

## ISLAND COUNTY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

January 27, 2016

The Island County Council of Governments on January 27, 2016 in the Commissioners' Hearing Room 102B, located at 1 NE 6<sup>th</sup> St., Coupeville.

*The Council of Governments Minutes and recordings of meetings may be located at <http://www.islandcounty.net/commissioners/cog/2016/>*

**Members Present:** Molly Hughes, Mayor, Town of Coupeville  
Richard M. Hannold, Island County Commissioner  
Helen Price Johnson, Island County Commissioner  
Jill Johnson, Island County Commissioner  
Tim Callison, Mayor of Langley  
Curt Gordon, Commissioner, South Whidbey Port District

**Also Present:** Stan Walsh, Skagit River Systems Cooperative (alternate for Lorraine Loomis)  
Susana Strife, Puget Sound Partnership  
Lori Clark, Island County Department Natural Resources, ILIO Coordinator  
Brian Wood, Watershed Planning, Department of Natural Resources  
Keith Higman, Director of Public Health and Natural Resources  
Barbara Bennett, Member of MRC  
Walt Blackman, Puget Sound Energy  
Don Amor, Puget Sound Energy  
Kit Maret, Puget Sound Energy  
Ron Nelson, Economic Development Council  
Mark Daily, Puget Sound Partnership  
Todd Carlson and Jay Drye from Washington State Department of Transportation

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Commissioner Helen Price Johnson called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m. (ILIO was at 9:01)

### **ELECTION OF CHAIR/VICE CHAIR**

It was moved by Commissioner Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Hannold to appoint Curt Gordon as the Chair and Commissioner Price-Johnson as the Vice Chair of the Council of Governments.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved by Commissioner Price Johnson and seconded by Commissioner Johnson to approve the minutes of the December 23, 2015 regular meeting. Meeting minutes were approved as amended.

**ILIO EC decision on 2016 NTA's** - for additional information on this discussion visit the ILIO website.

### **PRESENTATION: PUGET SOUND ENERGY**

Presentation by Don Amor and Kit Maret

Mr. Amor made a PowerPoint Presentation and discussed Puget Sound Energy's (PSE) service territory. He explained the various PSE resources and locations. He talked about PSE's electric portfolio and the need for support of Bill 6248 by the local legislators. He discussed electric safety, preparedness and outreach messages.

Ms. Maret provided the Council of Governments an update on Whidbey Island Electric System.

## **RURAL DEVELOPMENT FUNDS APPLICATION PROCESS**

Presentation by Elaine Marlow

Ms. Marlow provided the annual report of the financial status of the Rural Development Sales Tax Fund.

The COG discussed the City of Langley elevator project and the timing of the project; the City of Langley will need to release funds and reapply to receive funds. Chair Gordon asked Ms. Marlow to provide further breakdown information on project completions and what has happened with this program to be discussed at a later meeting.

Mr. Callison asked about the application process and deadlines.

Commissioner Price Johnson proposed creating a subcommittee that will bring draft policies for the application process at the next meeting.

Chair Gordon asked Commissioner Price Johnson to lead the committee and she will appoint the other members.

## **TRANSPORTATION UPDATE**

ITPO presentation by Doug Cox

Mr. Cox stated the Island Transportation Planning Organization (ITPO) is on track to have a meeting on February 24, 2016 after the COG meeting. He explained to the COG what Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) & Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO) are. He provided an overview of what the ITPO is, how it is structured and some highlights.

Discussion regarding the importance of advocating for regional transportation due to the land division design of Island County and how to get support from other agencies, i.e. Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT).

Todd Carlson and Jay Drye from WSDOT gave an update on status of active projects in Island County. They informed the COG of the Sharpe's Corner Project and the community meeting being held in Anacortes. The public may submit comments through the WSDOT website.

Commissioner Johnson nominated Commissioner Price Johnson to Chair ITPO once the City of Oak Harbor signs the interlocal agreement.

## **CALENDAR ITEMS FOR 2016**

- Elaine Marlow to make a presentation regarding Community Development Funds.
- Presentation from all three new mayors and ports regarding their communities' visions or priorities they may have. Fifteen minute presentations by the Mayors on February 24<sup>th</sup>.

## **OTHER ITEMS OF MUTUAL INTEREST**

- Commissioner Price Johnson hopes the COG can schedule time to with State legislators over the next calendar year; then meet a month prior to that meeting to discuss the COG's conversation. She suggested extending an invitation to Lacey Harper of the Governor's Office, the representatives from Cantwell, Murray and Larsen's office to get an overview.
- Housing is another topic that should be discussed and will be looked at during Comprehensive Plan Update – start an informal housing group to discuss ideas and recommendations in the next coming months.
- Presentation regarding Island County Parks.
- Mayor Callison extended invitation to the first Economic Development Breakfast on February 16, 2016.

- Commissioner Price Johnson serves as the Legislative Liaison for the Board of Island County Commissioners to Olympia and offered the other local jurisdictions or organization to be a conduit and deliver information for them if needed.

The meeting adjourned at 11:44 a.m.

Next meeting: February 24, 2016

Approved this 24 day of February, 2016.

---

**Approved**