

Government Affairs Committee  
September 15th, 2022  
10:30 AM via Zoom



## **NMTA Government Affairs Committee – MINUTES**

Logan Brown, Chair  
Grant Osberg  
Doug Dixon  
Hoby Douglass  
Jagen Twitchell  
Neil Falkenburg  
Clayann Lankford  
Mark Gleason  
**And others on  
phone or  
unannounced.**

George Harris  
Jay Jennings  
Carl Burke  
Doug Levy

Jay Jennings welcomed members and introduced the transition of Committee Chair from Logan Brown, Marine Floats to Neil Falkenburg, West Bay Marina. President George Harris with the committee expressed gratitude to Logan for his chairmanship during the past two years and welcomed Neil Falkenburg as the new Chair of the NMTA Government Affairs committee. Neil took the gavel and stressed the critical function government affairs provides to NMTA members. Neil also recollected chairing the GAC committee many years ago and is clearly excited to lead the committee for the future.

Jay and George highlighted the upcoming events and encouraged attendance at the South Sound Rendezvous on September 22, 2022, and the Northwest Marina & Boatyard Conference, October 5-7 in Bremerton.

Jay Jennings began to brief members on the agenda topics.

Election update, PAC considerations, Legislator of the Year

Jay summarized the election landscape, put forth consideration for a few initial distributions from the NMTA Political Action Committee to targeted candidates. Those recommended for the initial round of distributions are participants in the Marina and Boatyard Conference and include Senator Christine Rolfes (NMTA Legislator of the Year), Public Lands Commissioner Hilary Franz, Representative Mary Dye, and Representative Andrew Barkis. Distributions to the Senator Jesse Solomon, Chair Mike Chapman, and Chair Kevin Van de Wege.

Jay continued to brief members on top-line activity and developments on the following topics:

Pump-out/Discharge facility expansion – NMTA exploring, with a balanced group of stakeholders, opportunities to improve the pump-out infrastructure and access to mobile discharge stations.

Vessel deconstruction requirements – initiated by NMTA members Frank Gonzales, Jay is working with the Department of Natural Resources to determine how we may improve ownership and titling laws to make it easier to demolish vessels where the owner is deceased or location unknown.

Leased mooring buoys – Jay is in discussions with DNR to learn more about their trial balloon floating which would allow private buoy leases to sublet their moorage buoys to increase availability during busy periods

Watercraft Excise Tax – We expect a slightly more favorable excise tax schedule to be released by the department of Revenue in the next month or so.

Doug Dixon asked for and received clarification that NMTA was not pursuing legal challenge to the recently effective Boatyard General Stormwater Permit.

Member were again encouraged to join us at the South Sound Rendezvous: 9/22/2022, 4-7 pm @ West Bay Marina, Olympia. Thanks Neil Falkenburg!

**Logan Brown** adjourned the meeting around 11:15 AM

**The next GAC meeting is scheduled for 10/13/2022 at 10:30 AM**