

**SKAGIT COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MEETING MINUTES**

May 19, 2021

GoToMeeting Remote Meeting

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Commissioner Lisa Janicki, Skagit County, Chair; Mayor Jill Boudreau, City of Mount Vernon, Vice-Chair; Commissioner Peter Browning, Skagit County; Mayor Laurie Gere, City of Anacortes; Commissioner Ken Goodwin, Port of Anacortes; Mayor Julia Johnson, City of Sedro-Woolley; Commissioner Germaine Kornegay, Skagit PUD; Mayor Jason Miller, Town of Concrete; Commissioner Steve Omdal, Port of Skagit; Mayor Steve Sexton, City of Burlington; Commissioner Ron Wesen, Skagit County; and Chairman Tom Wooten, Samish Indian Nation.

**STAFF PRESENT**

Kevin Murphy, Executive Director; Katie Bunge, Associate Planner; Pam Carlson, Finance Manager; and Mark Hamilton, Senior Transportation Planner.

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Richard Brocksmith, Skagit Watershed Council; and Shana Grove, Deena Garza, and Susanne Hancock, Office of the Washington State Auditor.

**MINUTES**

1. Call to Order: Commissioner Janicki called the meeting to order at 2:15 p.m.

Roll Call: Roll was taken with a quorum present.

2. Written Public Comments: Mr. Hamilton explained that while there is no opportunity for verbal public comment during the remote meeting, written comments were accepted from the time when the meeting materials were released to the day prior to the meeting. No public comments were received during that timeframe.

3. Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of April 21, 2021 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
- b. Approval of Accounts Payable Vouchers and Payroll Certification

AP voucher batch #136750, #136808, and #137047 in an amount totaling \$26,155.63; and payroll certification for April 2021 in the amount of \$34,262.10.

Mayor Boudreau moved approval of the consent agenda items as presented, and Mayor Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Action Items

- a. Resolution 2021-04 Opposing the Imperial Metals Corporation's Exploratory Mining Permit and Urging Permanent Protection of the Skagit Headwaters in British Columbia: Commissioner Janicki reminded the Board that last month, the Board acted to draft a resolution and

letter opposing an exploratory mining permit for Imperial Metals Corporation in the headwaters of the Skagit River in British Columbia. Since that time, a resolution was prepared attempting to capture SCOG members' perspective on this issue. Commissioner Janicki noted that SCOG members could be listed in the first recital of the resolution as a potential amendment, in order to demonstrate the full breadth of SCOG membership. Board members agreed that this would strengthen the resolution.

Mayor Sexton noted that the City of Burlington had recently passed a resolution on this issue, and that many cities in Skagit County have now passed resolutions. Although it is not commonly done by the SCOG Board, Mayor Sexton supported taking a position on this issue.

Commissioner Wesen noted that he still felt uncertain about taking this position, considering that there are fewer environmental protections for precious metal mining in other developing nations, and that by opposing this activity, an outcome may be moving mining to another nation with less protections.

Chairman Wooten moved to adopt Resolution 2021-04 with an amendment in the first recital to include a list of SCOG members, and authorizing Commissioner Janicki to sign the resolution on behalf of the SCOG Board of Directors. Mayor Gere seconded the motion, and the motion carried, with Commissioner Wesen opposed.

- b. Proposed Bylaws Change: Mr. Murphy reminded the Board that a proposed change to the SCOG bylaws came to them last month as a discussion item. The amendment before the Board would remove the "once a month" meeting language from the bylaws, allowing the SCOG Board to meet less frequently than once a month. A change to the SCOG bylaws requires a two-thirds majority vote of all SCOG Board of Directors members, equivalent to 11 out of 16 members.

Commissioner Browning moved to adopt the recommended changes to the SCOG bylaws striking "once a month" from Article V, Section 1. Mayor Boudreau seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously with 12 SCOG Board of Directors members voting in favor of the motion.

## 5. Discussion Items

- a. Audit Exit Conference: Auditors from the Office of the Washington State Auditor presented an exit conference to summarize the results of the 2021 audits conducted for SCOG. A two-year accountability audit was conducted for the 2019 and 2020 years, with clean results. A financial audit was conducted for 2019 and 2020, resulting in an unmodified clean opinion. There were no material misstatements in the financial records.

The next audit for SCOG will be performed in 2023, and audit reports are published to the Washington State Auditor's website.

Board members thanked and acknowledged staff members Pam Carlson and Mark Hamilton for another clean audit.

6. Chair's Report: Commissioner Janicki had nothing to report.
7. Executive Director's Report: Mr. Murphy notified the Board that the State of Washington has passed a law introducing June 19 as a state holiday, effective 2022. SCOG staff plans a review of the Personnel Handbook in 2022.
8. Roundtable and Open Topic Discussion: Commissioner Wesen expressed curiosity around what cities and towns were planning to do with federal COVID-19 relief funds.

Mayor Boudreau stated that Mount Vernon is considering new technological platforms, and possibly residential broadband. Mayor Gere stated that Anacortes will receive around \$2.8 million, and likewise will be focusing on technology platforms and broadband. Mayors Sexton and Johnson noted that their jurisdictions were just beginning or still in discussion about how to best use the funds.

Commissioner Janicki reported that public health response and emergency management were some of the priorities for Skagit County, but that the use of the funds will be an ongoing discussion.

Mayor Johnson invited Board members to the retirement celebration of Sedro-Woolley Fire Chief Dean Klinger on May 21, as well as the 100-year anniversary celebration of the Sedro-Woolley Fire Department.

9. Next Meeting: The next meeting is June 16, 2021, at 2:15 p.m. via the GoToMeeting remote meeting platform.

10. Adjourned: Commissioner Janicki adjourned the meeting at 2:52 p.m.

Information Items: The Board was provided with a monthly financial update, Actual vs. Budget for January–March 2021, and the 2020 Annual Report.

Approved,

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*Kevin Murphy, Executive Director*  
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Kevin Murphy, Executive Director  
Skagit Council of Governments

Date: 6/16/2021

DocuSigned by:  
*Lisa Janicki, SCOG Chair*  
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Commissioner Lisa Janicki, Skagit County  
Board of Directors Chair  
Skagit Council of Governments

Date: 6/16/2021