



## 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 9, 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)  | 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: George 2<sup>nd</sup>: Jim D Approval: unanimously approved
4. Approval of minutes from January 12, 2022, as amended
  - a. Motion: Jim D 2<sup>nd</sup>: John Delay Approval: unanimously approved
  - b. Alice noticed some issues with treasurer's section.
    - i. Change beginning balance date and amount to Nov, and \$19,204.04
    - ii. Line "C" add pending
    - iii. Remove line "e"
5. President's Report – Jeff Lueders
  - a. Filed comments to NTIA with help from Jon Funfar; NATOA asked for comments
  - b. March 11 – date for WATOA Board retreat
    - i. 10:00 a.m. -3:00 p.m.
    - ii. Hybrid, possible in-person location on the west side at PCTV studio
    - iii. Agenda topics
      1. By-laws update
      2. E-WATOA workshop topics
      3. NATOA update: Mike Russo from City of Calabassas
      4. Do we have capacity to add Broadband focus/new track to WATOA, in addition to leg/policy & PEG production
      5. Ideas to foster new membership
      6. Rethink committee structure
6. Vice President's Report – Robin Steel

- a. None
- 7. Secretary's Report
  - a. Anticipate by-laws update discussion at the Board retreat
- 8. Treasurer's report – Alice Lawson
  - a. Previous balance 12/31/21 - \$18,804.20
  - b. New adjusted balance 1/31/22 - \$20,179.20
  - c. Jan-Feb big months for renewals
    - i. 14 agencies, 45 members to date
- 9. Committee Reports
  - a. Conference Cmte – Chris Jaramillo
    - i. Looking into Richland locations for future conference.
  - b. Policy Cmte
    - i. Sent NTIA comments for NATOA
    - ii. State legislation – Digital Equity Act, it's moving forward
      - 1. Part of Fed Infrastructure bill had something similar, this would add another layer of services provided at the state
      - 2. Allow Micro-Trenching, wasn't well written, removed local control. Some cities testified to stop it.
      - 3. Look at redefining how the State defines broadband. Current definition is 25/3 service, new would make it 120/20 service. Still in cmte. Bill could take 2-3 years.
  - c. Production
    - i. E-WATOA topics TBD
  - d. Membership
    - i. 40% of where we ended 2021. Membership renewals coming in now.
  - e. Nominating: Fill two positions
    - i. Jon Rauch (vacate end of March)...looking to recruit someone from the region
    - ii. Derek Young
      - 1. Consider Patti Belle from City of Kent, lives in Lakewood, would require Lakewood to become a member, Chris J and Megan to work on this
  - f. Scholarships
    - i. NATOA – will be in-person in Denver. Hotel is \$199 per night.
      - 1. How we divvy up what will be given – TBD at board retreat (airfare/hotel/registration vs. registration only)
  - g. By Laws
    - i. Megan to go through by-laws ahead of board retreat, meet with Jeff and George virtually on March 9 to prep material for retreat
- 10. New Business
  - a. Cancel March 9 meeting in lieu of March 11 Board Retreat
- 11. Good of the Order
  - a. none
- 12. Next Meeting(s)
  - a. March 11, 2022
- 13. Adjournment – 3:04 p.m.