

GRAYS HARBOR
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
FULL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
August 24, 2006

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called order by First Vice Chair Vickie Raines at 7:00 p.m. The flag salute was given.

2. ROLL CALL

Members in Attendance:

Commissioner Bob Beerbower (GH County/GHPDA)

John Pellegrini (City of Hoquiam)

Michael Davolio (City of McCleary)

Mayor John Ruymann (City of Oakville)

Commissioner Chuck Caldwell (Port of Grays Harbor)

Desiree Dodson (City of Westport, voted electronically)

Administrative Sub-Council

First Vice-Chair – Mayor Vickie Raines (City of Cosmopolis)

Second Vice-Chair – Terry Veitz (City of Ocean Shores, voted electronically)

Secretary – Mike Wessells (Timberland Library)

Representative at Large – Chris Thomas (City of Montesano, voted electronically)

Guests

Debbie Clemen, Buck Meile

Council Staff

Vicki Cummings, Theresa Julius, Julia Gibb, Nancy Trask

A quorum was established.

3. GHCOG BUSINESS

➤ Approval of the Meeting Agenda

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

➤ Approval of the July 27, 2006 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Caldwell made a motion approving the July 27, 2006 GHCOG meeting minutes; second Mike Davolio. Motion passed.

- Administrative Sub-Council Report, Vicki Cummings
The Administrative Sub-Council met before the August 24 Council meeting with only two members present. Those members approved the July/August bills and the September payroll; however, a third signature approval is needed. Mayor Osgood will be contacted for his approval signature. No further business was conducted.

- New Business
 - Resolution No. 469, Approval of the 2007-2012 Regional TIP
Vicki explained the purpose and the function of the Transportation Improvement Plan. She reminded the members that in order to receive funding transportation projects must appear in the TIP.
Michael Davolio made a motion to approve Resolution No. 469, the 2007-2012 Regional TIP; second Commissioner Caldwell. Motion passed.

 - Discussion: STP Policies and Criteria
Vicki distributed a draft handout of the Grays Harbor County Region Surface Transportation Program Policies and Project Rating Criteria and reviewed the document with the members. She explained the changes in policy and in criteria. Several months ago a committee was formed of Mayor Raines, Terry Veitz, Brian Shay and Desiree Dodson to review the new federal requirements.

“Once the STP policy and criteria are approved, then a notice will go out to all of the communities and local agencies letting them know that we have been working on it and we will also ask who their formal representative to the Technical Committee will be,” said Vicki.

 - Resolution No. 470, Approval of the Surface Transportation Program (STP) Policy and Criteria
Commissioner Caldwell made a motion to approve Resolution No. 470, establishing the policy, process and criteria as adopted by the STP Policy Board governing the use of SAFETEA-LU STP funds; second Mike Wessells. Motion passed.

- Staff Reports
 - Vicki Cummings, Executive Director
 - Working intensively on the US101 Regional Circulation Project; public open house meeting is scheduled for September 26, 7:00 pm, at the Port of Grays Harbor Commission Chamber.
 - Working with the City of Hoquiam and the Rail Depot Committee.
 - Working with the Central Park School on the application for Safe Routes to Schools.
 - Doing the final revisions on the re-draft of the Montesano Comp Plan, also working on their Park and Rec Plan, as well as the City of Elma’s Park Plan.
 - Beginning to develop our collaborative grant application for critical areas.
 - Continue to work through multiple issues with Columbia-Pacific RC&EDD, as Vicki sits on their executive board; trying to get that organization stabilized so they don’t lose their membership and lose their charter.

- Helping the Quinault Nation by sitting on their Technical Committee for their transportation plan for the Nation.
 - Completed the last of the COG's technology upgrade in the office.
 - Working on yet another Federal requirement that came out of SAFETEA-LU which is the Human Services Transportation Coordination Plan.
 - Last year the Port, the EDC, the GHPDA and Grays Harbor College formed a group that they are calling the Jobs Committee. Their focus was to take a look at projects throughout the region that would result in direct job development. The COG was invited into the process. The intent was to begin the process with county-wide agencies, then expand to include the communities. Vicki explained the GHCOG's involvement due to transportation issues. On August 30 a delegation of legislators will meet with this Jobs Committee and tour the sites that they are promoting. Vicki invited the Administrative Sub-Council to attend.
- Julia Gibb, Community Development Coordinator
 - Finalized memos for Oakville, McCleary and Elma regarding needs assessment based on meetings with city staff and research on each city's adopted plans.
 - Met with the Elma City Council to facilitate developing their priority community development project list.
 - Prepared for and then re-scheduled a workshop with Oakville City Council for September.
 - Met with McCleary City Council on their priority projects.
 - Scheduled McCleary's community meeting for September 20 at the community hall.
 - Talking with McCleary Public Works staff about possible school walkway grant applications to state and federal governments.
 - Doing funding research related to city priorities [block grant, sidewalks, CTED].
 - Working on the toolkit contents [case studies from other jurisdictions in areas of interest to Grays Harbor cities; drafting step-by-step approach to project management.
 - Attended a workshop on "Building Walkable Communities" put on by state agencies [DOT, DOT, CTED] and Feet First, a private non-profit organization.
 - In September will be attending a grant writing workshop sponsored by HUD staff in Olympia.
 - Theresa Julius, Planner/GIS Coordinator
 - Continue to work on the mapping and data for the US101 Regional Circulation Project.
 - Completed the TIP.
 - Adnetts has completed the technology updates.
 - The GIS machine has been upgraded also.

4. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS - None

5. **COUNCIL MEMBER/PUBLIC COMMENT**

- **Port of Grays Harbor, Commissioner Caldwell**
Commissioner Caldwell reported that things are going well at the Port.
- **Grays Harbor County, Commissioner Beerbower**
Commissioner Beerbower reported that construction in the county is going great guns. The county has had to hire more staff to keep up with the building process. The ORV Park is now allowing day riding.
- **Grays Harbor PDA, Commissioner Beerbower**
Commissioner Beerbower stated the PDA has a number of businesses looking at locating at the Satsop Development Park and several businesses are “ready to sign on the dotted line.”
- **City of McCleary, Michael Davolio**
Michael extended his thanks to Theresa and Julia for the work they have been doing for the city.
- **City of Hoquiam, John Pellegrini**
Vicki Cummings welcomed John to the GHCOG. John has taken Ron Tibbetts place and Hoquiam’s representative to the GHCOG; the members extended a warm welcome to him. John announced that Loggers Play Day will be held on Saturday, September 9th. He also reported that work is progressing on the rail depot.
- **Timberland Regional Library, Michael Wessells**
Michael said the new Westport library will be opening soon. The Regional Board of Trustees will be meeting in Grays Harbor County over the next two month; meeting in Westport in September and meeting in Oakville in October.
- **City of Oakville, Mayor John Ruymann**
Mayor Ruymann reported that the city is in initial talks of a new library.
- **Department of Transportation, Debbie Clemen**
Debbie announced that SR107 will be gravel through next year until the final repairs can be completed.
- **City of Cosmopolis, Mayor Vickie Raines**
Mayor Raines reported the city is rezoning the property along First Street along the river to a waterfront use district and are going to hopefully have some development along the water that will promote growth and economy. The city is also looking at annexing property as a local developer is looking to build approximately 350 residential homes, 100 of those being condominiums within the next few years. She announced that Sunday, September 10 is the city’s annual Festival in the Park. Also on September 13 there will be a town meeting at 7:00 pm at the Cosmopolis School Auditorium regarding the “financial impact of the Weyerhaeuser closure.”

