

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

*Briana Sullivan & Mike Edgington, Co-Chairs
Jennifer Wingard, Brian Burnett, Kellie Okonek*

April 29 2025 GBOS Special Meeting Re: COI, Airport Parcel H, Roles Minutes Final 2:30 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, its committees, and subcommittees are 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 2:30 p.m. Mike Edgington, 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:

Attending are Briana Sullivan (BS), Kellie Okonek (KO), Jennifer Wingard (JW), Brian Burnett 2:40PM (BB), Mike Edgington (ME)

Disclosures: KO discloses potential conflict during Item #2. Ruling by the chair is that the personal conflict is not substantial enough to warrant recusal from the discussion and vote.

Agenda Revisions and Approval

April 29 2025 GBOS Special meeting agenda approved BS/JW Assent

Agenda:

1. MOA Conflict of Interest disclosure, Chair decision and appeal process (Jamie Heinz, Municipal Clerk and Paul Ervasti, Ethics Officer)

Municipal Clerk and Ethics Officer offer to provide training to GBOS on Roberts Rules, Conflict of Interest and how to handle disclosures. Ethics Officer has training currently scheduled with the Assembly on FRI at 1PM. This training will be recorded and GBOS can review it on line.

Disclosure of potential conflict is required. Determination of an actual conflict should be considered by the board as a whole. If the chair makes a determination that members of the board disagree with, a motion to appeal the decision must be made and a second must support it. The motion to appeal must be made in the positive, supporting the decision of the chair: Shall the decision of the chair be sustained by the body. A majority vote in the negative is required to overturn the decision of the chair. The individual who is making the disclosure does not vote. At GBOS, since there are 5 members and one would be excluded from the vote; this leaves potential for a 2-2 vote. Tied vote does not overturn the chair's decision as it is not a majority vote.

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

Ethics Officer explains that the degree of conflict of a member is determined by the body. Conflict can be personal or financial. Financial interest has to do with funds coming to the member from the conflict, not funds spent by the member.

It is noted that the requirement to disclose is a low bar – disclosures should be made with any potential conflict. Ruling to remove a Supervisor's ability to vote should be at a high threshold as they are elected representatives and should be compelled to vote on items on behalf of the community. Disclosure on repeat items should be made each time the item is addressed, although the GBOS can cite their previous determination if the topic is the same.

2. Girdwood Airport Parcel H (Supv Edgington) (continuation of Item from GBOS April Regular meeting)

- A. LUC recommendation to pursue lease on parcel H is rescinded and use of GAP/GCP and Airport Master Plan in finding a suitable location for heli operation
- B. Status update of Letter to MOA approved April 2025 GBOS meeting

Kellie Okonek discloses potential conflict as a member of a lease agreement with the hangar condominium complex. She serves as secretary on the condo association. Ruling of the chair is that this is not a substantial enough conflict to remove her from voting. No appeal.

GBOS received update via email just prior to this meeting:

- the lease has been awarded
- permits are not issued
- The surveys conducted were part of the requirement for the lease to be approved
- Required soil samples collected
- Lessee has applied for permit to cut trees and place a Connex box
- Aviation leasing is not required and will not inform the community or city at all when permits are granted and construction is beginning.

GBOS decides to handle portion B first: Letter to MOA. Draft has been circulating and edited.

Motion:

GBOS moves to approve the letter to the Municipality of Anchorage as presented.

Motion by BS/2nd JW

vote by roll call

Motion carries unanimously

Letter to MOA will be sent as soon as it has been signed by GBOS. Mike Edgington will reach out to the Municipal Manager to provide the updated information and seek immediate assistance. Municipality is aware of this issue although the formal letter has just been completed.

Motion:

GBOS moves to use the newest version of the letter as the editing draft.

Motion by JW/2nd BS Assent

Motion:

GBOS moves to accept minor edits to text – removing the word "proposal" and to change the last sentence of the 2nd paragraph to be in alignment with the current pace of project development.

Motion by JW/2nd BS Assent

Motion: GBOS moves to take a 5 minute break to draft language to address the new information in the letter.

Motion by JW/2nd BS

Assent vote

During the break GBOS members make changes to the draft so that it can be reviewed on screen.

Motion:

GBOS moves to add language to the 3rd bullet to address additional concerns as presented and to send the letter as revised.

GBOS returns to original motion to approve the letter to SOA as amended.

Vote by roll call

Motion carries unanimously.

Letter will be revised and sent for signature in the morning.

3. GBOS Structure 2025: GBOS Roles & GBOS Co-chairs

Roles are Land Use; Parks and Rec/Cemetery; Police, Roads & Utilities; Housing and Economic Stability; Fire Department. Each supervisor indicates they are willing to stay in their current roles.

Motion:

GBOS moves to maintain roles as is.

Motion by BS, 2nd KO

Motion Passes by Assent

Group discusses option of Chair/Vice Chair but opts to stay with existing co-chair format.

Co-Chairs for 2025

Brian Burnett, Jennifer Wingard, Mike Edgington and Briana Sullivan are nominated. Each accepts nominations.

Each supervisor votes for 2 members. Jennifer Wingard has 4 votes and will serve as co-chair

Brian Burnett and Mike Edgington are tied with 3 votes and this vote returns for runoff.

Mike Edgington has 3 votes to Brians 2.

Jennifer Wingard and Mike Edgington will serve as co-chairs for the coming year.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Amanda Tuttle:

Over a year ago, Amanda requested that GBOS write a letter to HLB requesting completion of a site specific land use plan to prevent environmental disasters in the town. She says that 85 members of the community have requested this compliancy review. Old Girdwood and Crow Creek are missing from land use plans and community will see downstream impacts of development unless comprehensive planning is completed. Mayor has indicated that HLB has provided all requested studies and that nothing is pending work by HLB.

Adjourn 4:30