

**D R A F T**  
GRAYS HARBOR  
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
FULL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
February 23, 2006

**1. CALL TO ORDER/FLAG SALUTE**

Chairman Dave Osgood called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.; the flag salute was given.

**2. INTRODUCTIONS**

Mayor John Ruymann was introduced as the new 2006 member representative for the City of Oakville.

Members in Attendance:

Mayor Michael Bruce (City of Westport)	Commissioner Tom Casey (GHPUD)
Ron Tibbetts (City of Hoquiam)	Mayor John Ruymann (City of Oakville)
Commissioner Bob Beerbower (GH Co.)	Terry Fernsler (Col-Pac RC&EDD)

Administrative Sub-Council

Chair – Mayor Dave Osgood (City of Elma)  
First Vice-Chair – Mayor Vickie Raines (City of Cosmopolis)  
Second Vice-Chair – Terry Veitz (City of Ocean Shores)  
Secretary – Mike Wessells (Timberland Regional Library)  
Representative at Large – Chris Thomas (City of Montesano)

Guests

Debbie Clemen (WSDOT), Buck Meile (Oakville), Sophia Von Wrangell

Council Staff

Vicki Cummings, Theresa Julius, Nancy Trask

**3. GHCOG BUSINESS**

➤ **New Business**

- 2005 Year End Report – Vicki Cummings distributed copies of the Year End Report for 2005 to the members and discussed the year's happenings in the categories of Administration, Regional Planning, Transportation Planning and Planning Contracts. The GHCOG secured a Rural Community Development initiative grant in the amount of \$150,000 to fund the Community Development Coordinator position at the COG for three years. The COG secured a \$10,000 CTED Emerging Issues grant for GIS software updates and GIS training and an

additional \$27,980 in transportation funds to upgrade technical capabilities for the office.

- Approval of the Meeting Agenda  
*Mayor Vickie Raines made a motion approving the February 23, 2006 meeting agenda; second, Ron Tibbetts. Motion passed.*
- Approval of the January 26, 2006 Meeting Minutes  
*Mike Wessells made a motion approving the January 26, 2006 GHCOG meeting minutes; second, Mayor Bruce. Motion passed.*
- Administrative Sub-Council Report, Chairman Dave Osgood  
Chairman Osgood reported that the Administrative Sub-Council met on February 23<sup>rd</sup> and approved the January bills and the March payroll. Theressa Julius was approved to attend a GIS planning conference in Vancouver, Washington.
- Establish Regional Projects and Regional Issues Sub-Councils  
Vicki stated she would like to activate the sub-councils again, the first being the Regional Projects Sub-Council. She would re-establish the Regional Issues Sub-Council at a later date. She asked for volunteers to sit on the Regional Projects Sub-Council. Volunteers included: Mayor Bruce, Ron Tibbetts, Commissioner Casey, and Commissioner Beerbower.

#### Staff Reports

- Vicki Cummings, Executive Director
  - Working with the Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Organization (RTPO) on submitting projects for direct appropriation from the legislature. The following projects were submitted:
    - City of Cosmopolis Downtown Corridor Project, Phase III - \$600,000
    - Port Industrial Road Safety and Capacity Upgrade - \$1.8 million. The funding will cover the design and construction of the initial alternative in the completed Strategic Analysis. That alternative includes building a third lane that will be dedicated to turning movements so those vehicles are not impeding the flow of through traffic.
    - SR 109 Corridor Management Plan – \$148,000
    - Westport SR105 Spur Phase II - \$1 million.
  - Placed the ad in the newspapers and several colleges for the position of Community Development Coordinator.
  - Participated in the Port Industrial Road Strategic Analysis presentation of the final draft at the Port of Grays Harbor on the final draft.
  - Working with the Department of Transportation to sponsor a Safe Route to Schools grant workshop here in Grays Harbor County.
  - Began planning the Grays Harbor Transit Development Plan, which is something we do every year.
  - Worked with the Port of Grays Harbor on several Job Development Fund grant applications.

- Completed the Straddleline ORV Park Plan for the County. The plan was presented to the IAC (granting agency) on February 3<sup>rd</sup> and it met all of the requirements that they were looking for. The IAC agreed to enter into negotiations with the County and allow them to move forward and commit to giving them the \$350,000 to get the park up and running again. February 6 was the final public hearing date for the County.
- Theresa Julius, Planner/GIS Coordinator
  - Updating the hydrant maps for the Hoquiam Fire Department.
  - Two City of McCleary utility employees have been trained on the GPS unit.
  - The Westport Park Plan has been presented in its final draft to the planning commission and will next go to the city council and the Port of Grays Harbor for review.

➤ Miscellaneous Business - None

4. **COUNCIL MEMBER/PUBLIC COMMENT**

➤ **Grays Harbor County, Commissioner Beerbower**

Commissioner Beerbower extended his thanks to the GHCOG staff for their work done on the Straddleline ORV Park business plan. There still is a problem in acquiring insurance for the park, but we continue to work on that issue. The neighbors have stated their opposition to the up and coming noise problem, so the first thing we are going to do is put up a barrier of trees set back approximately 20 feet from the freeway. The plan is to open the park on April 1<sup>st</sup>.

Regarding Satsop Development Park, we have had inquiries about leasing space. An Olympia broadcasting company will be moving into the Enterprise Building. They will be leasing the entire second floor. The Commissioner also reported the Boise plant is still for sale.

➤ **City of Montesano, Chris Thomas**

Chris announced the city is proceeding forward with their TIB grant regarding new sidewalks, lighting and landscaping from Exit 107 down through the main street of Montesano. However, the city found out that the Department of Transportation owned that first section of street, and will have to redesign some of their plans to meet the state road standards. DOT will have to review the project to make sure Montesano meets their standards. This may cause the project to be delayed a year. Chris also reported that the city has done infrastructure improvements to the water system.

➤ **City of Westport, Mayor Michael Bruce**

Mayor Bruce reported Lanco has been buying property and are busy constructing. He also complimented staff on developing a great parks plan for Westport.

- **Grays Harbor PUD, Commissioner Tom Casey**  
Commissioner Casey thanked the members for their support on recent BPA issues. He also reported the PUD is in sensitive power negotiations with the Hoquiam pulp mill.
- **Timberland Regional Library, Mike Wessells**  
Mike announced the Legislature did authorize money for the 211 project. He also announced that the library has opened the first ever kiosk in the Community Center in Rochester.
- **City of Hoquiam, Rob Tibbetts**  
Ron reported the city has hired Mike Folkers as the new Chief Financial Officer and that the city is in the process of recruiting a new police chief.
- **Columbia-Pacific RC&EDD, Terry Fernsler**  
Terry reported that he will soon sign an agreement with the U.S. Forest Service where Columbia-Pacific RC&EDD will be providing the public relations and fund raising campaign in which the U.S. Forest Service will be providing the Christmas tree for the Capitol at Washington DC along with 65 companion trees to 65 various offices.
- **City of Oakville, Mayor John Ruymann**  
Mayor Ruymann reported that the city has a contract proposal from the County Sheriff's Department for the city's Police Department.
- **Department of Transportation, Debbie Clemen**  
Debbie reported on the slide problems on SR101 at Artic and SR107, South Montesano. These two slides will be a long term fix and it will be August before these areas will be repaired.
- **City of Elma, Mayor Dave Osgood**  
Mayor Osgood was pleased to announce that all the downtown store buildings are full except for one building.

5. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

GRAYS HARBOR COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
115 South Wooding Street  
Aberdeen, Washington 98520

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dave Osgood  
Chairman

Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Nancy L. Trask  
Office Coordinator

Date