



Washington Association of Telecommunications Officers & Advisors

A professional organization of individuals and organizations serving citizens in the development, regulation, and administration of cable television and other telecommunication systems.

WATOA Board Meeting Minutes January 25, 2023 *Amended February 3, 2023*

Megan K. Hutton
WATOA Secretary 2/3/23

1. Call to Order – 2:05 PM
2. Roll Call of Officers

WATOA Board Position	2021 Board Member	Present	Absent
President	Jon Funfar, City of Pasco	x	
Vice-President	Chris Jaramillo, King County	x	
Board Secretary	Megan Hutton, Pierce County	x	
Treasurer	Alice Lawson, City of Seattle	x	
Regional Rep: District 1 (North & Puget)	Ben Skudlarek, City of Bellingham	x	
Regional Rep: District 2 (King)	Amber Olds, City of Auburn	x	
Regional Rep: District 3 (Puget & Coast)	George Geyer, Kitsap County		x
Regional Rep: District 4 (Southwest)	Jim Demmon, City of Vancouver	x	
Regional Rep: District 5 (Rainier Valley)	Vacant		x
Regional Rep: District 6 (Central)	Ben Faubion, City of Ellensburg	x	
Regional Rep: District 7 (Northeast)	Jessica Fisher, City of Spokane	x	
Regional Rep: District 8 (Tri-Cities)	Vacant		x
Regional Rep: District 9 (At-Large)	Edgar Riebe, Seattle Public Schools	x	
Past-President	Jeff Lueders, City of Tacoma	x	

3. Certify 2023 Board election results
 - a. The 2023 Board Election process is complete, with 53% of voting members casting ballots. *The results:* our full slate of candidates were unanimously elected to serve as Board members this year.
 - b. Alice moved to certify the election, Jim 2nd, unanimously approved.
 - c. Changes will be made to [update the US Bank account authorized signers as follows](#):
 - a. remove outgoing President (Jeff Lueder) and Vice President (Robin Steel) as authorized signers;
 - b. add new President (Jonathan Dale Funfar) as authorized signer;
 - c. Treasurer (Alice M. Lawson) will remain as an authorized signer; and
 - d. Vice President (Christina Jaramillo) may also be added if a third authorized user is required.
 - d. Starting January 1, 2023, these are WATOA Board Officers and Representatives

WATOA Board Position	2022 Board Member
President	Jon Funfar, City of Pasco
Vice-President	Chris Jaramillo, King County
Board Secretary	Megan Hutton, Pierce County
Treasurer	Alice Lawson, City of Seattle
Regional Rep: District 1 (North & Puget)	Ben Skudlarek, City of Bellingham
Regional Rep: District 2 (King)	Amber Olds, City of Auburn
Regional Rep: District 3 (Puget & Coast)	George Geyer, Kitsap County
Regional Rep: District 4 (Southwest)	Jim Demmon, City of Vancouver
Regional Rep: District 5 (Rainier Valley)	<i>vacant</i>
Regional Rep: District 6 (Central)	Ben Faubion, City of Ellensburg

Regional Rep: District 7 (Northeast)	Jessica Fisher, City of Spokane
Regional Rep: District 8 (Tri-Cities)	<i>vacant</i>
Regional Rep: District 9 (At-Large)	Edgar Riebe, Seattle Public Schools
Past-President	Jeff Lueders, City of Tacoma

4. Board members introduced themselves to new board members.
5. Approval of the agenda
 - a. Motion: Jeff 2nd: Alice Approval: yes
6. Approval of minutes – December 14, 2022 not available – to be approved at next meeting
 - a. Motion: 2nd: Approval:
7. President's Report – Jon Funfar
 - a. See conference update later in minutes
8. Vice President's Report – Chris Jaramillo
 - a. See conference update later in minutes
9. Secretary's Report
 - i. Confirmed the
10. Treasurer's report – Alice Lawson
 - a. Previous balance
 - i. 11/1/22 - \$19,624.90
 - b. New balance
 - i. 12/31/22 - \$19,624.90
 - ii. Ending year with 100% of agencies and 97% of memberships
11. Committee Reports
 - a. Conference Cmte – Chris Jaramillo (hotel), Amber Olds, Jon Funfar (receptions/sponsors/vendors)
 - i. Chris talked with hotel about windows, hot rooms, has not signed contract yet. Separate reception possible for vendors, refer them to Chris.
 - ii. Presidents Reception
 1. Tagaris Winery – nearby but still requires bus. Huge patio, good size upper room. Budget was \$5500 last year for reception. [Event Spaces | mysite \(tagariswines.com\)](http://tagariswines.com)
 2. Best menu, space, and beautiful site
 3. How to pay? Don't accept checks. Deposit \$250. But set at \$6000.
 4. Next steps: line up transportation
 - iii. Rates: Registration \$175 mem/\$200 non-mem. \$100 vendor rate.
 1. Take a guest to reception \$25.
 - iv. Make conference flyer – Ben Skudlarek
 - v. CLE set up – Mike Connor
 - vi. Welcome video – Edgar Riebe
 - vii. Conference Cmte: Chris, Amber, Alice, Megan, Jon, Jeff
 - viii. Production Track: Megan, Jim, Edgar & Mike (AV), Jessica
 1. Social media, video topics to come
 - ix. Legislative Track: Jon, Alice, Chris, Jeff, George
 1. Broadband planning, public broadband consortium, Pierce County broadband incentive districts, wireless products that are becoming competitive
 - b. Policy/Legal – Alice Lawson
 - i. How do we make sure federal broadband money coming to WA state in the future that build infrastructure remains under public ownership. Letter sent to State Broadband Office and legislators. Legislator responses showed good support.
 - c. Production – Jim Demmon



Washington Association of Telecommunications Officers & Advisors

A professional organization of individuals and organizations serving citizens in the development, regulation, and administration of cable television and other telecommunication systems.

- i. Get ready to plan! Jim to email group to get ideas going.
 - d. Communications –
 - i. Jon Funfar has access to website now. Will add conference info.
 - e. Membership/Nominating
 - i. Membership renewals just starting to roll in.
 - ii. Need to fill two vacancies – Chris working to find people.
 - f. By Laws – Jeff/Megan/George
 - i. Start on this in June.
 - g. Brian Wilson Scholarship
 - i. None
- 12. Old Business
- 13. New Business
 - a. Jon will be asked by NATOA to identify members that haven't re-upped with the national conference.
 - b. Board retreat – March 24 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
- 14. Good of the Order
- 15. Next Meeting – 4th Wednesday of every month
- 16. Adjournment – 3:05 pm
- 17. Copy of January 2023 Board Elections Results email (below)

From: Lawson, Alice
Sent: Monday, January 02, 2023 11:05 AM
To: watoa@listserve.com
Subject: 2023 Board Election Results & Happy New Year

Fellow WATO A Members,

The 2023 Board Election process is complete and validated with 53% of voting members casting ballots. I'm happy to announce we have the following great Board representatives from across our state, with a special Board welcome to **Jessica Fisher** our newest board member, and **Chris Jaramillo** our new Vice-President. Together we are ready to lead [WATO A efforts](#) to serve our residents in the areas of telecommunications and PEG channel operations.

WATO A Board Position	2023 Board Members
President	Jon Funfar, City of Pasco
Vice-President	Chris Jaramillo, King County
Board Secretary	Megan Hutton, Pierce County
Treasurer	Alice Lawson, City of Seattle
Regional Rep: District 1 (North & Puget)	Ben Skudlarek, City of Bellingham
Regional Rep: District 2 (King)	Amber Olds, City of Auburn
Regional Rep: District 3 (Puget & Coast)	George Geyer, Kitsap County
Regional Rep: District 4 (Southwest)	Jim Demmon, City of Vancouver
Regional Rep: District 5 (Rainier Valley)	<i>vacant</i>
Regional Rep: District 6 (Central)	Ben Faubion, City of Ellensburg
Regional Rep: District 7 (Northeast)	Jessica Fisher, City of Spokane

Regional Rep: District 8 (Tri-Cities)	<i>vacant</i>
Regional Rep: District 9 (At-Large)	Edgar Riebe, Seattle Public Schools
Past-President	Jeff Lueders, City of Tacoma
NATOA Representative (non-voting)	Chris Jaramillo, King County

As the WA State Chapter of NATOA, we also applaud the *national* leadership we have in [NATOA's 2022-2023 Board](#) and new Legislative Director, **Mike Lynch**. Together with NATOA staff, Mike and the Board are ready to continue NATOA's distinguished and steadfast advocacy for local government rights and interests in the telecom and PEG channel space.

NATOA Board Position	2022-2023 Board Members
President	Michael Russo, <i>City of Calabasas, CA</i>
President-Elect	Richard Assmus, <i>City of Arvada, CO</i>
Secretary/Treasurer	Mike Lynch, <i>City of Boston, MA</i>
Immediate Past President	Brian Roberts, <i>City & County of San Francisco, CA</i>
Member	David Albery, <i>Greater West Bloomfield Cable Communications Commission, MI</i>
Member	Suzanne Bartole, <i>San Diego County News Center</i>
Member	Reba Crocker, <i>ROW Consultants LLC</i>
Member	Carson Hamlin, <i>City of Fort Collins, CO</i>
Member	Christian Seidt, <i>City of Louisville, KY</i>
Member	Dan Sheffer, <i>City of Austin, TX - 2</i>
Member	Karen Tolson, <i>DC Office of Cable Television, Film, Music and Entertainment</i>

Lastly, mark your calendar to join us **May 4-5, 2023** in **Richland, WA** for WATOA's 2023 Conference. More details to follow in the coming weeks.