

GRAYS HARBOR
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
FULL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
February 28, 2008

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mayor Raines at 7:00 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Members in Attendance:

Lisa Benn (Port of Grays Harbor)

Chris Vessey (City of McCleary)

Nick Johnson (City of Ocean Shores)

Commissioner Tom Casey (GHPUD)

Mayor Michael Bruce (City of Westport)

Mike Wessells (Timberland Regional Library)

Administrative Sub-Council

Chair – Mayor Vickie Raines (City of Cosmopolis)

First Vice-Chair – Chris Thomas (City of Montesano)

Second Vice-Chair – John Pellegrini (City of Hoquiam)

Representative at Large – Mayor Bill Simpson (City of Aberdeen)

Guests: Debbie Clemen (WSDOT)

Council Staff

Vicki Cummings, Julia Gibb, Theresa Julius, Nancy Trask

3. **GHCOG BUSINESS**

➤ Approval of the Meeting Agenda

*Mayor Simpson made a motion to approve the meeting agenda; second, Chris Vessey.
Motion passed.*

➤ Approval of the January 24, 2008 Meeting Minutes

*Nick Johnson made a motion to approve the GHCOG January 24, 2008 meeting minutes;
second Mayor Bruce. Motion passed.*

➤ Administrative Sub-Council Report, Chair Raines

First Vice-Chair Chris Thomas reported that the Administrative Sub-Council met before this meeting and approved the February bills and the March payroll. No further action was taken.

New Business

- Resolution No. 486, GHCOG 2008 Transportation Improvement Plan Amendment No. 1
Vicki presented Resolution No. 486 which is Amendment No. 1 to the GHCOG 2008 Transportation Improvement Plan to include the addition of the US 101 Truck route Alternative EIS project. ***John Pellegrini made a motion to approve Resolution No. 486; second, Chris Vessey. Motion passed.***
- Safe Routes to Schools Program
Vicki announced a Safe Routes to Schools training which will be held March 31 in Long Beach Washington at the Super 8 Motel. Call the Council of Governments for further details.

4. STAFF REPORTS

- *Vicki Cummings, Executive Director*
 - ✓ Continuing work on SR109 Scenic Byway and finishing up some background visits.
 - ✓ Been working on some Federal appropriations assisting the Port of Grays Harbor for Port Industrial Road. Asking for \$3.95 million for the 2 miles of roadway. The second project we submitted was for the US101 Truck Route By-Pass Alternative; we are asking for \$5 million.
 - ✓ Wrapping up work on the Montesano Parks and Rec plan; ready to go to the City Council and City Planning Commission and having an open public meeting regarding the plan. Also did some preliminary work on some downtown design regulations for them.
 - ✓ Working on Grays Harbor Transit's Request for Proposal; we got them money to do a park and ride study in the Lake Quinault area to see which is the best location to site one.
 - ✓ Attended the Columbia-Pacific RC&EDD annual meeting in January. Working with the RC&EDD to develop another RCDI grant proposal. The project would use Julia and the toolkits she has designed to do workshops for communities in Pacific County.
- *Julia Gibb, Community Development Coordinator*

During February the following was accomplished for this program:

 - ✓ Met with Brian Shay and Alissa Thurman to review Hoquiam Needs Assessment
 - ✓ Presented Cosmopolis Needs Assessment to the Mayor and City Council
 - ✓ Finalized Needs Assessments for Montesano and Cosmopolis based upon Council and Mayor input and any public input
 - ✓ Prepared for a special work session on Montesano Needs Assessment on March 4 at the request of the Mayor and the Council
 - ✓ Finalized Hoquiam Needs Assessment; worked with staff on scheduling presentation
 - ✓ Met with Randy Lewis, Westport City Administrator, to review Westport official documents list and the city's community development priority needs
 - ✓ Met with Robin Leraas, Port of Grays Harbor Manager of the Westport Marina
 - ✓ Begun review of Westport plans and policies, continue Ocean Shores review
 - ✓ Coordinated with area jurisdictions and state DOT to schedule first quarter Safe Routes to School training session in Long Beach on March 31
 - ✓ Attended CTED sponsored grants database training January 28th
 - ✓ Attended Hoquiam Planning Commission January 31st meeting on their draft Comprehensive Plan

- ✓ Continue research and data compilation for community development project toolkit, both general information and case studies as well as development of specific priority projects identified by cities
- *Theresa Julius, Planner/GIS Coordinator*
 - ✓ Made updates to the Hoquiam zoning map as requested.
 - ✓ Completed the Disinfection Monitoring map for the Hoquiam Water Department.
 - ✓ Started a downtown project with the Montesano Planning Commission. They are interested in maintaining and enhancing the downtown character and would like assistance in the planning process. Currently having the commission members do a walking and driving tour through town to identify their assets and issues.
 - ✓ Updated the GHCOG demographic highlights brochure.
 - ✓ Went to the February 7 Marine Recourse Committee (MRC) workshop sponsored by Grays Harbor County and Washington State Fish and Wildlife. The Grays Harbor MRC will work with or compliment the upper watershed work that the Chehalis Basin Partnership does. Existing MRC program projects include restore near shore, inter tidal and estuarine habitats, improve shellfish harvest areas, support salmon and bottom fish recovery and education and scientific programs, to name a few.
 - ✓ Have been following the Chehalis Basin Partnership discussions regarding the December storm and flooding. The partnership has decided not to take a lead role in resolving basin flooding issues.

5. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS - None

6. MEMBER/PUBLIC COMMENT

- City of Hoquiam, John Pellegrini
John reported that the traffic re-route regarding the Simpson Avenue Bridge closure is going very smoothly; updating the city's comp plan; and continuing to work on the water/sewer line crossing.
- Grays Harbor PUD, Commissioner Tom Casey
Commissioner Casey reported that the PUD and Weyerhaeuser are in negotiations regarding the mill purchase in Cosmopolis.
- City of Ocean Shores, Nick Johnson
Nick reported the city is in the surveying mode of the round-a-bout Chance La Mer; the city is going through a change of government and Dennis Morrisette was named as Interim City Manager.
- City of Aberdeen, Mayor Bill Simpson
Mayor Simpson announced the May 15 street market with 42 out-of-town vendors. Also the D and R Theater will open in June with live entertainment, the Doobie Brothers.
- City of McCleary, Chris Vessey
Chris reported they have finalized their city's Phase II plan.
- City of Montesano, Chris Thomas
Chris reported the city is in labor negotiations with their police department.

