

## Chapter WATOA Board Teleconference 9/12/17

1. Call to order 5:40 PM PM
  - a. Attendees: Linda Seesz, Mike Connor, Judy Duvall, Megan Hutton, Robin Steel, Jim Demmon, Chris Jaramillo, DJ Brown, Jon Funfar, John Delay, George Geyer, Ben Faubion
2. Approval of minutes from 8/9/17, Move Mike, second Linda, approved
3. Treasurer's Report—Alice Lawson
  - a. Healthy treasurer
    - i. \$12,011.50 after NATOA related costs including band, 4 scholarships
      1. Judy Devall
      2. Christina Picha
      3. Inga Hutch
      4. DJ from Bellingham
  - b. Motion to approve and 2<sup>nd</sup>, unanimous
4. 2018 WATOA conference
  - a. Hotel check-in April 4
  - b. Conference April 5-6
  - c. At Campbell's in Lake Chelan
5. NATOA in Seattle hooray!
  - a. 100+ people from the state attended
  - b. Tony Perez named NATOA's 2017 Member of the Year
  - c. Good news, NATOA has seen attendance growing steadily for conference over the last 5 years
6. WA State Legislative update
  - a. Victoria Lincoln, AWC (our WA State lobbyist)
    - i. We're staying relevant, we have new issues to tackle
      1. We're one of a few states who held off when the Industry brought forth major bills impacting right of way, but our state legislature and other states stood up. Many legislators have history in local govts. And they remember the importance of local control.
    - ii. In 2017 WA legislative session:
      1. Big delegation of public interest working with her
      2. Working toward rural broadband
        - a. Lincoln says it's not a partisan issue, most are on board
      3. This session broke record for longest session, 3 special sessions
    - iii. 2018 what would you like to see be a focus:
      1. We need to have a proposal ready to go if you want it proposed in 2018
      2. Industry is asking for small cell access, and local govts portrayed as being in the way. Get message out in media. Cities/counties are stewards of the right of way. There will be a media campaign with our view.
        - a. Do we have a few good elected officials who can speak to why we are good stewards of the right of way
      3. Industry wants:
        - a. A cap on what we charge
        - b. They want access to right of way
        - c. Permitting process that's fast
      4. How can we help?

- a. Get your policies in order, look and revisit them if they're relevant/up to date, etc
      - b. MRSE website has great resources and templates
      - c. Prepare your elected officials on this issue, as stewards of the right of way
        - i. Tech industry is just one group that wants access to the right of way. They're not special, as they want to be first in line.
    - b. Ken Fellman—federal issues
      - i. 13 states passed bills
        - 1. Bill that gives use by right to be in right of way, but it sets design criteria, height limits, etc. But Ken says many of the rules they're required to play by in new legislation are rules they're already following.
      - ii. Expect similar bills from FCC
      - iii. It's hard to bring local codes up to date to facilitate broadband
        - 1. It's a brand new technology, more common around 2020. Hard to get codes ready as best we can when we don't know a lot yet.
      - iv. FCC has 2 proceedings open now
        - 1. When they ask questions, suggested ones like:
          - a. Should there be a shorter shot clock?
          - b. If you don't act within shorter window at local level, the federal govt can take over that local right of way, for example.
        - 2. Will be meeting with FCC officials in the next few weeks
        - 3. BDAC will propose recommendations in early-mid November
7. Committee Reports
  - a. We're giving WATOAs mugs for everyone
8. Awards
  - a. Alice Lawson—2017 WATOAs member of the year, she's leaving us this year
  - b. Edgar Riebe—for his help with the April WATOAs conference
9. Other business
  - a. Mike Charboneau will be the new WATOAs Treasurer
  - b. ABS's Media Technology Expo is Sept 28<sup>th</sup> in Seattle at Fremont Studios
  - c. Renewal notices and voting ballots will be in the mail this December
10. Moved, and seconded to Adjournment 6:48 PM