



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 13, 2021

1. Call to Order – 2:05 PM
2. Roll Call of Officers
 - a. Jeff Lueders (Tacoma), Robin Steel (Bellevue), George Geyer (Kitsap Co), Megan Hutton (Pierce Co), John Delay (Spokane), Jim Demmon (Vancouver), Ben Faubion (Ellensburg), Edgar Riebe (Seattle Public Schools), Alice Lawson (Seattle), Jon Funfar (Tri-Cities), ~~Derek Young (Pierce Co)~~, Jon Rauch (Bremerton), Ben Skudlarek (Bellingham), Amber Olds (Auburn)
3. Approval of the agenda from January 13, 2021
 - a. Motion: Robin 2nd: Alice Approval: approved
4. Approval of minutes from the December 12, 2020 Board Meeting
 - a. Secretary - Minutes were taken by Mike Connor and not distributed, Megan to get them
 - b. Motion to delay approval until February mtg: Alice 2nd: Jim Approval: approved
5. President's Report – Jeff Lueders
 - a. Welcome by new President Jeff Lueders
 - b. Look to enhance what's happening in WATOA's policy/legislative agenda this year
6. Vice President's Report – Robin Steel
 - a. Nothing to report
7. Treasurer's report – Alice Lawson
 - a. No activity in December
 - b. No NATOA dues this year (none in 2020 as well)
 - i. Usually \$700-900 per year
 - c. Previous balance 11/30/20 - \$20,471.08
 - d. New balance 12/31/20 \$19,971.08
 - i. \$500 Tight Rope sponsorship applied to 2021 conference
8. Committee Reports (Chair persons are listed)
 - a. Events/Conference – Chris Jaramillo
 - i. Dispute with Campbell's over payment for 2021 Conference, threatening \$9800 to pull out
 1. Consider legal action, get in writing. If pursuing, need attorney letter in Campbell's hands by January 29th.
 2. Board discussion followed about pros and cons and logistics of contract wording was discussed.
 3. Motion \$500 to draft attorney letter, to seek getting out of 2021 conference in Chelan. Moved by Robin, 2nd John Delay, unanimously approved.
 - b. Legislative/Policy/Legal – Jon Funfar
 - i. Three WA State Legislature bills to follow
 1. HB 1064 Short Description: Requiring the disclosure of high-speed internet access availability in the seller's disclosure statement.
 - a. A good idea to tell home buyers ahead of purchase what internet speed is available (or not available at all)
 2. SB 5110 Short Description: Promoting greater access to the internet by modifying permitting, taxation, and other standards for telecommunications companies and facilities.
 - a. Check on conflicts with small cell deployments

- 3. SB 5112 Short Description: Requiring broadband internet access service providers to provide virtual private network service.
- c. Production –Edgar Riebe / Jim Demmon
 - i. We have content for a virtual webinar if needed, in lieu of in-person conference
- d. Communications – Robin Steel
 - i. Robin to fill vacancy
 - ii. WATOA website
 - 1. Update board member bios, especially new members, send update to Alice
 - 2. Resource page with everyone’s contact info is updated
- e. Membership/Nominating – Chris Jaramillo / Alice Lawson
 - i. Alice sent members renewal email 1/13/21
- 9. Old Business
 - a. Jeff to look over current by laws and see if any proposed changes are needed. Jeff to sign existing version and distribute.
 - i. Megan asked Jeff to put By Laws/Term Limit discussion on Board Retreat agenda
 - 1. Secretary will chair new By Laws cmte.
 - ii. FYI last changes to by laws were approved three years ago.
- 10. New Business
 - a. Set date for virtual board retreat via email
 - b. 2021 Board election results – 12/28/20
 - i. New to the board: Jeff Lueders, Amber Olds

WATOA Board Position	2021 Board Member
President	Jeff Lueders, City of Tacoma
Vice-President	Robin Steel, City of Bellevue
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)	Jon Rauch, City of Bremerton
Regional Rep: District 4 (Southwest)	Jim Demmon, City of Vancouver
Regional Rep: District 5 (Rainier Valley)	Derek Young, Pierce County
Regional Rep: District 6 (Central)	Ben Faubion, City of Ellensburg
Regional Rep: District 7 (Northeast)	John Delay, City of Spokane
Regional Rep: District 8 (Tri-Cities)	Jon Funfar, City of Pasco
Regional Rep: District 9 (At-Large)	Edgar Riebe, Seattle Public Schools
Past-President	George Geyer, Kitsap County

- 11. Good of the Order
 - a. None
- 12. Next Meeting(s)
 - a. 2nd Wednesday of each month
 - b. February 11, 2021
 - c. Virtual Board Retreat – February/March TBD
- 13. Adjournment – Megan motion, Alice 2nd, approved, 3:12 PM