



## 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.*

### WATO A Board Meeting Minutes November 20, 2024

1. Call to Order – 3:03pm
2. Roll Call of Officers

WATO A Board Position	2021 Board Member	Present	Absent
President	Jon Funfar, City of Pasco	x	
Vice-President	Mike Connor, City of Kirkland	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)	Patti Belle, City of Kent		x
Regional Rep: District 3 (Puget & Coast)	George Geyer, Kitsap County		x
Regional Rep: District 4 (Southwest)	Jim Demmon, City of Vancouver	x	
Regional Rep: District 5 (Rainier Valley)	Jon Baker, Pierce County	x	
Regional Rep: District 6 (Central)	Ben Faubion, City of Ellensburg		x
Regional Rep: District 7 (Northeast)	Jessica Fisher, City of Spokane	x	
Regional Rep: District 8 (Tri-Cities)	Mark Ingham, City of Richland		x
Regional Rep: District 9 (At-Large)	Edgar Riebe, Seattle Public Schools	x	
Past-President	Jeff Lueders, City of Tacoma		x
NATO A Rep (non-voting)	Chris Jaramillo, King County	x	

3. Approval of the agenda
  - a. Approved
4. Approval of minutes
  - a. 9/25/24 minutes approved (Jim move, Alice second)
5. President's report – Jon Funfar
  - a. None
6. Vice President – Mike Connor
  - a. None
7. Secretary's Report – Megan Hutton
  - a. None
8. Treasurer's report – Alice Lawson
  - a. Previous balance – 9/30/24
    - i. \$11,398.90
  - b. WATO A U.S. Bank CD 4.21%.
    - i. \$15,374.83 (7-month CD redeemed – earned \$347.83 interest)
  - c. Adjusted ending balance – 10/31/24
    - i. \$20,777.38
      1. Pending payments \$17,069.95
      2. Pending deposits \$2100.00
  - d. Update on City/County renewals: 32 agencies/78 members
  - e. Conference costs
    - i. Pending payments \$17,069.95

- ii. Pending deposits \$2100.00
- iii. Total conference costs \$22,833
- iv. Total registration revenue \$21,317
  - 1. Registrations \$11,600
  - 2. Vendors/Sponsors \$10,467
- v. Conference impact on WATOA fund balance
  - 1. As of today's meeting - \$3,565.96 (pending deposits)
  - 2. Estimated after deposits are made - \$1500
- vi. The board looked at all conference costs and revenues - those are detailed in the 10/31/24 treasurer's report.

9. Committee Reports

a. Conference Debrief (Oct. 17-18 Kennewick)

- i. Great turnout with new people in the PEG track
- ii. 24 responses to post-conference survey
  - 1. Most comments were genuinely great
- iii. Vendors needed more attendee face time
- iv. PEG track needed 1 hour-15 minute length sessions, we ran long and crushed into breaks
- v. Policy track wanted less time spent on speaker introductions – people can just read it in the booklet
- vi. President's Reception was well received
- vii. Frequency of conference – every other year. We'll make a decision in 2025. The Board recognizes there is a lot of financial uncertainty around PEG funding. Hard to know at this time if funds to attend conferences will be possible.

b. Policy/Legal

- i. There was a lot of policy discussion at WATOA about the impact of copper being stolen from ROW.
- ii. The Board discussed e-WATOAs to bring us together. Plus Post-NAB every April. And possibly

10. New Business

a. Elections

- i. Jon Funfar moves to past president
- ii. Mike Conner moves into president
- iii. Ben Skudlarek willing to serve as VP
- iv. Chris is going to move off the board for one year, won't be the NATOA rep
- v. Region 1 – Candy Galindo, City of Mount Vernon (Ben's former spot)
- vi. All the other spots remain filled
- vii. Alice motioned to create the ballots with this slate of names, Jim second, unanimously approved

11. Good of the order

a. None

12. Next Meeting – December 18 at 2:30pm

13. Adjournment – 3:58pm