

# 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*

## **August 19, 2024 GBOS Regular Meeting Minutes Draft revised 8.23.24**

### **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, 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 7:00 p.m. Briana Sullivan, 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), Mike Edgington (ME), Brian Burnett (BB), Jennifer Wingard (JW)

Disclosures: ME discloses regarding item #11 as he is on the board of Imagine!Girdwood. He is recused from this discussion and vote; during the meeting BB discloses interest in an affected property related to item #15. He is not recused from discussion and vote citing that his interest is not substantive.

#### Announcements:

2025 GVSA Budget Work Session 2	MON Aug 19	5PM-6:30PM
GVSA Non-Profit Grant presentations	MON Sept 30	7PM
Parliamentary Procedure training	TUE Oct 8	6PM (tentative)
GBOS Rules and Procedure Work Session	TBA late Sept/Oct	

#### **Agenda Revisions and Approval**

August 12 2024 GBOS meeting agenda approval	ME/BB	Assent
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#### **Consent agenda:**

1. Minutes Approval	ME/BB	Assent
July 22 2024 GBOS Regular Meeting minutes approval		
July 29 2024 MOA GBOS Quarterly Meeting minutes approval		
August 12 GBOS LUC Joint meeting minutes approval		
August 13 GBOS meeting re PSAC appointments minutes Approval		

#### 2. Items seeking non-objection

Items listed have already appeared for hearing/decision prior to this meeting.

In the future, Supervisor Edgington plans to encourage action on items that are related to Girdwood instead of remaining passive on them.

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

**Presentations (10 Min) and Reports (5 Min):**

- |  |           |        |
|--|-----------|--------|
| 3. Resolution of Gratitude for Guy Wade                          | ME/BB     | Assent |
| 4. Recognition of the Gerrish Library Staff (Edgington/Sullivan) | BB/ME     | Assent |
| 5. Legislative Report – Sen. Cathy Giessel, Rep. Laddie Shaw     | No report |        |
| Mayor’s Office   | No report |        |
| Assembly members – R. Sulte, Z. Johnson                          | No report |        |
- Anchorage School Board Liaison – New member assigned to Girdwood is Carl Jacobs. Change of start times and initiation of Academies in High School. ASB is reviewing a proposal to allocate approx. \$5M of one-time funding approved by the State for 2025/26 school year to the 2024/25 school year.  
ASD right-sizing and consolidation of schools will begin significant public input phase.  
Policy change to ensure anonymous reporting of harassment, bullying etc.  
HLBAC Girdwood Representative Report. HLBAC meeting on THU at 1:30PM. Information in the meeting packet.  
Brian Burnett notes that one item on the HLBAC agenda is withdrawal of land to put the Winner Creek Extension Trail under Girdwood Parks and Rec purview. This step is part of a many-year process that started when the approved 2008 Alyeska Resort Masterplan required conveyance e Hotel Alyeska required conveyance of the easement and rebuild of the trail in a new location by the Resort. This set a good precedent that should be continued to ensure the continuation of existing trails and uses when they are removed via development.
6. Supervisor Upcoming Items:  
Briana Sullivan: Solid Waste Services has added THU to Girdwood Transfer Station operations. Transfer station is open 9:30A- 5PM MON and THU-SAT. Transfer station is closed TUE, WED and SUN
  7. Committee updates to GBOS: 3 min each; items not on the agenda but items of interest to the community  
None
  8. Status of Proposed Girdwood Developments. See meeting packet
  9. Service Provider Reports (5 mins each)  
Fire – Chief Weston: 47 calls in July. New member open house on WED 6:30-8PM. See meeting packet for more information.  
Police – Chief Achee. Introduction of Lloyd Willis, new officer. Girdwood policing report in the packet.  
Roads/Parks & Rec – Kyle Kelley  
Staff has been working on tread and brushing on the Beaver Pond Trail; new conex at the ball field from the Sladen Mohl memorial funds.  
Continuing work to have construction documents for the new bridge to replace the hand tram.  
Continuing follow up on RTP and LWCF grants from 2024. These are in state and federal review.  
Roads: working on drainage and ditching on the Timberline side of Girdwood. Alyeska Fish Passage culvert project contract to be awarded soon. It’s unsure if this can be completed in 2024 or will be deferred to 2025 due to short remaining season.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Ky Holland: Running for House District 9  
Krystal Hoke: Little Bears new lot has been cleared and an invitation to bid is out for utility connection and site pad preparation.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

10. Consider applicants for GBOS Seat C to recommend to Mayor LaFrance for appointment.  
Applicants are Grace Greene, Kellie Okonek and Sean Marx. Information provided by each for this appointment is included in the meeting packet.  
It is unusual to have several people seeking appointment to a GBOS seat. Only Grace Greene is attending GBOS at this time. She provides introduction.

GBOS debates going into executive session, as is outlined in the Rules and Procedures vs staying in regular session as there is not a solid reason to have this conversation without public present.

Motion:

GBOS moves to postpone this item for a Special Meeting/Executive Session:  
Motion by Mike Edgington, 2<sup>nd</sup> Brian Burnett  
Vote 2 in favor/2 opposed in roll call vote, motion fails.

Motion:

GBOS Moves to consider this item at the end of the meeting.

Motion by JW/2<sup>nd</sup> BB

Motion passes unanimously in roll call vote

11. GBOS response to Planning and Zoning recommendation for changes to the proposed Girdwood Comprehensive Plan (Imagine Girdwood Edgington; Supvs. Burnett/Sullivan)  
Mike Edgington is recused from this conversation.  
Brian Burnett provides update and states that he and Briana Sullivan have been tasked with providing a comment to be included in the Assembly packet on this topic on behalf of GBOS. Currently the Girdwood Comprehensive Plan is expected to be introduced in late October, have a work session and be heard for action on November 6.
12. Girdwood Housing Implementation Plan – consider allocation of funds  
Discussion and recommendations from GHEC (Supvs. Edgington/Wingard)  
Shanna Zuspan with Agnew Beck recommends that a scope of work is developed that includes key stakeholders, sets goals and objectives, identifies who will take care of tasks and what the timespan is for completion, among other details.  
Much of the research has been done, expectation of award of contract to completion of project could be 6-9 months.

Motion for GBOS to develop an RFP Committee and request allocation of funds fails to get a 2<sup>nd</sup>. Issue is the lack of input from GHEC on this item and clarification of the role of GHEC in this process. RFP committee could be GHEC, or members of GHEC. Concern that RFP process is difficult to achieve in public process. This has been completed previously in creation of the RFP for the Trails Plan.

GBOS opts to defer vote on allocation of funds for the Housing Implementation Plan so that GHEC can contribute fully to discussion about RFP.

13. Discuss Levees in Girdwood:  
California Creek Levee protecting Town Center: MOA watershed, HLB and Fish and Game have reviewed the site and agree that the embankment needs to be fortified. Now working on securing funding for this as it isn't related to any of the GVSA powers.

Glacier Creek/California Creek/Turnagain Arm Levee protecting Old Girdwood (Tuttle/Supv. Wingard)

Amanda Tuttle notes that HLB has taken no action on this prior to working forward on disposal of land in the Girdwood Industrial Park.

14. Review and discuss GBOS Rules and Procedures edits (All GBOS)  
Conflict in law vs Rules and procedures related to appointment to fill vacancies is noted.  
Meeting on this has been deferred until GBOS seats are filled.
15. Request for Chugach Electric to underground power lines in town square (Twiname/Supv Edgington)  
Brian Burnett states his conflict of interest. Chair determines his interest is not substantive enough to require that he be recused. No objections.

Powerlines are outside of the CEA easement and impact potential development by creating a contradiction with setbacks. GBOS discusses writing a letter or a more formal resolution to request that CEA add undergrounding of these lines to their 5 year plans.

Motion:

GBOS moves to write a letter to Chugach Electric Association regarding undergrounding the powerlines in Town Square and assigns Jennifer Wingard and Mike Edgington to collaborate on the letter.

Motion by Mike Edgington, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jennifer Wingard

Motion carries by assent vote.

Letter is to be presented in a future meeting.

16. **Agenda Item LUC 2407-04:** GHEC request for LUC and GBOS to consider support for Service Area STR registration and regulation. (Wilbanks/Schechter/Supv. Edgington)  
GHEC is continuing to work on the specifics of the proposal and is gathering public comment and feedback. Hiring of a contractor to handle the registration/regulation could be handled by Request for Quote or Invitation to bid.  
Chief Weston requests that:  
location/address is posted clearly for renters who may need the address for emergency assistance  
Information on disposal of trash is clearly posted  
Earthquake and tsunami information is clearly posted.

17. Consider GBOS resolution to request extension of water mains to Old Girdwood and Mine Roads to AWWU projects list.(Supv. Edgington)  
System of adding infrastructure of this type has changed. IN the past large assessments had to be accepted by those who were serviced by new lines, whether or not they tapped in to them. Now the lines can be built and properties incur assessments when they start to use the service, at the price at the time of construction.  
Concern is expressed that water line improvements do not fix the deficiencies in Girdwood's wastewater treatment. This project needs also to be addressed.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

18. **Agenda Item LUC 2408-04:** LUC recommendation GBOS Resolution of support for exclusion of the GVSA from the proposed 3% Municipal Sales Tax (Brice Wilbanks/Supv. Wingard)  
Sales tax will not lower cost of rental for workforce. Request is to remove Girdwood from the Areawide proposal.  
It is not certain that the proposal will be on the April ballot. Public may submit capital projects to be considered through Sept 15. GVSA has not submitted any proposals formally, public is encouraged to add their projects.
19. GHEC request for \$TBA for grant writing for an EPA Community Change Grant application funding for gravel extraction in Glacier Creek. (Wilbanks/Supv. Edgington)  
GHEC has shifted from original idea to fund a feasibility study for in-fill/ex-fill to seeking a grant that is based on flood hazard mitigation to achieve the goal of removal of gravel from Glacier Creek, to be used on public projects.  
An EPA Community Change Grant is open through Nov 21.  
GHEC will seek a not-to-exceed amount to hire a grant writer for this project.
20. GTC request for GBOS resolution of support for RTP grant application focused on projects related to the Suspension Bridge Project, possibly the hand tram interpretive center.(Staff/Supv. Burnett)  
Continued work on securing final funding for the bridge and interpretive center.

**REPORTS:**

21. Reports (see packet)  
Supervisor reports

GBOS recess for 5 minutes ends at 9:45PM

Return to Item #10 Consider applicants for GBOS Seat C to recommend to Mayor LaFrance for appointment, which was postponed to the end of this meeting. Kellie Okonek introduces herself.

GBOS conducts a straw poll to determine which nominee to recommend to the mayor for appointment.

Motion:

GBOS moves to recommend Kellie Okonek to Mayor LaFrance for nomination to Seat C.

Motion by ME, 2<sup>nd</sup> JW

Motion carries by Assent vote.

**Action Item Updates as assigned:**

**Request for GBOS/LUC Joint meeting: (1 of 2 required meetings completed in 2024, Feb 7; Apr 29):**

**Request for GBOS/GFR Joint meeting (0 held of 2 required in 2024):**

**Request for Executive Session:**

**Other:**

**Adjourn 10PM**