:** Had staff meeting to discuss map and GIS production costs and charges.

➤ **Theresa Julius, Planner/GIS Coordinator**

Direct

Hoquiam – Began mapping for city’s proposed historic district planning; provided finalized map books pages and electronic files to the fire department completing their hydrant GPS data collection project

Oakville – Formatted flyer for a grant writing workshop that is part of their library fundraising campaign.

GHPDA – Produced area maps and census tract data for a grant application.

Port of Grays Harbor – Provided large size prints of consultant’s work.

McCleary – Produced a map of Fire District 12 for the city.

Montesano – Printed poster sized maps for city forester; provided Mike Wincewicz a city limit map.

Westport – Creating a waterline data layer for creation of a water system map.

Regional

- Published 2nd Quarter 2010 GHCOG Public Funding Notification.
- Conducted my annual request for zoning map updates.
- Working on updating and clarifying GHCOG GIS products, services and pricing.
- Regional TIP update for county-wide paving project in preparation for federal JOBS funding.
- Sent out initial email reminders to agency staff regarding the 2011 TIP adoption and processing timeline.

Upcoming mapping projects:

- >Cosmopolis hazard mitigation plan final maps should be completed in May
- >Hoquiam historic plan mapping
- >Hoquiam future land use ma updates
- >Hoquiam water system detail maps
- >Hoquiam city-wide water system map updates
- >Hoquiam parking zone map
- >Hoquiam sewer system mapping and GPS project
- >McCleary sidewalk mapping
- >Port of GH western US coast location map

6. **MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS** - None

7. **MEMBER/PUBLIC COMMENT**

- City of Cosmopolis, Mayor Vickie Raines – Mayor Raines announced that on May 5 the city will be holding a town meeting; also they have a new web site and new email addresses.
- City of Ocean Shores, Bob Crumpacker – Mr. Crumpacker announced the city awarded a \$7.2 million contract for their water treatment plant which will employ 50 people during construction.
- Timberland Regional Library, Christine Peck – Ms. Peck stated the library will be installing an integrated computer system in May and will be closed for two days. She also reported the library has received 15 applications for the director position and they also received a grant from the Grays Harbor Community Foundation for the library's summer reading program.
- City of Montesano, Mike Wincewicz – Mr. Wincewicz reported on the city's new \$3.6 million water reservoir.
- City of Aberdeen, Tim Alstrom – Mr. Alstrom reported the city is working on their fire contracts, side streets project and emergency vehicle access into the area by the Guest House Inn.
- Grays Harbor PUD, Commissioner Russ Skolrood – Commissioner Skolrood reported the PUD has launched their new web site. They also are moving into the new IT building.
- City of Elma, Mayor Dave Osgood – Mayor Osgood announced they are working on the final drawings of the city hall/police station remodel. Also, the school sewer project will go on line soon.
- City of Oakville, Mayor Brandon Atoch – Mayor Atoch announced the city has launched their new web site and that they continue to work on the city hall/library building plans.
- City of Hoquiam, John Pellegrini – Mr. Pellegrini reported the city's sidewalk project is moving along; new LED street lights will be installed in May; 7th Street Theatre is currently being remodeled; and the LaVouge Building hotel rooms will be completed this summer.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

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

