



City of Yachats
Public Works and Streets Commission
Meeting Summary Minutes
City Hall, 441 Hwy 101 N, Yachats, OR 97498
Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Work Session

- Vacant properties w/o services & properties with septic tanks

The discussion focused on long-term infrastructure planning for vacant properties without utility services and for developed properties currently served by septic systems within city limits; members reviewed information indicating that approximately fourteen developed properties rely on septic systems and approximately fifteen vacant properties currently lack sewer service, with many located significant distances from existing sewer infrastructure, making extensions costly and technically complex.

Discussion continued regarding existing City Code provisions related to sewer connection requirements, including the requirement to connect when service is available, the lack of clarity regarding distance thresholds, the continued installation of septic systems, and coordination with Planning and Code Enforcement. Environmental risks, system maintenance, septic system lifespan, and Lincoln County and State of Oregon regulatory requirements were identified as needing review.

- Approach to providing services

Discussion continued around potential strategies to address these issues, including identifying property ownership and occupancy status, educating property owners about septic maintenance obligations, evaluating phased sewer extensions, considering Local Improvement Districts (LIDs), and incorporating projects into the City's Capital Improvement Program.

Committee Commissioner assignments were identified for February to gather additional information, including researching maintenance requirements, property ownership, and comparable policies used by other jurisdictions.

- Commissioner assignments for February 2026

Regular Session

I. Call to Order

II. Announcements & Correspondence

Open meeting with voting for a Chair and Vice Chair for 2026. After a short discussion, the motion to have West continue as Chair and Groth continue as Vice-Chair was made and passed unanimously.

(1:06:12) The Commission received updates regarding the ongoing process to transition from a Commission to a Committee under the City Charter, coordination and planning related to the Transportation Plan with ODOT, and the need to fill a vacant Commission seat. The updates were informational, and no action was taken.

- a. The process for Commission evolving to a Committee (Charter)
- b. Transportation Plan (ODOT)
- c. Need to fill Commission Seat

III. Citizens' Concerns (limited to items not on the Agenda, 5-minute limitation per person)

IV. Reports

- a. Meeting Summary
- b. Fire Dept Report
- c. Emergency Preparedness Committee Report

(1:09:37) Emergency Preparedness Committee Report (Linn) gave updates on preparedness planning and coordination efforts.

- d. Public Works Report
 - i. Monthly Speed Data
[IGNORE_INDENT
 - ii. 2025 December Public Works Report
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 - iii. 2025 December Water Report
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- e. PW Finance Report

(1:12:16) Water Lead Rick McClung and Wastewater Lead Dave Buckwald presented the Public Works report, providing updates on current system operations, maintenance activities, and ongoing infrastructure considerations. No immediate issues requiring Committee action were identified. Monthly Speed Data was received as informational and will continue to be monitored as part of ongoing traffic safety discussions.

f. **Finance Committee Report**

(1:59:17) Summarized the current financial status and expenditures related to Public Works operations.

V. Current Business

- a. Commissions' Projects – keep in mind CC Goals.
Street Work / Streetlights / Speed Control / Municipal Code Update
Coordination with Planning Commission

VI. Other Business

- a. From Commission
- b. From Staff
- c. Next Meeting February 10, 2026

VII. Adjourn

Minutes prepared by: Kimmie Jackson, Recorder



CITY OF YACHATS
PUBLIC WORKS & STREETS COMMISSION
MEETING SUMMARY MINUTES
City Hall, 441 Hwy 101 N, OR 97498
Tuesday, December 09, 2025

I. Public Works & Streets Commission Meeting 2:00 pm

II. Call to Order

III. Roll Call

Committee Members	P/A
Linn West, Chair	P
Don Groth, Vice Chair	P
Alex Cox	P
Bob Bennett	P
James Welch	A
Kevin Erdahl	P
Don Phipps	P

Staff Members	
Kimkie Jackson, Recorder	Bobbi Price, City Manager
Rick McClung, Water Lead	Dave Buckwald, Wastewater Lead

Audience
10

IV. Announcements / Correspondence - The Chair reported on several upcoming grant opportunities related to drinking water service improvements, source water protection, renewable water projects, and watershed protection. Commissioners discussed the potential for pursuing these funding opportunities in future planning efforts.

V. Citizens' Concerns (5-Minute Limit) -

VI. Reports

- a. Meeting Summary - No changes.
- b. Fire Dept Report - (Linn) No report.

- c. Emergency Preparedness Committee Report -West reported the successful installation of a new Connex storage unit at the cemetery, funded through a grant. To fulfill grant requirements, additional expenditures will be made for interior shelving. The January meeting will include hands-on radio training and development of written operating protocols. Power availability for radio charging was discussed, and potential solar solutions were explored for the cemetery site.
- d. [The Public Works Report](#) - Public Works staff reported extensive activity over the past two months, including storm response, debris and tree removal, cleanup at the 949 site, and ongoing beautification efforts. For full details, see the public works report in the online packet.
- e. [The Public Works Finance Report is online for review.](#) Groth indicated that water revenues are tracking close to projections following the rate increase, with reserve levels meeting the budgeted target of \$250,000. Commissioners discussed the need to evaluate reserve adequacy in light of inflation and long-term capital needs. A request was made for a detailed financial impact report to be presented at the January meeting.
- f. The CIP Report is online for review. Updates were provided on the boardwalk project, including utility coordination, lighting installation, and phased development plans. Reservoir planning efforts included favorable geotechnical findings confirming the suitability of the proposed site and the identification of an existing logging road to support access. Watershed protection efforts were discussed, including outreach to private property owners and potential grant funding to support acquisition or planning activities.

VII. Current Business

- a. Speed Data - Phipps reviewed the spreadsheets attached to the online packet.

Commissioners continued to discuss safety concerns at Gimlet Gates during winter conditions and reviewed options for gate closure and liability considerations. Updates were provided on West 3rd Street and force main projects, including surveying, easement acquisition, and

plans to apply for an ODOT grant to support paving and storm drain work. Crosswalk visibility and pedestrian safety within the newly established 25-mile-per-hour zone were discussed, including coordination with ODOT and acknowledgment of required engineering and ADA evaluations.

- b. Seat B - Bob Bennett Term Exp. - announced his decision to step down after many years of service, citing the successful transition of key initiatives and readiness for new leadership. The Commission expressed appreciation for his long-standing contributions and institutional knowledge.
- c. Updates were provided on the boardwalk project, including utility coordination, lighting installation, and phased development plans. Reservoir planning efforts included favorable geotechnical findings confirming the suitability of the proposed site and identification of an existing logging road to support access. Watershed protection efforts were discussed, including outreach to private property owners and potential grant funding to support acquisition or planning activities.
- d. The Commission discussed changing its name to a Committee.

Motion:	The motion was made to recommend to Council to change the Commission to a Committee:			
Ayes:	Groth, Cox, Erdahl, Bennett, Phipps, and West	Nays:	Absent: 1	Abstained :
Passed:	6/0			

Adjourn Meeting 3:26 pm.

Minutes prepared by: Kimmie Jackson, Recorder