

YVCOG GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES
December 9, 2015

PRESENT:

Grandview: Norm Childress-M, Bill Moore-A,
Granger: Maria Gonzalez-M, Lilia Villarreal-A, Bruce Hall-PC
Harrah:
Mabton: Sophie Sotelo – M, Arturo DeleFuente-A
Moxee:
Naches: Kit Hawver-M
Selah: Jane Williams-M
Sunnyside: Jim Restucci -M
Tieton: Felisa Cox-M, Stanley Hall - A
Toppenish: Clara Jimenez –M, Darald Ortloff-A
Union Gap: Roger Wentz-M
Wapato: Jesse Farias-M, Santos Valdez-A, Jim Gerred-PC
Yakima:
Yakima County: Mike Leita-M
Zillah: Janice Gonzales-M, Doug Stewart-A, Ardele Steele-PC/A

ABSENT:

Grandview: Don Olmstead-PC
Granger:
Harrah: Pat Krueger-M, Jack Wells-A
Mabton: Maria Rose-PC
Moxee: LeRoy Lenseigne-M, David Roy-A
Naches: Adam Kramer-A Vacant-PC
Selah: John Tierney-A, Willie Quinnell -PC
Sunnyside:, Spencer Martin-A, DeAnn Hochhalter-PC
Tieton:
Toppenish:, Christina Kwan-PC
Union Gap: Mark Carney-A, Michael Moore-PC
Wapato:
Yakima: Rick Ensey-M, Bill Lover-A, Vacant-PC
Yakima County: Kevin Bouchey-M, Rand Elliott-M
Zillah:

Note: M=Member; A=Alternate; PC=Planning Commission

Attendees: Grandview: Cus Arteaga, Santos Trevino, Jesse Palacios, Gloria Mendoza, Mike Everett; Granger: n/a; Harrah: n/a; Mabton: Mario Martinez; Moxee: n/a; Naches: Wayne Hawver; Selah: n/a; Sunnyside: n/a; Toppenish: Lance Hoyt, Loren Belton, Blaine Thorington; Tieton: n/a; Union Gap: Dan Olson, Greg Cobb, Rod Otterness; Wapato: Peggie Gerred; Yakima: n/a; Zillah: n/a; **Others:** Jenny Mattson, John Hodkinson, Sandee Hodkinson, Kevin Wickenhagen, Merry Daley, Madelyn Carlson, Chad Dold, M. Michelle Ragland, Carol Hoyt, Madelyn Carlson, Brian White (WSDOT), John Hodkinson, Mishani Jack, and Jon Smith (YCDA); YVCOG Staff: Larry Mattson, Christina Wickenhagen, Deb LaCombe, Brian Curtin, Tim Sullivan, Jessica Hansen and Tami Hayward.

CALL TO ORDER
INTRODUCTIONS
ROLL CALL

Chairman Jim Restucci called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. (Dinner break from 7:05 – 7:35 p.m.) The meeting was hosted by the City of Yakima – Hilton Garden Inn. A quorum was present.

PUBLIC COMMENT
POLICY

It is the policy of the YVCOG General Membership to accept public comment on agenda items at the time the item is being discussed. Public comments regarding items not on the agenda will be heard at the end of the meeting.

WELCOMING REMARKS

Jim Restucci, YVCOG Executive Committee Chair, welcomed everyone to the City of Yakima

BUSINESS

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Restucci entertained a motion to approve the Minutes of the October 21, 2015 General Membership Meeting. Yakima County, moved to approve the Minutes and City of Union Gap, seconded. The motion carried.

Nominating Committee

Mr. Restucci asked for volunteers for the 2016 Nominating Committee to nominate members for the YVCOG Executive Committee. Mr. Martinez, City of Mabton; Ms. Jimenez, City of Toppenish; and Mr. Olson, City of Union Gap volunteered to serve on the Nominating Committee. They will meet once or twice in Toppenish to discuss nominations. Anyone interested in being nominated should contact

Approval of 2016 Budget

Larry Mattson, Jim Restucci, or the members of the nominating committee.

The Approval of budget was tabled at the October 21, 2015 General Membership Meeting.

City of Union Gap moves to bring the item back to the table. City of Zillah seconds it.

City of Union Gap moves to approve the YVCOG 2016 budget. City of Zillah seconds.

Debate on this item: Yakima County proposed an amendment to the motion to adjust the total compensation that is offered within the budget to reduce salaries from the average of 9.65% to 2.58%. This would reduce the budget \$41,705.96. Four cities voted in favor of the amendment. The motion fails. The amendment failed.

The membership held a voice vote on the original motion for approval of the 2016 YVCOG budget as originally presented. A clear majority was not distinguishable, so one ballot was given to each delegate. The motion passed 7-3.

The cities of Sunnyside, Granger, Grandview, Selah, Union Gap, Mabton and Zillah supported the original motion to approve the budget while Tieton, Toppenish, Naches and the county rejected them. Not all cities sent representatives to the meeting.

The motion carried.

*Proposed Amendment to
Articles of Association –
Article VIII*

Mr. Mattson proposed that Article VIII be amended, reflecting that after December 31st, Yakima County will no longer act as the fiscal agent for the Conference. Mr. Wentz, City of Union Gap moved; and Mr Leita, Yakima County; seconded.

Motion Carried.

PROGRAM

*2015 Outstanding Service
Award*

Mr. Restucci presented the YVCOG 2015 Outstanding Service Award to Ardele Steele, City of Zillah.

Ardele has been a valued contributor of the 2015 Yakima County Urban Area Growth update process. Constantly attending the UGA monthly work meetings and acting as a leader in the review, discussion, and comments on proposed changes during the update process which will affect all jurisdictions. Ardele served on regional funding subcommittees and panels, participating in transportation alternative programs, call for projects subcommittee 2014, 2013 STP call for projects, Long range transportation plan, prioritized project list, and is

currently on the performance measures subcommittee. Ardele is a long term member of the MPO/RTPO technical advisory committee and was recently voted as DRYVE Vice Chair.

Yakima Basin Watershed Improvement Plan

A presentation about the Yakima Basin Watershed Improvement Plan made by Mike Leita, Yakima County Commissioner; Tom Tebb, Department of Ecology/State Director of the Office of Columbia River; and Nicole Pasi, Yakima Basin Integrated Plan Outreach Coordinator.

Yakima River Storage Study:

In 2004, the Yakima River Storage Study was authorized and funded. The storage study evaluated the options of enlarging Bumping Lake, creating a Wymer Reservoir and pumping water from the Columbia River during winter months. Bumping Lake Enlargement and creating Wymer Reservoir were not considered viable and were eliminated.

Work Group:

In 2009, the Department of Ecology and the Bureau of Reclamation formed a Work Group to develop the Yakima River Basin Integrated Water Resource Management Plan. The plan was developed to provide benefits to all water related programs in the Yakima Basin, a surface water storage plan that included expansion of Bumping Lake, building a Wymer reservoir, pumping water from lake Kachess, raising the level of Lake Cle Elum 3 feet, and beginning an appraisal of transferring water from the Columbia River.

Study Continues:

As of 2015, studies are continuing on the storage projects to evaluate the feasibility of Bumping, Wymer, and Kachess. The extension of a permit to access water from the Columbia River as part of the Integrated Plan has been extended. Even if all proposed storage projects are completed the Yakima Basin will continue to have insufficient water needed for fish, agriculture, and economic growth.

Law Enforcement Against Drugs

A presentation on LEAD was made by Orest Wilson, Washington State Patrol; and Kal Fuller, City of Grandview.

LEAD (Law Enforcement Against Drugs) Task Force, which was organized in the early 1990s as a multi-agency effort to disrupt and disband high level drug operations in Yakima and the Yakima Valley. The LEAD Task Force is made up of federal, state and county law enforcement officers, as well as detectives from other cities within Yakima and the Yakima Valley. Several Valley cities are members of LEAD, but the LEAD team will respond to any city that requests assistance.

LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING

The City of Toppenish will host the January 20th General Membership Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

YVCOG General Membership Meeting Minutes

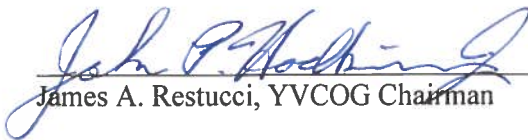
A verbatim recording of this meeting is available.

December 9, 2015

ADJOURN

With no further business, Mr. Restucci adjourned the meeting at approximately 9:10p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


James A. Restucci, YVCOG Chairman

Date signed: 3-16-16


Jessica Hansen, Office and Communication Specialist