

Municipality of Anchorage



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

David Bronson, Mayor

GIRDWOOD VALLEY SERVICE AREA BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Mike Edgington & Briana Sullivan, Co-Chairs
Jennifer Wingard, Amanda Sassi, Guy Wade

May 23, 2022 **MOA GBOS Quarterly Meeting** **Minutes Final**

4:00 p.m. via Microsoft Teams & Girdwood Community Room

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 4:00 p.m. Briana Sullivan, GBOS Co-Chair

Roll Call. GBOS attending are Briana Sullivan, Mike Edgington, Jennifer Wingard, Amanda Sassi

Guy Wade is excused

Disclosures: Both Amanda Sassi and Mike Edgington serve on executive committee for Imagine! Girdwood, Item #6 of the agenda. No substantive conflict is found and no voting is expected on this item.

Agenda Revisions and Approval

May 23 2022 MOA GBOS Quarterly Meeting Agenda draft approval ME/AS Assent

Agenda

Introduction and welcome. Attending are Amy Demboski, Shelley Rowton in her role with Assembly Counsel Office.

1. Oct 2021 storm damages
 - SOA reimbursement for October 2021 storm damage (Kyle Kelley).
Claims have been submitted for work that was completed in 2021, amounting to about \$450,000 in reimbursement request. Remaining repairs are under way now, currently working on Crystal Mountain Rd. Repairs should be complete in the next 2-3 weeks. Those bills will also be filed for reimbursement.
 - Update on Ruane Road rebuild.
Although repair was made in end of 2021 to Ruane, the fix is temporary and rebuild with larger culverts that are fish passage compliant is needed. Total cost is \$2M. Girdwood staff applied for ARPA distribution from Assembly. Initially GVSA understood that \$10M was being set aside for municipal infrastructure projects, however Assembly did not make that appropriation, all projects are under the same review structure. Part of review involves potential for other funding. Project does not qualify for FEMA or other federal projects.
Amy Demboski adds that ARPA funding of Ruane rebuild is supported by the Administration and was included in the Mayor's suggested list of projects.
2. Girdwood Fire Dept Topics (Michelle Weston, Fire Chief):
 - Status of EMS contract. MOA GFR contract remains unsigned as 1 year contract is possible with funding stated in contract but multi-year contract will not have funding stated in contract. Additionally Cost of Living increase is not acceptable by MOA, although such an increase exists in the current Policing contract with Whittier. Girdwood Fire Dept Board of Directors is unwilling to sign MOA contract for EMS services that doesn't address these items.
Amy Demboski states that funding is based on annual appropriation by the Assembly and therefore cannot be contracted for multiple years.
Suzanne LaFrance states that she will follow up contract; She will discuss with Assembly the value of the EMS Contract with GFR in Girdwood and on the highway.

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

- \$15,000 areawide budget shortfall in 1Q revisions. This was resolved in 1st Quarter Revisions. EMS Budget for 2022 is as originally contracted.
- Girdwood EMS funding as line item in future AFD budgets. Not discussed directly.
- Areawide 1st Quarter Budget Revision request for extrication equipment \$175,000 needed for extrication equipment that is primarily used on the Seward Highway has been raised through Girdwood Fire request for donations, which have included significant funding from Alaska DOT Highway Safety (approx. \$100,000); State of Alaska Allocation for the Kenai Peninsula that will be divided among service providers (approx. \$20 for Girdwood); other private donations. Overall there are significant costs for operation and materials for Girdwood Fire dept, including radios, vehicles, turnouts that are un- or under-funded for both the EMS and Fire categories of Girdwood Fire Dept operation (ie EMS is MOA responsibility, Fire is GVSA responsibility).

Michelle Weston notes that GFR budget remains insufficient to provide services required although value and amount of property protected by GFR is increasing. In addition, busy tourist season is here and GFR is dealing with staffing shortages.

Mike Edgington states that GVSA funding has increased over the last several years.

Kyle Kelley clarifies that GVSA has been working on acquisition of vehicle replacement through Girdwood Capital acct funding, however vehicles are not available due to supply chain.

3. HLB Topics:

- HLB Annual Work Plan revisions. Input was provided to HLB, this project is on hold while HLB hires new land manager.
- Girdwood Residential 2021 project (Holtan Hills)
Development agreement signed in the spring has been shared with GBOS and will be posted on GBOS website under Items of Interest.
HLBAC meeting in May has canceled, next meeting will be June 23.
DOWL is handling community engagement and will be presenting at LUC and GBOS regarding Plat B starting in June meeting cycle.
Connie Yoshimura states that she has been following the discussion of affordable and workforce housing in Girdwood and has ideas for both Phases 1 and 2 to include multi-family (duplex thru eight-plex) housing. She is pursuing AHFC support to create housing for teachers, firefighters, police, etc. Current cost increases, rising interest rates and general high cost of construction are all factors in development of this project.

4. Glacier Creek Bridge project status of funding and project design

Replacement of the Hand Tram with a suspension bridge has been requested through State CAPSIS funding. Currently still in the budget at \$1.2M. Goal is for USFS to take over maintenance and operation of the bridge, working with their engineers to find a suitable engineer who has experience in suspension bridges and is familiar with Alaska elements of concern for such construction. If State funding comes through, it would arrive at the MOA and be allocated to Girdwood parks and rec capital fund. Engineering and design in 2022, project in 2023.

5. AWWU. No update on date of fluoridation to resume in Girdwood water, however AWWU has advised they are working on a temporary solution that will return fluoride to the water sooner than originally discussed. Sandy Baker has offered a tour of the plant to GBOS in June, polling will determine the date of tours.

6. Funding for Girdwood Area Plan/Imagine!Girdwood

Imagine! Girdwood has been working with Kristine Bunnell with Anchorage Planning Dept and has requested funding from the SOA to complete it. Group has requested ARPA funding as well and requests support of this project by Assembly and Administration. Project has been in the works since 2017 and the adopted plan is 27 years old.

7. Discuss status of HB411 and future action by MOA to allow elected service area boards to use municipal tax exemptions. State action has passed House and Senate with minor revisions and awaits Governor Dunleavy's signature. Legislature increased possible exemption from \$50,000 to \$75,000. Next step will be for the MOA to change city code to match state law. This can be pursued by GVSA if the Assembly doesn't take it on directly.

8. Discussion of Girdwood Transfer Station schedule and possible solutions for trash disposal

Girdwood Transfer station will eliminate SUN service starting in June. Decision is a result of lack of staffing and also review of dump visits, concluding that SUN was least busy day. Increase in the number of homes using residential trash pick-up service.

In Kenai Peninsula Borough, trash service is paid for through borough taxes and transfer stations are unmanned, with volunteers locking the gates.

In city code, GVSA has some power to fund trash service. Elements in Girdwood of concern are nightly rentals occupied by people who leave trash inadvertently, AK Waste containers that are faulty and easy for bears to unlatch.

27.20.110 - Girdwood Valley Service Area board of supervisors.



There is established a board of supervisors for the Girdwood Valley Service Area consisting of five persons elected in accordance with the provisions of this chapter. The board shall be constituted and shall function in the manner prescribed in this chapter in the exercise of fire prevention and protection, street construction and maintenance, **solid waste collection**, parks and recreation services, the operation and maintenance of a municipal cemetery, and the provision of police protection services at the sole expense of the Girdwood Valley Service Area.

(AO No. 260-768; AO No. 77-373; AO No. 2000-37, § 1, 2-22-00; AO No. 2000-38, § 1, 2-22-00; AO No. 2002-55, § 2, 4-9-02; [AO No. 2015-6, § 2, 1-27-15/4-7-15](#); [AO No. 2016-11\(S\), § 2, 7-1-16](#).)

Public Comment: None
Adjourn 5PM