

Courthouse Journal

W W W . W A C O U N T I E S . O R G

Washington State Association of Counties
Washington Association of County Officials

December 15,
2000
Issue No. 33

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The First Annual Joint
Legislative Reception,
sponsored by WACO,
WSAC and AWC, is set
for February 14.

Mark your calendars
now!



Governor's budget release planned for December 19

The latest word to us was that the Governor would release his budget on December 19th. For those of you who wish to have a look for yourselves, the documents, including summaries and issue papers should be

available at about 10 A.M. on both the Governor website, www.gov.wa.gov, and the Office of Financial Management web site, www.ofm.wa.gov. Traffic is typically quite heavy at release time so you might try both sites.

WSAC 2001 legislative package en route to Governor, Legislature, Agency Heads

It's in the mail! The 2001 WSAC Legislative package adopted last month at the Legislative Conference in Pasco is in the hands of the Governor, legislators and other key state officials and organizations important to county government this week. A copy has also been mailed to every county commissioner, council-

member and county executive and is available on our website at <http://www.wacounties.org/wsac/>.

This year's package clearly identifies priority issues, along with the full slate of legislative positions. Please get familiar with it and talk with your legislators early and often!

Class of 2001 officials enjoy orientation to county government

Twenty-nine of the thirty-two newly elected members of WSAC attended the two-day New County Officials Orientation in Olympia this week. New members got to know each other a little and got brief introductions to topics all will learn more about in the coming years.

Many of the presenters noted the hard work and dedication of those attending the Orientation. The knowledge of county government the new members displayed in the opening session conducted by county administrators David Goldsmith, Linda Hoffman and Jim Rumples showed that the Class of 2001 has a real awareness of just how complex an enterprise county government is.

The highlights of the Orientation were a session on leadership led by Snohomish County Executive Bob Drewel, Secretary of Health

Mary Selecky, and WSU Cooperative Extension faculty Kelsey Gray and a primer on the Open Meetings Act, Public Disclosure Act, and other important procedural and public rules. Clallam County Commissioner Mike Doherty, Yakima County Chief Civil Deputy Prosecutor Ron Zirkle and City of Everett Public Information Director Dale Preboski shared their wisdom on keeping meetings and information public and open in manageable ways.

Supreme Court Justice Bobbe Bridge shared helpful perspectives and advice on working with the judicial branch of local government to start off an afternoon of short sessions touching on all the key roles played by county commissioners and councilmembers: law and justice programs, health and human services, transportation and land use, manage-

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Class of 2001 Officials

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ment of institutions, employment practices and budget and finance. Gerri Rainwater, President-elect of the Washington State Association of County Commissioners and Council Clerks, provided a helpful introduction to the important role played by clerks of the board and several other key members of the county family. Fred Saeger from WACO, Jay Weber of CRAB, John Crawford of the Risk Pool and Rich Yukubousky of MRSC all provided brief overviews of the resources they offer to counties.

In addition, Busse Nutley, Director of the Washington State Office of Community Development and Pete Butkus,

on behalf of the Infrastructure Assistance Coordinating Committee shared information about the funding and technical assistance available from the state to county government. A presentation on "social capital" by Art McCurdy, WSU Program for Local Government Education, provoked reflection on developing public trust and its role in building healthy communities. Bill Lynch, a longtime member of the legislative staff, shared tips on stress management and the importance of humor in the workplace.

Attending from the Class of 2001 were members-elect from the following counties: Richard Johnson and Rudy Plager (Adams); Don Brown (Asotin); Ron Walter (Chelan); Mike Chapman (Clallam); Dwight Robanske (Columbia); George Raiter (Cowlitz);

Ken Stanton (Douglas); Mike Blankenship (Ferry); Dennis Morrisette (Grays Harbor); Dan Titterness (Jefferson); Jan Angel (Kitsap); Eric Johnson (Lewis); Herb Baze and Wes Johnson (Mason); Craig Vejraska (Okanogan); Sam Nicholas (Pend Oreille); Ken Dahlstedt and Don Munks (Skagit); Bud Quinn and Bob Talent (Skamania); Tony Delgado and Malcolm Friedman (Stevens); Cathy Wolfe (Thurston); Dan Cothren and George Trott (Wahkiakum) Jerry Finch and Greg Partch (Whitman) and Ron Gammache (Yakima). Class of 2000 member Dan Wood from Grays Harbor County and Class of 1999 member Vickie Strong of Stevens County (she missed the 1998 Orientation) also attended many sessions.

The Courthouse Journal

The *Courthouse Journal* is published weekly by the Washington Association of County Officials (WACO) and the Washington State Association of Counties (WSAC).

We welcome your suggestions and contributions. The weekly deadline is noon Thursday.

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Invite a Legislator to spend a day in jail

Among WSAC's priority issues for the 2001 legislative session are funding for law and justice facilities and jail operations. To help educate state lawmakers about county jail problems, you are encouraged to invite your legislators to visit your county jail before the legislative session begins January 8.

Like most people, legislators learn best from first-person, hands-on experi-

ences. And what better way to develop a hands-on understanding of jail overcrowding than to visit a jail during the holidays.

For more information about jail funding issues and legislation being pursued by counties, cities, sheriffs and police chiefs, see the enclosed bright pink flier titled "Local Jails Funding Coalition."

LEOFF 1 medical costs pool considered

The Joint Committee on Pension Policy held a hearing this week on proposed legislation that would establish a risk assumption program for employers of plan 1 active and retired members of the law enforcement officers' and fire fighters retirement system (LEOFF) to voluntarily enter into membership in a risk pool for the purpose of sharing non-insured medical costs of long term care and major medical costs required under plan 1.

The legislation is in response to the growing cost of providing long term care and extraordinary medical costs mandated under the LEOFF plan 1 retirement law. Some counties, cities and fire districts are facing the dilemma of paying for nursing home care by reducing the number of law enforcement officers or firefighters. The cost of providing nursing home care is approaching \$50,000 per year, the same amount as hiring an officer.

The risk pool executive board would include two county, city and fire district members as well as one member each representing law enforcement officers and firefighters.

Funding would come from employer premiums and excess funds from the LEOFF 1 retirement fund. There is currently an unobligated fund balance of nearly \$1 billion. The IRS will need to approve the final plan before these funds may be used; however, most of the attorneys believe this legislation will receive that approval.

There was a study done earlier this year that determined the unfunded liability for the medical costs was nearly \$700 million. If local governments could access the surplus in the retirement fund they would lower that liability considerably.

If you have questions regarding the legislation, contact Bill Vogler in WSAC.

News in Brief

Our sympathies

We extend our prayers and thoughts to Kathie Houts, whose mother passed away this week, and to her family. Kathie is the WACO Administrative Assistant.

Kathie was able to enjoy a wonderful Thanksgiving this year with her mother in California before she became critically ill.

State Building Code Council

The State Building Code Council adopts and amends the State Building Code. It meets about once a month. Judy Wilson, Thurston County Commissioner, represents Western Washington counties on the Board. The Governor seeks three commissioners or councilmembers from Western Washington for this appointment to replace Commissioner Wilson.

Governor's Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee announces Grant RFP

The Governor's Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee has announced a request for proposals (RFP) for Challenge Activities Grant Awards. There are two Activity Areas:

1. Activity I – Examination of State-wide Services for Status Offenders and Non-Offenders.
2. Activity II – Gender-Specific Programming.

One project will be funded in each activity for a maximum of \$82,600. Copies of the RFP can be downloaded on the GJJAC website at www.wa.gov/juvenilejustice. Applications are due no later than January 3, 2001. For additional information call Rosalie McHale at 360-407-0148.

National Commission on Election Standards and Reform

National Association of Counties (NACo) President Jane Hague, King County Council, and National Association of County Recorders, Election Officials and Clerks (NACRC) President Ernest Hawkins, Sacramento County (CA), have announced the 21 appointees to the new National Commission on Election Standards and Reform. The

Commission will review the American election process and make recommendations for improvement. Hague and Hawkins will serve as co-chairs. Pierce County Auditor Cathy Pearsall-Stipek has been named a member of the Commission. The first meeting will be on January 10, 2001, in Washington, D.C.

Mental Health Conference announced

The National Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare and the Association of Behavioral Healthcare Management announce "In the Public Interest: Strategies and Solutions for Tomorrow". The conference will occur March 31 – April 3, 2001 at the Portland Hilton Hotel. This training conference is described as the nation's preeminent training conference specifically for those who provide mental health and addiction treatment services to our most vulnerable populations. More than 50 tracks have been set up on nine conference tracks. These include work force, criminal justice, technology, and children, beyond managed care, board training, public policy, clinical, and corporate compliance. For additional information and registration forms, contact the National Council at 301-984-6200. Conference fees are reduced if registration occurs before December 15, 2000.

Technology Summit

The National Association of Counties (NACo) will hold its third Technology Summit in Seattle, February 1-3, 2001. This Summit will tackle the current hot-button topic of privacy in today's digital world. Conference delegates will discuss privacy especially as it relates to e-governance, electronic voting, and the future of technology. Attention also will be given to the challenges and possibilities presented by DNA research and genetic engineering.

NACo President Jane Hague, King County Council; King County Executive Ron Sims; NACo Information Technology Committee Chair Randy Johnson; and NACo Telecommunications and Technology Steering Committee Chair Marily Praisner will participate. The Summit will be held at three major sites – the Bell Harbor Conference Center, the Microsoft campus, and the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center.

A complete agenda, including event descriptions and a registration form, may

be found at: <http://www.naco.org/programs/infotech/summit/index.cfm>.

Farewell party for Sam Reed

A farewell party is being planned for Thurston County Auditor Sam Reed on Thursday, January 4, 2001, from 3 – 5 pm in Room 152 of the Thurston County Courthouse, in Olympia. Reed, who was elected Secretary of State last month, has served as auditor for nearly 23 years. Friends and colleagues are invited to come and celebrate Reed's departure from the courthouse and to wish him well on his new position in the State Capitol as Secretary of State.

Sims honored by NWA

An affiliate of NACo, the National Workforce Association (NWA), bestowed its Distinguished Service Award to Ron Sims, King County Executive. The award fetes local elected officials for showing workforce development leadership and commitment.

New Franklin County Clerk appointed

Mike Killian has been named by the Franklin County Commissioners as the new Franklin County Clerk, effective January 1. Bev Finke, who has served as clerk for the past 11 years is retiring at the end of the year and Killian will fill her unexpired term. The Franklin County District Court has employed Killian for the past ten years. He currently works as an assistant administrator.

New Columbia County Treasurer named

Columbia County Commissioners have appointed K. Kay Britton-Vachal as Columbia County Treasurer. She will take office on January 1, upon the retirement of Lydia Buettner, treasurer since November 1987. Britton-Vachal worked as a deputy treasurer in Franklin County for seven years before moving to the Columbia County Treasurer's office, where she has been for 13 years and is currently chief deputy treasurer.

Correction

The mailing address for MRSC printed in the "Ask MRSC" article in last week's Journal (Issue #32) was incorrect. The correct address is:

MRSC Library
1200 5th Avenue, Ste 1300
Seattle, WA 98101-1159

Washington State hospitals face reduction in services or closings

A report by the Washington State Hospital Association (WSHA) states that hospitals across the state are losing money and it could get worse. Richard Peterson, chair of the Washington State Hospital Association Board of Directors stated that "In the past two years more than one-third of the state's hospitals operated in the red. It's simple math – costs continue to rise but reimbursements have not kept pace."

The report said that Washington hospitals, on average, operate on a margin of 2.07 percent (the difference between revenues and expenses). A four to five percent operating margin is considered a sign of solid financial health. The majority of hospitals in Washington are not for-profit so what they may make above expenses is reinvested back into

their facilities – upgrading equipment and improving patient care. "There are a lot of new things that hospitals are expected to be doing, and a lot of them don't have the money," said Cassie Sauer, WSHA spokeswoman.

The situation for Washington hospitals mirrors what is happening nationally. Hospitals are not able to collect the full amount they bill. About one third of the average hospital's revenue comes from Medicare, but that revenue has been steadily declining. Washington hospitals are expected to lose \$1.3 billion in Medicare revenue from 1998 to 2004. Harborview is expected to lose almost \$60 million during that period.

The University of Washington Health Policy Analysis Program estimates that spending on health care will

need to be increased by \$1 billion over the next two years just to maintain current services.

The WSHA report says that hospitals are seeing decreasing revenues at the same time they are seeing increasing costs due to increased cost of drugs, new technology, higher labor costs, an increasingly sicker population and new government regulations. The report further states that Washington hospitals do a good job of keeping expenses down, ranking ninth lowest in the nation in hospital expenses per capita. Unless hospitals can bring in more money, the report says, many will have to cut services or shut down in the next several years. This will especially affect patients in rural areas where health care choices are already limited.

Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department sponsors anti-tobacco forum focused on minorities

Experts are examining ways to reduce tobacco use in minority communities. The tobacco industry has developed an advertising campaign targeting minorities. For example, the new \$40 million advertising campaign for Virginia Slims cigarettes features svelte black women, glamorous Latin women, Asian women dressed in silk and implores them to: "Find your voice". It is specifically targeting minority women who often feel silent and invisible – and it demonstrates how well the tobacco industry targets racial and ethnic groups, public health experts say.

Reducing the level of smoking in minority communities will require equally sophisticated anti-tobacco pro-

grams, experts agreed at a forum sponsored by the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department. The health department wants to cut smoking among minority groups, which can be nearly three times the national average. The Forum acknowledged that health professionals need to work more closely with minority groups.

The State Health Department, which oversees the \$15 million statewide anti-smoking effort funded by the national tobacco settlement, also plan to convene a multi-cultural task force in January to consider similar programs.

Nationwide, about one-fourth of adult males smoke. Among American Indians, the rate is nearly 40 percent,

while 32 percent of black men smoke. The health toll of smoking is also disproportionately high among blacks, who are 50 percent more likely to develop lung cancer than whites and much more likely to die from the disease.

Seventy percent of Cambodian men living in America smoke. Smoking among Cambodian men is embedded in their social and cultural roots. The tobacco industry has learned how to capitalize on the social and cultural habits of different ethnic groups.

Experts believe that anti-tobacco messages have to take the same culturally tailored approach that has been utilized so effectively by the tobacco industry.

County position available on Forensics Council

A position is available for a county commissioner or councilmember to serve on the state Forensic Investigations Council.

The position, nominated by WSAC and appointed by the governor, will complete the remaining year of a term begun by Skamania County Commissioner Ed McLarney. The appointee will be eligible for re-appointment to a full four-year term.

Interested commissioners and coun-

cilmembers should contact WSAC staff Sophia Byrd at 360-753-1886 or sbyrd@wacounties.org. WSAC needs to present the governor with two nominees as soon as possible.

The Forensic Investigations Council, in consultation with the State Patrol, oversees and establishes policies for the bureau of forensic laboratory services and helps prepare the bureau's budget. The Council may study the death investigation system in Washington and re-

port findings to the Legislature. In conjunction with the University of Washington School of Medicine, the council oversees the state forensic pathology fellowship program.

The Council generally meets monthly on the fourth Friday, in Olympia. Travel expenses are reimbursed.

More information about the Council, its duties and powers is available at RCW 43.103.020 - .090.

Medicolegal Death Investigations training held

Thirty-six coroner and medical examiner staff and law enforcement personnel attended a five-day session on Medicolegal Death Investigator Training in Vancouver recently. The training was sponsored jointly by the Washington State Forensic Investigations Council, the Washington Association of Coroners and Medical Examiners (WACME), and the Criminal Justice Training Commission (CJTC).

The course faculty, made up of experts in the field, was led by Steven C. Clark, Ph.D., the Educational Consultant for the American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigators (ABMDI). The course meets nationally recognized standards of practice for death investigations

and is designed to allow participants to apply for certification by ABMDI. Clark County Medical Examiner Dr. Dennis Wickham coordinated the session and presented parts of the program as well. Wahkiakum County Prosecutor/Coroner Fred Johnson instructed the module on coroner and medical examiner law in Washington State.

A second session in Port Angeles for early January has been rescheduled for March in order to allow time to fine-tune the program. The goal is to use faculty from Washington State and offer the program regionally and on an on-going basis. In late spring the entire program will be offered in two sessions in eastern Washington. It is hoped the program

split will attract death investigators who are unable to attend a five-day session. The program consists of eight modules and it is not necessary to attend all of them in one session. The program is primarily designed for coroners and medical examiners but many modules are of great value to law enforcement.

The program was made available when the Legislature allowed the Forensic Investigations Council to move \$110,000 from an existing appropriation from the Death Investigations Account to the Criminal Justice Training Commission to conduct the training. For more information, please call WACO or check the CJTC website at <http://www.wa.gov/cjt/regional.html>.

Counties and Forest Service to begin implementation of HR 2389

HR 2389, the Forests and Schools Coalition bill passed by Congress earlier this fall requires counties to take action and to work with the Forest Service on implementation. Each county with federal land (USFS or BLM) must begin making decisions on how to establish the required Resource Advisory Committees and which payment option it will choose.

WSAC staff and Timber County leadership have scheduled two meetings with Forest Service staff for a briefing on the options and an opportunity to make preliminary decisions on the structure of Resource Advisory Committees. The meeting for Western Washington counties will take place at the Olympic National Forest Headquarters in Olympia at 2 pm Wednesday, December 20.

The meeting for Eastern Washington counties will take place in the Auditorium at the Kittitas County Courthouse at 11 am, Thursday, December 21.

Briefing materials and a meeting notice are being sent to the Board, County Executive and County Council of each affected county. For more information, call Paul Parker at WSAC.

JLARC presents proposed final report

Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee (JLARC) presented their proposed final report on the public mental health system on Wednesday, December 13, 2000. There was very little change from their preliminary report though there certainly was a lot of discussion between staff, Committee members, and various stakeholders since the preliminary report was released in November.

The Committee Chair, Senator Georgia Gardner, made quite a point of stating the difference between the Committee's audit function and their role as state legislators. She also had a directed conversation with Larry Brubaker, JLARC staff, regarding the recommendation on the rate disparity among RSNs in which she stated that the report did not suggest taking funds from the higher paid RSNs and lowering their service levels nor did it suggest pulling the lower paid RSNs up to the level of the

higher group. It straightforwardly said the disparity between rates should be greatly reduced without suggesting how. Sen. Gardner went on to say in December 14's Seattle P-I that she would propose legislation that would add funding to the lower RSNs without taking it from the larger ones.

The rest of the recommendations in the proposed report were basically without controversy especially next to the one that dealt with money. To summarize, the recommendations fall into seven different areas.

1. Two recommendations regarding increased collaboration between allied service providers such as those who serve persons with developmental disabilities, chemical dependency, and aging;
2. One regarding timely hospital discharge;
3. Four regarding the use of outcome/performance measures, reducing process

measures; and efficiency and effectiveness;

4. Three on clarifying accounting procedures including modification in the definition of administrative expenditures;
5. One on developing and using uniform data elements;
6. One recommending periodic prevalence studies; and
7. Two on fiscal issues including a 10% limit on reserve funds and the above mentioned controversial one which has four parts on the funding formula.

The Committee did not have a quorum present so the final report will be adopted in January at the next regular meeting. The questions from the Committee were somewhat limited dealing mainly with the issues surrounding prevalence, and the difficulty in actualizing outcome measures. The Committee itself is short some of its members who either chose not to run again or were defeated in this fall's election. Both

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JLARC presents proposed final report

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WSAC and the RSNs felt pretty comfortable with the majority of the recommendations excluding the funding issue. The challenges will come in implementation. Certainly some of the RSNs with

lower rates would like to see additional funding regardless of the source and those RSNs who might lose funding if the Mental Health Division proposal is adopted would oppose any reduction to their allocation.

While DSHS has indicated that they will take the funding proposal forward to the Governor's Office for consideration

for inclusion in the Governor's budget, it is unknown at this time whether the Governor will choose to include it. As the Secretary of DSHS stated, ultimately the decision will rest with the Legislature. Stay tuned.

Anyone with questions, please call WSAC staff member Jean Wessman.

Pierce County landfill gets permission to accept out-of-county trash

Residents of Pierce County are worried the Tacoma-Pierce County Solid Waste Management Plan, which passed the council 5-0, will result in import of out-of-county garbage to the Kapowsin-area landfill. The approval of the plan comes after more than 120 public meetings over the last four years. A 1994 U.S. Supreme Court decision forbids counties from directing garbage haulers to take garbage to a specific disposal site citing such control as a violation of interstate commerce laws.

So far, Pierce County haulers have continued to use county landfills and are currently using the landfill (owned by Land Recovery Inc.) opened near Ka-

powsin last December. One of the landfill's largest customers, Murrey Disposal Co. has changed ownership and it is possible they may choose to send their garbage to a landfill in Oregon. If that happens, LRI has suggested two options to make up lost revenue: raise garbage collection rates or accept garbage from outside Pierce County.

Residents living near the LRI landfill near Kapowsin do not like the second option. County Councilman Harold Moss, Chair of the council's public works committee, also does not favor that option. However, a second Supreme Court Decision (from 1992) prohibits jurisdictions from barring the import of

garbage from outside their borders.

What the County did do, however, was require LRI, or any landfill operator, to meet certain environmental and impact regulations before it can accept out-of-county garbage. The plan also calls for the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department to alert the public and report to the County Council on the effects of importing garbage.

An LRI spokesperson indicated opposition to the county treating Pierce County garbage differently from out-of-county garbage, saying there was no difference between waste from other areas. He also stated that LRI has no plans to import waste.

Washington State Supreme Court says no to soccer fields within agriculture lands

The Washington State Supreme Court issued an opinion on December 14, 2000 regarding King County vs. Central Puget Sound Growth Management Hearings Board and others. In 1994, King County adopted a new comprehensive plan that designated approximately three percent of the County's 1.4 million acres for agricultural lands. Since that time, there has been a growing demand for soccer and baseball fields which the comprehensive plan terms "active recreational facilities". To meet the demand, the Northshore Youth Soccer Association proposed that the

County acquire several parcels of land for development into new athletic facilities. These properties encompass more than 40 acres within the area designated for agricultural lands. In December 1996, the Soccer Association agreed to purchase some of the property with the provision that the County contribute a portion of the purchase price. The sale closed on April 15, 1997. The County then entered into a 30-year Concession agreement with the Soccer Association for the management of new athletic facilities on the property. At the time of the purchase, the county's comprehen-

sive plan discouraged active recreational uses within the agriculture lands. In order to develop the property into athletic fields, the county amended the comprehensive plan and its zoning code.

The Supreme Court opinion rendered by Justice Faith E. Ireland states that that the 1997 amendment to King county's comprehensive plan and zoning code violated the Growth Management Act, and that the lands in question do not qualify for innovative zoning techniques under RCW 36.70A.77.

Employment Opportunities

COMMUNITY HEALTH & WELLNESS SERVICES MANAGER, (Public Health, Nurse - Manager) Whatcom County, Bellingham, WA, is seeking a master's prepared nurse for the division manager position in

the Community Health & Wellness Services Division of the Health & Human Services Department. This position is responsible for planning, organizing, staffing, directing and controlling the efforts of staff, and other

work and community groups to accomplish the work, mission, goals and vision of the department and the County in the assessment and delivery of a variety of nursing, social work, nutrition and medical services to individuals, families, groups and communities. Requires a bachelor's degree in nursing, including study in

public health nursing AND a master's degree in nursing, public health or an allied health field AND 5 years of progressively responsible public health nursing experience in a health department INCLUDING 3 years of supervisory experience, OR equivalent. Hiring range:

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Employment Opportunities

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\$53,844-\$67,644 annually, (eff. 1/1/01), DOQ. The application period for this position closes 1/15/01. For required application contact Whatcom County Human Resources, 311 Grand Avenue, Suite 107, Bellingham, WA, or call (360) 676-6802. For detailed job announcement visit our website at www.co.whatcom.wa.us or call the jobline at (360) 738-4550. Equal Opportunity Employer.

ADAMS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

is accepting applications for County Engineer. This position is responsible for the establishment, design, construction, alteration and improvements of county roads and bridges as required by law. The County Engineer assists the Public Works Director in the planning, administration and coordination of county engineering, solid waste, road maintenance, computer support for public works and related activities. Annual salary is \$41,822 to \$61,032 (DOQ). Required qualifications include registration as a professional civil engineer, three (3) years of progressively responsible professional engineering work experience involving a variety of assignments associated with the design, construction or maintenance of roads and bridges. Applications will be accepted until position is filled. A completed application form along with resume and letter of interest are required. For application and information contact Adams County Public Works, 210 W. Alder, Ritzville, WA 99169 or call (509) 659-3276. Equal Opportunity Employer.

HUMAN RESOURCE/ ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIRECTOR,

Yakima County— Salary Range \$64,454—\$97,933 annually DOQ. Requirements (Education and/or Experience): Equivalent to a Bachelor's Degree in Human Resources, Public Administration, business, pre-law or a related field and seven (7) years progressively responsible human resources and labor relations work experience including four (4) years in a managerial capacity. Description of Duties: Experienced human resources leader to join the executive management team of a dynamic county organization. Responsible for Labor Relations and the overall direction, management and supervision of Human Resources, Risk Management, Purchasing and Printing departments which provide internal support services to the organization. Directly accountable to the Board of County Commissioners. Works closely with the Board and executive team to identify alternatives on a broad range of county-wide policies, administrative projects and community service initiatives. Serves as chief staff advisor to the Board, other departments and agencies on all personnel matter. Final Filing Date: January 19, 2001 - Apply at: Yakima County Human Resources Department, 128 N. 2nd Street, Room 412, Yakima, WA 98901, (509) 574-2220 Internet: www.co.yakima.wa.us, E-mail: human.resources@co.yakima.wa.us. EOE

RISK MANAGER, HUMAN RESOURCES,

Yakima County - Salary Range \$47,366 - \$69,873 annually DOQ. Requirements (Education and/or Experience): Equivalent to a

Bachelor's Degree in Public Administration, Business, Pre-law or a related field and five (5) years of progressively responsible Risk and Safety Management work experience. Experience must include at least two (2) years in a supervisory or managerial capacity. Description of duties: Risk Manager position to serve as a key member of the Human Resources/ Administrative Services management team. Responsible for the overall management and supervision of the day-to-day operations of the County's Risk Management programs including developing, implementing, administering, assigning and coordinating resources, staff and activities. This position reports to the Human Resources/Administrative Services Director and works closely with the Civil Division of the Prosecuting Attorney's Office, other county managers, department heads/elected officials and third party administrators to ensure a safe work environment for all employees and to eliminate or reduce loss exposure through property, liability and personnel perils. Final Filing Date: January 19, 2001 - Apply at Yakima County Human Resources Department, 128 N. 2nd Street, Room 412, Yakima, WA 98901 (509) 574-2220 or through the internet at www.co.yakima.wa.us, or E-mail at human.resources@co.yakima.wa.us. EOE

CHIEF DEPUTY AUDITOR -The Whatcom County Auditor's Office is seeking a proven leader for Chief Deputy Auditor. Salary range is \$49,500 - \$62,184 annually (eff. 1/1/01). This highly creative position offers a variety of leadership opportunities working with diverse divisions. Excellent employer-paid benefits for employee

and family, 3 weeks vacation/year to start, avg. 12 holidays/year, Washington State Retirement system. Optional deferred comp & Flex 125. Requires a BA degree in public administration, business administration, or related field AND 5 years auditing experience including 2 years supervisory experience, or equiv. CPA or Cert. Internal Auditor desirable. 2 years of financial management or accounting experience is desirable. Application period closes 1/2/01. Required application available @ Human Resources, (360) 676-6802, Bellingham, WA. Call Job Line at (360) 738-4550 or visit www.co.whatcom.wa.us for details. Equal Opportunity Employer.

ADMINISTRATOR The Okanogan County Health District

is seeking applications with resumes for the Administrator position. The Administrator functions as an executive director in carrying out the general policies of the Board of Health to provide core public health functions for the Health District in meeting the public health needs of the residents of the county in areas of assessment, support services, environmental health, community/family health, health promotion and communicable disease prevention and response. Requires a bachelor's degree in public health administration or related field plus three years of increasingly responsible public health management experience. A master's degree in public health administration or related field is preferred. The salary starts at \$49,067.04 per year. For more information and job description contact Lori Albert at (509) 422-7156. E-mail: lalbert@co.okanogan.wa.us.

Coming Events

January 4

WACO (Washington Association of County Officials) Committee Meetings, Washington County Building, Olympia.
Travel Committee, 2:00 - 3:00 pm;
Budget Committee, 3:00 pm.

January 5

WACO Board of Trustees Meeting, Washington Counties Building, Olympia, 8:00 am.

January 8

Legislative Session begins.

January 8-12

CANCELLED - Medilegal Death Investigation Training, Port Angeles. Location and time TBA.

January 19

WSAC Legislative Steering Committee Meeting, Washington Counties Building, Olympia.

February 2

WSAC Legislative Steering Committee Meeting, Washington Counties Building, Olympia.

February 14

WACO Affiliate Legislative Meetings in Olympia: Assessors, Washington Counties Building and Best Western Aladdin Motor Inn; Auditors, Guest House Inn; Clerks, WestCoast Olympia Hotel; Treasurers, WestCoast Olympia Hotel.

February 14-15

WSAC Legislative Rally, Olympia

February 14

Legislative Reception for State Representatives and Senators, sponsored by WSAC, WACO and AWC, Saint Martins Pavilion, Lacey, 6:00 pm.

February 16

WSAC Legislative Steering Committee Meeting, Washington Counties Building, Olympia.

February 28-March 4

Washington County Administrative Association Annual Meeting

March 2

WSAC Legislative Steering Committee Meeting, Washington Counties Building, Olympia.

March 16

WSAC Legislative Steering Committee Meeting, Washington Counties Building, Olympia.

March 21-23

ACHS Meeting, Yakima

March 30

WSAC Legislative Steering Committee Meeting, Washington Counties Building, Olympia.

April 5-6

WSAC Western District Meeting, Oak Harbor

April 13

WSAC Legislative Steering Committee Meeting, Washington Counties Building, Olympia.

April 19-20

WSAC Eastern District Meeting, Colville

April 27

WSAC Legislative Steering Committee Meeting, Washington Counties Building, Olympia.

May 16-18

ACHS Meeting, Walla Walla

May 16-19

WIR Conference (Western Interstate Region), County of Hawaii, Hilo, HI

June 12-15

WSAC Summer Convention, West Coast Gateway, Yakima

June 12

WCIF Board Meeting, in conjunction with WSAC Summer Convention

July 13-17

NACo Annual Conference, City & County of Philadelphia

July 18-20

ACHS Meeting, Port Angeles

September 19-21

ACHS Meeting, Ellensburg

October 1-5

WACO Annual Conference, Port Ludlow.