

WATOA Teleconference
February 13, 2008

Attendance: Bill Oltman, Dea Drake, Dal Neitzel, Victoria Lincoln, Mike Charboneau, Jill Novik, Joh Funfar, Randy Beehler

1:35 Approval of minutes: December, 2008
Mike moved approval – Jill seconded – motion passed with all in favor.

Financial Report: Dea Drake, Treasurer
As of February 25, 2008 cash balance is \$14,411.48

Legislative Report – Victoria Lincoln

State Legislation

HB 2904 – Govt. access policies – currently in rules committee, and must go through committee before it can move forward. It hasn't gone any farther and it's has till 2/20 before it really might go forward. It has been watered down substantially. It states that PEG channels need to establish guidelines for how they handle incumbent coverage during election period. It was agreed that WATOA should help come up with template for policy.

SB 6438 - Internet deployment and Broadband policy to require departments of IS services to work with CTED to lead a local technology planning team.
Friday economic forecast is due and it will show downturn in economy. So any bills that require funding will most likely die. This would most likely be one of them. Since it has 1.5 million dollars in costs associated to it. Victoria feels it would die

HB 2521 – ConnectKentucky – died in appropriations yesterday. But senate 6438 has taken its place.

HB 2533 – Pole Attachments – This bill in senate is most likely dead – The one in the house has cites who owned telephone poles in it. Cities are taken out of bill. This will stay in rules until 2/20. This would affect co-ops and may set up a precedent for cities in future.

HB 2961 – LID's for underground communications – Bill was brought forward from city of Seattle and was to refer to electric projects that fall under LIDs. When it got to committee – telecommunications was added to it. It never made it out of committee and thus died for year.

SB 6003 – Qwest - Bill was not brought up in any policy committee – but could still be eligible to move forward. It was reintroduced and retained in status on first day of

session. It is in rules committee and we will know by 2/20 if it moves forward. Victoria does not believe it will go anywhere this year.

There was a bill in Consumer Protection and Housing concerning wireless cell phone number disclosure. This would require people to opt in to the listing. No other information on this bill at moment.

Internet deployment in all areas of state - Telcoms wanted word "Underserved" out of bill. Reference to SB6438 – Victoria suggest WATOA takes another look at it to see if new changes concern WATOA or should we stand aside and let it move forward. Victoria said WATOA members should refer to second substitute bill. This is in relationship to the Connect/Kentucky

Committee Reports:

Yakima Workshop – Randy Beehler

We have signed contract with Hotel that requires cutoff date for May 26 for reservations. A block of 35 rooms are held under WATOA – reservations must be made by the individual members.

June 17 is WATOA conference. Randy, Dale and Judy(?) to form planning committee to select speakers and meal, refreshment selection. Potentials ideas – cable companies digital transmission, PEG relocation, broadband deployment.

A web training seminar for cities on how inform seniors about digital transmission is coming up. – Jill will send out information on this training seminar to members.

Progress check on Committees

PEG Video – Janice Perry - moved to next month

Membership Dues – Janice, Ann and Jill met in January and reviewed categories and dues and made proposed changes. In brief, the individual voting class was removed and dues were lowered for smaller cities. Bylaws would need to be changed to adopt. Jill will send changes to board for discussion in March, in preparation for membership vote at June conference.

Old Business

Plaque for Chas – Mike Charboneau – plaque was ordered and shipped to Chas. Cost was under \$70.

Sharing costs for Victoria going to Atlanta – AWC suggested that we donate up to \$1000 – AWC will pay the rest. Mike moves that WATOA approve up to \$1000 in funds to cover costs for Victoria Lincoln's travel to NATOA 2008 conference– Dea seconded. Motioned passed with all in favor.

WUTC broadband study – Jill and Judy will participate in evaluating candidates for RFP on broadband study contractor. Five on panel with UTC – Firm chosen will be announced tomorrow 2/14. Jill believes this firm will work well with WATOA for information on this study.

Bylaws Revisions – Mike is waiting for information from Chris Jarmillo. Chris, Carol Mattheson and Chas worked on this a few years back and she will send notes. Mike has sent out emails requesting assistance – waiting on reply. Need to look at vote by email and by proxy, plus succession of officers. The bylaw changes on memberships should also be included.

New Business

WATOA list serve – Perhaps we need two list serves – one for members and one for general industry. Seattle would set up list serves. Bill and Jill will recommend in March to board.

Dea Drake moved that WATOA adopt a resolution to approve Jon Funfar, Dea Drake and Bill Oltman as new signatures on US Bank account on behalf of WATOA. Jill Novik seconded. Motioned passed with all in favor.

Board Member Comments

Bill wonders how to pay for phone conferences. Does it need to be billed back to WATOA? Bill will put on agenda next month for action by board.

3:17 Adjourn

Minutes prepared by
Michael Charboneau, Secretary