



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 February 10, 2021

1. Call to Order – 2:05 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)	Jon Rauch, City of Bremerton	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	

3. Approval of the agenda
 - a. Motion: Robin 2nd: George Approval: Approved
4. Approval of minutes from 1/13/21 Board Meeting
 - a. Motion: Robin 2nd: John D Approval: approved, no changes
 - b. No minutes could be located for December 2020 meeting – it is likely no minutes were taken.
5. President's Report – Jeff Lueders
 - a. Chris Jaramillo and Jeff Lueders were able to resolve issue with Campbells for \$500
 - i. Reschedule for October 27-29, 2021
 - ii. With attendance of 50 people
 - iii. Includes 30-day option to cancel due to COVID with required reschedule to April 2022
 - b. Motion to rebook for October 27-29 for WATOA annual conference.
 - i. Robin 1st, George 2nd, unanimously approved
 - c. Set date for board retreat
 - i. March 12, 2021 – will be virtual
6. Vice President's Report – Robin Steel
 - a. Will help Chris with conference planning/vendor work
7. Secretary's Report
 - a. Form bylaws committee
 - i. Participants – Megan Hutton, Jeff Lueders, George Geyer
 - ii. Jeff to check on other bylaws we could look at
8. Treasurer's report – Alice Lawson

- a. Previous balance
 - i. Dec 31, 2020 - \$20,471.08
- b. Adjusted ending balance
 - i. January 31, 2021 - \$19,971.08
- c. Membership renewals coming in
 - i. 10 agencies, on track with more coming in
- 9. Committee Reports
 - a. Conference Cmte – Chris Jaramillo
 - i. Alice Lawson will organize conference cmte in the next month
 - b. Policy/Legal
 - i. Following house and senate bills

HB 1064 Short Description: Requiring the disclosure of high-speed internet access availability in the seller's disclosure statement.

SB 5110 Short Description: Promoting greater access to the internet by modifying permitting, taxation, and other standards for telecommunications companies and facilities.

SB 5112 Short Description: Requiring broadband internet access service providers to provide virtual private network service.

- ii. Monday is first major cutoff 2/15/21
 - iii. In this session, a lot of activity around broadband funding, digital equity
 - iv. Alice to share list of bills on Listserv if you'd like to comment
 - v. Maria Cantwell is now chair of Commerce, Science & Transportation
 - c. Production
 - i. Lots of conversations about Captioning now, multiple of us looking at ENCO. John Delay has good details. RCC, TV Tacoma, Bellevue exploring as well. Jim Demmon and Ben Scudlarek use EEG. King County (Kim Hill) switching to new equipment as well.
 - d. Communications
 - e. Membership/Nominating
 - i. Nothing new, just stay on top of renewals
- 10. Old Business
 - a.
- 11. New Business
 - a. Brian Wilson Scholarship – info is ready when we are ready. Amounts to be decided. -George
- 12. Good of the Order
 - a. Comcast low internet cost program – boosting speeds to 50mbs down, 5 up
 - i. WAVE is doing the same
 - b. Mike Charboneau, former member, is retiring. Judy Devall as well? How would we like to recognize outgoing people?
- 13. Next Meeting(s)
 - a. Move March 10th meeting to March 12th – cover normal board mtg during Board retreat
- 14. Adjournment – 2:59 PM