

Municipality of Anchorage



P.O. Box 390
Girdwood, Alaska 99587
<http://www.muni.org/gbos>

Suzanne LaFrance, Mayor

GIRDWOOD VALLEY SERVICE AREA BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Jennifer Wingard & Kellie Okonek, Co-Chairs
Brian Burnett, Amanda Tuttle, Nick Crews

August 17 2026 GBOS Regular Meeting Minutes Draft

7:00 p.m. via Microsoft Teams & Girdwood Community Room

This hybrid meeting is taking place via Microsoft Teams & at the Girdwood Community Room, 250 Egloff Rd:

The Girdwood Board of Supervisors is subject to the Alaska Open Meetings Act as found in Alaska Statute 44.62.310 and Anchorage Municipal Code 1.25 - Public Meetings.

The Girdwood Board of Supervisors operates under the Girdwood Public Meetings Standards of Conduct.

Call to Order 7:00 p.m. Kellie Okonek, Co-Chair

Land Acknowledgement: The Girdwood Board of Supervisors acknowledges the indigenous peoples of Alaska, whose land we reside on. The community of Girdwood, situated between the areas known to be Dena'ina and Alutiiq homeland, respects the people who were stewards of this land for generations. We commit to the continued stewardship of this land and are grateful to be part of a wider community that seeks to maintain a sustainable use of Girdwood Valley for present and future peoples.

Roll Call & Disclosures

Announcements:

- GVSA Non-Profit Recreation grant cycle is OPEN. Applications are available on line: www.muni.org/gbos or via email: tylerms@muni.org. Applications are due FRI Sept 18 at 3PM.
- GHEC has two vacant positions, to be filled by registered voters in the Girdwood Valley Service Area. To be considered for appointment, email gbos@muni.org.

Agenda Revisions and Approval: August 17 2026 GBOS meeting agenda approval JW/AT Assent, as amended
Amendments:

Adding item #16 re Girdwood Industrial Park transfer	JW/AT	Assent
Adding item #11 re Fire Department	JW/AT	Assent
Changing item topic for item #13 re letter to DOT	JW/AT	Assent
Adding item #12 re Lions Club Park pavilion naming	JW/AT	Assent
Adding Item #17 re AWWU discharge/DEC letter	AT/JW	Assent
Adding item #18 re bed tax	NC/AT	Assent

Minutes Approval: All minutes approved JW/AT Assent
July 30 2026 GBOS Budget Meeting 2 minutes approved
July 27 2026 MOA GBOS Quarterly Meeting Minutes approved
June 23 2026 Budget Meeting 1 minutes approved
June 15 2026 GBOS Meeting minutes approved

Presentations (10 Min): None

Consent agenda: None

Reports (5 Min): None

GBOS Meeting Agendas and minutes are available on line: <http://www.muni.org/gbos>

1. Legislative Report Sen. Cathy Giessel, Rep. Ky Holland:
Giessel:
Whittier gas line is broken
Special session ended in impasse with Governor
Energy meetings this week, natural gas no longer from current sources in 2033.
Holland:
People removed from voting rolls can still vote question ballots.
Education funding via waterfall funding of \$7M; Anchorage School Board has taken proactive step to help fund before waterfall funding is confirmed and arrives.

Assembly members – Z. Johnson/Keith McCormick: No report

Anchorage School Board Liaison – Rachel Blakeslee: Explanation of ASB steps to be proactive for this school year with waterfall funding from 2026 surplus of possible \$7M by offsetting with unassigned (emergency) funds. Waterfall Funds will be spent on 45 FTE, Busing and other critical needs.

HLBAC Report – Tim Charnon: No report

2. Supervisor Reports
Tuttle: PSAC discussed watershed concerns, request for watershed to meet with PSAC. Request regarding DOT included in the revised agenda.
Wingard: LUC discussed Anchorage ordinance to encourage first time home buyers.
Crews: No items from Fire Dept Liaison
Okonek: GHEC discussed RFP for housing study, to be out in September. Ryan Yelle with HLB attended meeting and provided input on next steps for Orca View development, to meet community goals for this parcel. GHEC set up two subcommittees to address aspects of this:
 Subcommittee to draft Workforce Housing definition
 Subcommittee to draft RFP language for Orca Mtn View subdivision land disposal
3. Committee updates to GBOS: 3 min each; items not on the agenda but items of interest to the community
WUI-CAT (Sullivan): No meeting in July, next meeting next week. More sprinkler kits are coming for distribution.
Chipping: Contract moving through purchasing for curbside chipping.
Learn more: [Wildfire Division Firewise Home Assessment Program](#)
4. Standing Reports
Proposed Girdwood Developments: platting for GIP and Orca Mtn View
Girdwood Airport Parcel H: Heli hangar constructed, threat of owner to counter-sue the neighbors.
 Glacier Valley Lodge project lease approved for hotel on airport land.
GVSA non-property tax funds
GBOS Rules and Procedures revisions
STR Registration and regulation
5. Service Provider Reports (5 mins each)
Fire – Chief Weston: See meeting packet. Recruiting for Girdwood Fire members.
Police – Chief Achee: See meeting packet 1 position vacant. Commissioning of USS Ted Stevens upcoming events in Whittier and Girdwood.
Roads/Parks & Rec – Kyle Kelley: See meeting packet. Ak Trails completes their final hitch in Girdwood this week. Roads contractor working on ditching in Old Girdwood and Mine Roads. E-chip delivery for winter prep. Road contract out to bid. Ruane culvert project bid is out, in selection process now. Winner Creek Trail Bridge impacted by tariffs and materials pricing. Meeting with contractor this week to review.
Anchorage Public Library – Katarina Pavic, Gerrish (Girdwood) Branch Manager. See packet.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

OLD BUSINESS:

6. **Agenda Item LUC 2026-04:** FCC Delegate from GBOS (Land Use Committee Supervisor) Postponed to September meeting.
7. GVSA Budgets 2027 (Staff)
Special Meeting RE: Budget Approval is scheduled for Aug 31 at 10AM

8. GVSA Projects for MOA Tourism Improvement Program (TIPS) (GHEC and PSAC Supervisors)

Motion:

GBOS moves to approve request as outlined by GHEC for \$100,0000 Tourism Support package.

Motion by JW/2nd NC

Amendment:

GBOS adds PSAC request for bathrooms and trash to Tourism Support package by adding Bathrooms for \$10,000 and lowering Sunday Market item by \$10,000.

Amendment by AT/NC

Amendment passes 4-0 in roll call vote

Final motion:

GBOS moves to approve request as outlined by GHEC for \$100,0000 Tourism Support package as follows:

\$50,000 for RV Park Planning and design to create 35% design and feasibility study (Girdwood Inc, fiscal sponsor)

\$10,000 for Girdwood Trail Identification and signage (Girdwood Trails Committee, sponsor)

\$10,000 for Girdwood Map brochures (Visit Girdwood, sponsor)

\$20,000 for Girdwood Sunday Markets and Fall Festival (GCLT, sponsor)

\$10,000 for bathrooms and trash service in underserved areas

Amended motion carries 4-0 in roll call vote

Kellie Okonek will work on final draft to submit to MOA for consideration in budgets. TIPS recommendations are currently under review by MOA as they prepare budget recommendations.

9. GVSA projects for MOA Public Safety IT Budget (PSAC Supervisor//Staff)

Chief Achee has recommended various items that would be used in the GVSA specifically: In car videos, body cams, radio equipment, online data storage, stand alone ALMR radio system.

Item will be discussed and formal proposal made at the Aug 31 budget approval meeting.

10. GHEC Vacancy

Motion:

GBOS moves to approve nomination of Mike Edgington to GHEC.

Motion by NC

No second.

Motion fails

11. Girdwood Fire Dept request to spend NTE \$4100 from the Fire Dept Capital account for a new refrigerator.

Motion:

GBOS moves to approve expense of NTE \$4100 from the Girdwood Fire Capital account to purchase a replacement refrigerator.

Motion by JW/2nd AT

Motion carries 4-0 in roll call vote

12. GVSA Parks and Rec and Turnagain Arm Lions Club request for GBOS Resolution of Support for naming new pavilion after John Trautner.

Motion:

GBOS moves to approve the Lions Club naming resolution, as presented.

Motion by AT, 2nd JW

Motion carries 4-0 in roll call vote.

NEW BUSINESS:

13. PSAC Request for letter to DOT requesting DOT provide a liaison to attend meetings in Girdwood (Tuttle)

Group reviews that the original request was for help regarding highway speed limit and possible change to that as approved by the out-going Southcentral Region Director. Other State DOT concerns are also needing attention, current list is:

Alyeska Highway speed limits and mitigation

Traffic study including Alyeska Highway and town center

Airport issues and airport development

Culvert under the Seward Highway

Airport Emergency Plan
Airport Master Plan

Group reviewed the letter provided by Amanda Tuttle; she is encouraged to draft two letters, one to DOT Roads and one to DOT Aviation, as they are managed separately. She is encouraged to provide a draft to Cathy Giessel and Ky Holland so that they can sign on as well as all GBOS members.

14. Girdwood Parks Plan: Little Bears and Glacier City Hall buildings (Staff)

Girdwood Parks Plan passed P&Z on Aug 10 with some stipulations/clarifications required related to the area of the RV Park/disc golf course. Little Bears Playhouse is moving to their new building this month. Both the garage and Little Bears buildings were studied many years ago and found to be deficient. The Service area will no longer maintain the Little Bears Building, and Girdwood Parks and Rec recommends that it is removed. Glacier City Hall will stay in service until a replacement structure for warm storage is constructed.

15. PSAC Vacancy

Mike Opalka is moving and a new member is needed to take over his seat at PSAC. Staff will begin posting the opening soon.

16. Request for GBOS Resolution of Support to transfer Girdwood Industrial Park lot, HLB Parcel ID 5-057K/Parcel ID 075-131-18 to MOA Street Maintenance – Girdwood.

GVSA sent the application in today to HLB. Part of application process is a resolution of support for transfer of the parcel. This item will be addressed at LUC in September, however will need to be moved and heard as old business to provide input before the resolution is signed by GBOS in time for HLB meeting.

Regarding another parcel, which will be put up for sale via competitive bid, Tuttle requests HLB distribution list of notice to sell. This will be added as separate item under old business at the September GBOS meeting.

17. GBOS consider writing a letter to Department of Environmental Conservation regarding AWWU discharge violations (Tuttle)
Girdwood treatment plant is not in compliance. Concern for public health and for fish/wildlife with no corrective action and no communication from AWWU.

It is recommended that GBOS meet with AWWU and DEC, engage legislative liaisons (Holland and Giessel).

GVSA staff to coordinate a tour of AWWU for GBOS.

Following that, Tuttle will draft resolution of support requesting information on tests, results, compliance requirements, sampling plan and corrective action.

18. GBOS requested MOA release data regarding bed tax accrued in Girdwood. (Crews)

Crews drafted resolution shared in the meeting via teams. Matt Schechter may be a good resource for additional information.

GBOS sought this information years ago and was unable to receive it, however the new STR registration provides a new avenue to find the information. Registration of STRs was recently started, and this should allow for the STR revenue to be tracked by zip code. Jennifer and Nick will work on this and provide information at the Sept GBOS meeting.

Tuttle adds that her research shows that the 1975 act bringing Girdwood into Anchorage requires that funds collected in Girdwood should be identified by their source.

REPORTS:

19. Reports (see packet)

Supervisor reports:

Action Item Updates as assigned:

Request for GBOS/LUC Joint meeting: (0 of 2 required meetings held)

Request for GBOS/GFR Joint meeting (0 of 2 required held)

Request for Executive Session:

Other:

Adjourn 9:15PM