



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 October 12, 2022

1. Call to Order – 2:04 PM
2. Roll Call of Officers

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

3. Approval of the agenda
 - a. Motion: Jim 2nd: George Approval: yes
4. Approval of minutes from the September 14, 2022 Board Meeting
 - a. Motion: Alice 2nd: Robin Approval: yes
5. President's Report – Jeff Lueders
 - a. Jeff's manager left, he's now the interim communication manager for City of Tacoma. No end date yet.
6. Vice President's Report – Robin Steel
 - a. E-WATOA updates
 - i. PEG (Jim) –October 28th 12-1 p.m.– tour other PEG station setups
 1. Everything is ready to go, no need to register, just use TEAMS link
 2. Vancouver, Bellingham, Seattle Channel, Seattle Public Schools
 - ii. LEG (Jon) – Legislative Preview
 1. Jon to research what could make a good session
7. Secretary's Report
 - a. Restart work on by-laws when George, Megan and Jeff can regroup.
 - i. October – Cmte to meet about bylaws changes before Nov. 1
 1. Most changes are structural and cleaning up the document.
 - ii. November – Present proposed changes at business meeting
 - iii. December – have changes on electronic ballot
8. Treasurer's report – Alice Lawson

- a. Previous balance
 - i. 8/31/22 - \$21,233.20
- b. New balance
 - i. 9/31/22 - \$19,474.90
 - ii. Includes AWC membership and NATOA chapter meeting costs, reimbursement for Chapter meeting at NATOA (\$528.30)
 - iii. Ending year with 97% of agencies and 92% of memberships
- 9. Committee Reports
 - a. Conference Cmte – Chris Jaramillo (hotel), Amber Olds & Jon Funfar (receptions/sponsorships/vendors)
 - i. Hotel is holding space, WATOA needs to sign contract, likely in October
 - ii. Hotel has per diem rate, has been totally redone. Chris going to check on curtains in PEG track room.
 - iii. Amber looking into reception venues – winery or restaurant. Trying for within walking distance but might not be possible.
 - b. Policy/Legal – Alice Lawson, Ben Faubion
 - i. New leadership at AWC – started State Broadband Deployment Best Practices Taskforce (WA State Broadband Office WSBO)
 - 1. Microtrenching and permitting pilot projects
 - ii. Alice put out to listserv WSBO call for comments
 - iii. FCC opened broadband serviceable location fabric bulk challenge process – poor federal maps for where broadband is or not. FCC wants better maps to determine where infrastructure money should be spent. Maps will be used for grant requests.
 - iv. Franchise fees and PEG fees for OTT state legislative effort
 - v. In Seattle – watching what Wave is doing over IP on fiber network, not cable network...they have infrastructure in the right of way to make that service possible.
 - 1. Rainier Connect in Tacoma/PC is the same issue. Fiber backhaul that makes OTT possible is still located in the ROW.
 - c. Production – just working on e-WATOA
 - d. Communications – none
 - e. Membership/Nominating
 - i. 2023 membership renewal forms will go out to membership by the end of October.
 - ii. Working to fill four vacancies coming up. Dist. 3, 5, 7 have willing candidates.
 - f. By Laws – see secretary update
- 10. Old Business
 - a.
- 11. New Business
 - a. 2022 WATOA Business (all-member) meeting via TEAMS
 - i. Wednesday, November 9 from 2-3 pm
- 12. Good of the Order
 - a. none
- 13. Next Meeting(s)
 - a. Board Meeting dates November 9 at 2 pm
- 14. Adjournment – 2:54 pm