

**ISLAND COUNTY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS – REGULAR SESSION
JANUARY 23, 2013**

The Island County Council of Governments met in regular session on January 23, 2013 in the Commissioners' Hearing Room 102B, located at 1 NE 6th St., Coupeville. The meeting was called to order by Chair, Nancy Conard at 9:00 a.m.

The Council of Governments Minutes and recordings of meetings may be located at <http://www.islandcounty.net/commissioners/cog/2013/>

Members Present: Nancy Conard, Mayor, Town of Coupeville
Helen Price Johnson, Island County Commissioner
Kelly Emerson, Island County Commissioner
Jill Johnson, Island County Commissioner
Hal Seligson, Mayor Pro Tem, City of Langley
Curt Gordon, Commissioner, South Whidbey Port District
Scott Dudley, Mayor, City of Oak Harbor
Benye Weber, Commissioner, Coupeville Port District

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Nancy Conard called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the November 28, 2012 regular meeting. The November 28, 2012 meeting minutes were approved.

SUSTAINABLE WHIDBEY COALITION

Vouchers for Sustainable Whidbey Coalition were provided. It was moved and seconded to approve the SWC vouchers. Motion carried. Commissioner Emerson abstained.

ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR FOR 2013

It was moved and seconded to nominate Mayor Nancy Conard as Chair. Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved and seconded to nominate Curt Gordon as Vice-Chair. Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSS LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FOR 2013

List of unanimous 2013 Legislative Priorities:

- Retain CAPRON transportation funding as a critical resource for Whidbey Island surface transportation needs.
- Retain and support funding for the Public Works Trust Fund Program.
- Support a Legislative effort to limit local government liability and financial burdens caused by unreasonable public records requests.
- Maintain essential transportation linkages to our islands both land and marine. Support new transportation funding.
- Maintain shared revenues with local governments such as liquor sales tax and profits, sales tax and gas taxes.
- Provide adequate financial support for Washington State Parks.

Chair Conard will draft a letter to the state legislatures identifying the list of shared legislative priorities and email to COG members for their review.

MEETING TOPICS FOR 2013

- Emergency Preparedness (Interlocal Agreements with other jurisdictions for shared resources)
- County Long Range Planning
- Affordable Housing/Island County Housing Authority
- Senior Services of Island County (once a year)
- Sustainable Whidbey Coalition
- Island County Tourism Promotion (semi-annual report)
- Economic Development Council (semi-annual report)
- Legislative update
- MRC/WRAC/LIO
- Human Services/Public Health
- State Parks Funding and Service Levels
- Open Public Meetings Act training
- Non-government organizations such as Good Cheer and Saratoga Housing (community safety net/what are the services available that are not government funded)
- NASWI
- Support for DNR to help resolve issue of derelict and abandoned vessels

OTHER ITEMS OF MUTUAL INTEREST

Benye Weber thanked the Board of County Commissioners for approving the Grant Deed of Conservation Easement with the Port of Coupeville for the Greenbank Farm.

Commissioner Price Johnson noted that Sustainable Whidbey Coalition is promoting Whidbey SOLAR NOW, a community bulk savings program that is conducting free workshops in February and March. She also noted that the State Auditor's Office is offering Lean Government resources and wondered if others were interested in combining efforts in this opportunity.

Hal Selgison noted that the City of Langley is going through a period of transition and assured COG members that the City Council was doing their best to keep up with their responsibilities.

Curt Gordon noted that Port of South Whidbey has finally received the Army Corps of Engineers approval for the port's expansion plans at the Langley Marina and will be ready to go out to bid next month. The Port will be partnering with the City of Langley to apply for a Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office boating grant.

Mayor Dudley noted that the City of Oak Harbor is working on a strategic plan for economic development. They are also working with the Washington Surveying and Rating Bureau to move from a Code 4 to a Code 3 city to help save on premiums. The City is conducting meetings regarding bringing the city code in compliance with state law with regard to guns in city parks.

He would like to see the COG voice the opinion that they fully support NASWI. Commissioner Emerson concurred. Chair Conard and Commissioner Price Johnson are meeting with NASWI leadership and Rick Larsen staff regarding local residents concerns about jet noise.

Commissioner Emerson noted that the legislature has opened a very important discussion on the GMA. She put together a letter and provided input on LUPA reform and transportation concurrency, among other issues. Camano State Park is developing a plan for moving forward. Public input ended in December 2012.

Chair Conard thanked the City of Oak Harbor and the County for providing law enforcement services to the Town of Coupeville due to staffing issues. They will be conducting interviews the first week of February.

At the Sustainable Whidbey annual Membership meeting they talked about launching a “Shop Local” program. She would like to see COG support this effort.

She suggested that representatives on the Law and Justice Council prior to making any decision on new revenue sources discuss the recommendation with the entity they represent.

AGENDA TOPICS FOR NEXT MEETING

- Financial report /fund availability update on Rural County Sales Tax .09 Funds from Elaine Marlow; review RCW and application process.
- Legislative concerns.

Chair Conard adjourned the meeting at 10:55 a.m.

Dated this 23rd day of January, 2013.



Approved