

**YVCOG General Membership Video Conference
Meeting Minutes
September 16, 2020**

JURISDICTION	PRESENT	ABSENT
GRANDVIEW	Bill Moore-M; Cus Arteaga-A	
GRANGER	Julie Sharp-A	Lilia Villarreal-M; Veronica Bermudez-PC
HARRAH	Pat Krueger – M ??	
MABTON		Sophie Sotelo – M; Arturo Dela Fuente - A
MOXEE		David Mullen-M; Greg LaBree-A
NACHES	Kit Hawver - M	Wayne Hawver - A
SELAH	Jacque Matson-M; Sherry Raymond-A	Lisa Smith-PC
SUNNYSIDE	Dean Broersma-M	Francisco Guerrero-A
TIETON	Ed Marquand-M	Amy Oberrender-A
TOPPENISH	Clara Jimenez-A; Al Hubert-PC	Mark Oaks-M
UNION GAP	Jack Galloway-M; Sandy Dailey-A	Mike Moore-PC
WAPATO		
YAKIMA CITY	Brad Hill-M	Holly Cousens-A
YAKIMA CO.	Ron Anderson – M	Vicki Baker-M
ZILLAHA	Janice Gonzales-M; Ardele Steele-PC/A/A	Doug Stewart-A

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

Legislators: US Rep. Dan Newhouse; Richard Evans (for US Sen. Maria Cantwell’s office); Rep. Bruce Chandler (15th District); Rep. Tom Dent (13th District); Rep. Gina Mosbrucker (14th District); Sen. Judy Warnick (13th District).

Additional

Attendees: Others: David Diaz, Gloria Mendoza, Joan Souders (Grandview); Hilda Guzman (Granger); Martin Casey, James Restucci (Sunnyside); Lance Hoyt, Heidi Riojas (Toppenish); Arlene Fisher, John Hodkinson, Julie Schilling, Jeff Shoemaker (Union Gap); Troy Suing (WSDOT); Stephanie Ray (HLA); Larry Mattson (Jacobs Engineering); Paul Tabayoyon (Yakima Community Foundation).

YVCOG Staff Chris Wickenhagen, Alan Adolf, Tami Hayward, Jodi Smith, Shane Andreas, Lynn Deitrick, Jeff Watson.

CALL TO ORDER: James Restucci, Chair, called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m.
INTRODUCTIONS AND The meeting was hosted via ZOOM. A quorum was present.
ROLL CALL

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 Chairman Restucci welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked for a Moment of Silence in honor YVCOG Executive Committee Member and Yakima County Commissioner, Norm Childress, citizen and former Mayor of the City of Grandview. Commissioner Childress passed away on September 15th.

Grandview Mayor, Gloria Mendoza, also spoke about how Commissioner Childress was loved by the community and will be missed by Grandview and Yakima County citizens.

BUSINESS

Approval of Minutes – June 17, 2020 Special Meeting The City of Union Gap moved to approve the minutes from June 17, 2020. The City of Toppenish seconded. *The motion carried.*

YVCOG General Membership Special Meeting Minutes
September 16, 2020

A recording of this meeting is available

PROGRAM

State and National Elected Official 2020 Update

US Rep. Dan Newhouse; Richard Evans (for US Sen. Maria Cantwell's office); Rep. Bruce Chandler (15th District); Rep. Tom Dent (13th District); Rep. Gina Mosbrucker (14th District); Sen. Judy Warnick (13th District), spoke on what they considered to be the highlights of the 2020 legislative sessions.

The 2021 Budget was a focal point for all speakers, along with the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the Budget and our nation/state's economies. It was agreed that the longer it takes us to get back to normal, the longer it is going to take for our economy to recover, and that some businesses probably will be unable to recover at all. Long-term impacts on local and US economy. Receiving Whitehouse briefings each week.

Another concern addressed was the need for support for families who have still to receive any kind of unemployment benefits. All of the legislators are concerned with this and are doing all that they can to assist these families when they are made aware of the need. Most cases are easily solved.

The second Coronavirus relief package negotiations are at a stalemate.

All expressed the desire to get back into session in order to balance the budget and prevent a possible government shutdown. Currently a \$9 billion deficit.

Another topic touched on by many of the legislators are the devastating forest fires happening along the west coast and other areas of the country. Forest management practices are a focus for several of our legislators – excessive fuel equals catastrophic fires. Also emphasized the need for relief packages to those affected by the fires., Representative Mosbrucker complimented Representative Chris Corry on the PTSD bill for first responders. First responders need to be eligible for Workers Comp.

Mental health demands on the system are up by 30% due to COVID, fires, etc.

Representative Mosbrucker asked people to check Representative Newhouse's website – a lot of funding available. She also reminded everyone to encourage their constituents to complete the 2020 Census ... population translates into funding.

Broadband availability is a concern right now, with so many people working remotely and now with school starting up. Working to make sure all students have computers and access to internet.

Looking at ways to continue funding for small airports.

Senator Judy Warnick and Representative Gina Mosbrucker also spoke about Savanna's Act (improving information sharing, among law enforcement, regarding murdered Native American women) and also the need to end human trafficking of children.

UPCOMING GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

- October 21, 2020 – City of Sunnyside hosts.
- December 9, 2020 – YVCOG hosts.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURN

With no further business, Chairman Restucci adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Restucci, YVCOG Chairman

Date signed: 23 November 2020



Tamara Hayward, Financial Specialist