

YVCOG EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, February 26, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair John Hodkinson called the February 26, 2024, meeting of the Yakima Valley Conference of Governments Executive Committee to order at 2:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL &
INTRODUCTIONS

- **Members present:**
 Patricia Byers: City of Yakima Council Member
 Janice Gonzales: Zillah City Council Member, Area 2 – Harrah, Toppenish, Wapato, Zillah
 John Hodkinson, Vice Chair: Mayor of Union Gap, Area 1–Moxee, Naches, Selah, Tieton, Union Gap
 LaDon Linde: Yakima County Commissioner
 Bill Moore: Grandview Council Member, Area 3 – Grandview, Granger, Mabton
 Sherry Raymond – Member at Large
 James Restucci, Chair
- **Members absent:**
 None
- **YVCOG Staff:**
 Chris Wickenhagen, Vicki Baker, Byron Gumz, Kathy Geil, Alan Adolf, Shane Andreas, Alma Rabadan, Angelica Saldivar, Jodi Smith
- **Others Present** – Roger Bell, City of Selah Mayor
- **A quorum was present.** **Indicates notice of absence received prior to meeting.*

PUBLIC COMMENT
POLICY

It is the policy of the Yakima Valley Conference of Governments Executive Committee 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.

*Unfinished Business**

2022 Audit
Chris Wickenhagen, Executive Director
 Executive Director Wickenhagen provided information on the State Auditor’s final report from 2022. No findings. A couple of policy recommendations and will bring those forward to the Executive Committee. No Management Letters. Next audit will move to a higher level due to increased revenue. Unfunded, but mandated, audit expenses.
Action: Informational

New Business

Questions for Candidates

- Review applications received. Chris Wickenhagen presented information. The term for the Executive Committee runs from February 2024 to February 2026. Roger Bell and Jim Restucci spoke about their qualifications. Two strong candidates.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:
 YVCOG Executive Committee will go into an Executive Session as per RCW 42.30.110 (1) (g) from 2:14 p.m. to 2:24 p.m. in order to evaluate the qualifications of a candidate for appointment to elective office.

1. Appoint YVCOG Member At-Large to the Executive Committee and Transportation Policy Board

Discussion and Decision: *LaDon Linde, Yakima County Commissioner, moved to appoint Jim Restucci as At-Large Representative to the YVCOG Executive Committee and Transportation Policy Board. Bill Moore, Area 3 Representative for Grandview, Granger and Mabton, seconded. The motion carried.*

2. Election of YVCOG Chair for Executive Committee and Transportation Policy Board

Discussion and Decision: *Patricia Byers, John Hodkinson and Jim Restucci expressed interest in chairing the YVCOG Executive Committee. Julia Hart, City of Sunnyside Representative, moved to nominate Jim Restucci as Chair to the YVCOG Executive Committee and Transportation Policy Board. Sherry Raymond nominated Patricia Byers for YVCOG Executive Committee Chair.*

By raised hand vote, Jim Restucci is elected Chair.

3. Election of YVCOG Vice Chair for Executive Committee and Transportation Policy Board

Discussion and Decision: Sherry Raymond nominated John Hodkinson as Vice Chair. LaDon Linde nominates Patricia Byers as Vice Chair of the YVCOG Executive Committee and Transportation Policy Board. By raised hand vote, John Hodkinson is elected Vice Chair.

*Consent Agenda**

Jim Restucci, YVCOG Executive Committee Chair

“The items listed below may be acted upon by a single motion and second of the Executive Committee. By the simple request to the Chair, any Executive Committee Member may remove items from the Consent Agenda for separate consideration after the adoption of the remainder of the Consent Agenda items.”

1. Approval of Minutes

January 17, 2024, YVCOG Executive Committee Meeting

2. YVCOG January 2024 Budget Report

Revenue: \$524,487.32; Expenditures \$213,548.94;
Cash Revenue Balance of \$1,071,356.48.

3. Payroll Register

As of January 31, 2024, approve payroll EFTs in the amount of \$150,935.44.

4. Approval of Accounts Payable Vouchers

As of January 31, 2024, approve claim vouchers numbered JAN-24-002 through JAN-24-026 in the total amount of \$62,613.50.

Action: Discussion & Decision – Patricia Byers, City of Yakima, moved to approve the Consent Agenda. LaDon Linde, Yakima County Commissioner, seconded. The motion carried.

Executive Director’s Correspondence

Chris Wickenhagen, Executive Director

Executive Director Wickenhagen presented and discussed the following items:

- **Code of Conduct Policy** – YVCOG code of conduct policy for staff, Executive Committee, Policy Board. Will bring it back next month for discussion and changes.
- **New ED & PB Board & GM Member Orientation** – Dates TBD, but will be presented on-line
- **Evening of Celebration** – great turnout and speakers, especially for those new to government. Support and help are available.
- **Local Crime Lab Tours/Presentations** – numerous requests for tours, but availability is limited. Will accommodate if at all possible.
- **Board Retreat Facilitations** – Several member cities have lots of new staff as well as newly elected officials.
- **NARC Board of Directors** – National Assoc. of Regional Councils is seeking a regional representative for WA & OR. Patricia Byers was nominated by Jim Restucci and seconded by Bill Moore. The motion passes and Patricia Byers was selected.
- **2023 Annual Report Presentations** – sharing Annual Report with each city/town.
- **Senator Cantwell Congressional Directed Spending Application: Fentanyl and Land Trusts**
- **Senator Murray Congressional Directed Spending Application: Local Crime Lab**, including very crowded office and laboratory space.
- **Commerce Funding Opportunities: Workforce Development, Energy Storage TA**
- **Shane Andreas:** moving into Media Specialist position with weekly podcasts, outreach, virtual tour of Crime Lab, partnering with Mid Valley TV

Information

*Staff Reports**

Byron Gumz, Regional Planning Manager

Land Use & Regional Planning Program:

- An update on current and future planning activities was also provided, including the climate element in future plans for resiliency in the face of climate change, including irrigation and transportation, creating an engagement plan, and outline a plan for climate element.
- Community Outdoor Athletic Facilities Grant: acquire land, create or renovate facilities encouraging individual athleticism. \$12M in SE WA region for 2024. Similar amount in 2025.
- Community assistance for Grandview, Granger, Sunnyside, Tieton, Union Gap, Wapato.

Angelica Saldivar, Housing Program Manager

Housing Program updates include:

- **Two home rehabilitations at YVCOG.**
- **Kresge Healthy Homes** focused on repairs that for health concerns such as ADA accessibility, mold abatement, water quality, etc. 10 complete applications, 3 projects done, 7 still underway. Open Countywide
- **Senior Disabled & Emergency Repair Program:** emergency repairs such as leaking pipes, no heat, no AC, major structural issues. CDBG currently has 6 applications. In \$200,000 initial funding for 3 cities. Now received and additional \$200,000 for all other cities except Yakima.
- Continuing pursuing funding opportunities for home ownership, home preservation.

Vicki Baker for Kathy Geil, Crime Lab Manager

- For February: ATF contractor working full-time has completed NIBIN acquisition training, will speed up process and turnaround time. Goal is 24 hour turnaround.
- Charity and Kathy attended SHOT Show conference and training.
- RapidDNA equipment has been delivered. Awaiting supplies and training, validation.
- Quality, technical, safety training materials. Has not heard of a case being overturned.
- August to December 2023, 96 test fired firearms, For January 2024, 29 firearms without City of Yakima. Overall, 465 casings, with 107 leads.

Vicky Baker, Deputy Director

- Crime Lab: new faces on the Operations Board. Dan Christman selected the new Vice Chair. Working on communication regarding specific details on choice of language.
- Legislative request for operating budget, received \$395,000
- Funding request for RapidDNA workgroup with 4 other counties still awaiting status.

OTHER BUSINESS The next Executive Committee meeting will be Monday, March 18, 2024.

PUBLIC COMMENT None.

ADJOURN With no other business, YVCOG Executive Committee Chair Jim Restucci, adjourned the meeting at 3:25 p.m.

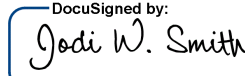
Respectfully submitted,

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 James A. Restucci, YVCOG Executive Committee Chair

3/19/2024

 Date signed

ATTEST: DocuSigned by:

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 Jodi Smith, Communications Specialist