



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 July 13, 2022

1. Call to Order – 2:06 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	

3. Approval of the agenda
 - a. Motion: Alice 2nd: John D Approval: unanimous
4. Approval of minutes from the Date, 2022 Board Meeting
 - a. Motion: Jim D 2nd: John D Approval: unanimous
5. President's Report – Jeff Lueders
 - a. Looking for volunteer to attend NATOA's chapter president's meeting
 - i. Great opportunity to hear from colleagues around the nation
 - ii. Edgar Riebe (Chris J will send you the meeting info)
6. Vice President's Report – Robin Steel
 - a. Jeff thanked Robin for filling in for him last month.
 - b. E-WATOA dates narrowed down to Oct 21 or 28th for PEG group. Decision to come in August.
 - c. State Broadband Office is going through a lot of transition. Policy/Leg e-WATOA date TBD, hoping for Sept-Oct.
7. Secretary's Report
 - a. None
8. Treasurer's report – Alice Lawson
 - a. Previous balance \$21,408.20
 - b. New balance \$21,083.20
 - c. Still need to renew Bellevue, NATOA is asking for annual reports...we get charged per head fee for non-NATOA members. Currently at 94% renewal from 2021 numbers.
 - d. Chris J to work on Bremerton and Yakima
9. Committee Reports

- a. Conference Cmte – Chris Jaramillo
 - i. Richland Holiday Inn confirmed for May 3-5, 2023
 - ii. Wine reception will stay in town, no bus needed, can walk nearby.
 - b. Policy/Legal
 - i. State preparing for influx of National dollars for broadband buildout
 - 1. Conversation with Ann Campbell State Broadband Office Infrastructure Mgmt
 - ii. Airwaves for Equity Initiative (federal program) put together a report, looking to create a revenue stream for digital equity work. Would require auctions of private bandwidth. FCC unable to act on it, due to auctions limit, this year.
 - c. Production
 - i. Upcoming PEG e-WATOA
 - ii. The group had a discussion about upcoming election coverage.
 - iii. Polycon SY40 microphones to daisy chain microphones together.
<https://www.poly.com/us/en/products/phones/sync/sync-40>
 - d. Communications
 - i. Thank you for creating a new WATOA ad
 - e. Membership/Nominating
 - i. Robin will move to president, John Funfar nominated for VP, Jeff Lueders to become past president. George Geyer nominated to fill district 3 vacant seat.
 - f. By-law's update
 - i. None
10. Old Business
- a. None
11. New Business
- a. We have a new Comcast rep. Hans Hechtman has left. Jamison Harris is new, handling smaller cities. Connor McCarthy will handle larger jurisdictions like Seattle, Pierce County this fall.
12. Good of the Order
- a. Alice is going to permanent part-time Mon-Fri half days, in digital equity programs. John Morrison Winters is a new hire.
 - b. Jeff Lueders and Megan Hutton talked about hiring new positions.
13. Next Meeting(s)
- a. August 10, 2022 at 2pm
14. Adjournment – 3:48 pm