

# the Courthouse Journal

WWW.WACOUNTIES.ORG

Washington Association of County Officials  
Washington State Association of Counties

March 28, 2003  
Issue No. 12

*Inside the  
Courthouse Journal*

**Budget, Finance & Taxes**  
Pages 3 - 4

**Courts, Law & Justice**  
Pages 5 - 6

**Elections, Licensing  
& Recording**  
Page 7

**Environment, Land Use  
and Resources**  
Pages 8 - 9

**General Government  
Issues**  
Page 10

**Public Health and  
Human Services**  
Pages 11 - 13

**Transportation &  
Public Works**  
Page 14

**Association News**  
Page 15

**Training & Upcoming  
Events**  
Page 16

**Calendar of Events**  
Pages 18 - 19

**Deadline for  
WSAC Spring  
District Meeting  
Bids**

*See Page 2*

## Budgets Start to Emerge

This week saw the Legislature's first budget proposals for next biennium. House Transportation Chair Ed Murray unveiled his proposal for a 10 year plan supported by a 3 cent increase in the gas tax, along with a "transfer tax" on the transfer of title of new and used vehicles. The Governor, knowing that the Senate would propose something in the range of 5 cent increase in the gas tax, unveiled a compromise proposal of 4 cents. On Friday as the Journal went to press, the Chair of the Senate Highways and Transportation Committee proposed a 10 year program supported by a 5 cent increase. While the proposals have significant differences, they also have large areas of common ground. The Governor and leaders from the four caucuses have been meeting privately since the beginning of the session to ensure the passage of a transportation package.

Next week there will probably be the release of at least one operating budget. The Senate is reportedly close to agreement on a budget that will not include new taxes imposed by the Legislature. The House reportedly is finding it

more difficult to build majority support for a single proposal. As we have reported previously, updates to both revenue and caseload forecasts have increased the budget gap by \$300 million since the Governor submitted his budget in December. As county officials know, counties, their budgets and programs are tightly linked to the state budget. Despite the pain inflicted by the Governor's budget, the next round of proposals could be even more painful for counties. County officials should watch for e-mails from WSAC and WACO summarizing budget provisions if they hear news reports that a budget is being released. Typically, the Senate moves a budget very quickly, so county officials will have to communicate with their Senators in a very short time frame if they hope to have any influence on the Senate budget position. We continue to believe that the Senate budget proposal will contain assistance for the counties most dependent on the former equalization funding.

## WASHINGTON COUNTIES SCHOLARSHIPS

### *Scholarship Deadline Looming*

Children of county employees have only one more week to apply for one of five \$1500 Washington Counties Scholarships. All completed applications **must** be postmarked no later than April 7. Please call WACO or WSAC for an application and details or visit [www.wacounties.org](http://www.wacounties.org)

## WACO and WSAC Work to Resolve HB 1594 Issues

It is rare to find a bill that WSAC and WACO do not agree upon. **HB 1594** is one of those rare bills. It deals with chief financial officers in charter counties. It had been introduced as a WACO priority and as part of the County Auditors' Legislative Package. After the House passed **HB 1594**, WSAC's Legislative Steering Committee took

a position in opposition. While WACO views **HB 1594** as a clarification, WSAC's interpretation is that it contains a limitation.

WSAC's opposition was not done lightly or with any intent to lessen the commitment WSAC has made to work closely with WACO in support of the Tri-Association joint legislative package. In response to WSAC's concerns, the Executive Committee of the Washington State Association of County Auditors is proposing to the WACO Legislative Committee that the two associations name an interim workgroup comprised of six WSAC members and six county auditors with ad hoc members representing both associations as needed. The goal of the workgroup is to examine budget adoption processes in counties and recognize the checks and balances necessary for oversight of county finances.

**HB 1594** is set for hearing on Friday, April 4, in the Senate Government Operations and Elections but establishment of the workgroup will negate the need for a hearing.

### The Courthouse Journal

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 Wednesday.

Direct inquiries and correspondence to *The Courthouse Journal*, 206 Tenth Ave SE, Olympia, WA 98501-1131 or [www.wacounties.org](http://www.wacounties.org).

#### WACO STAFF

Phone (360) 753-7319  
Fax (360) 664-2812

**Debbie Wilke**, Executive Director  
**Michelle Hagen**, Deputy Director  
**Christina Bridston**, Programs Coordinator  
**Brenda Bamford**, Financial Operations Mgr  
**Kathie Houts**, Administrative Assistant

#### WSAC STAFF

Phone (360) 753-1886  
Fax (360) 664-2812

**Bill Vogler**, Executive Director  
**Paul Parker**, Assistant Executive Director  
**Maureen Morris**, Deputy Director  
**Sophia Byrd**, Policy Director  
*Law & Justice, Emergency Management*  
**Jean Wessman**, Policy Director  
*Human Services, Juvenile Justice, Housing*  
**Scott Merriman**, Policy Director  
*Transportation, Land Use*  
**Vicki Kirkpatrick**, Policy Director  
*Public Health & WSALPHO Administrator*  
**Tom King**, Associate  
*Research & Telecommunications*  
**Jim Potts**, Coordinator, Housing Outreach  
**Tom Robinson**, Coordinator, Timber  
**Trina Bannister**, Finance Manager  
**Ginni Peppert**, Events Planner / Secretary  
**Barbara Warden**, Meetings / Secretary  
**Beth Dubey**, Accounting & Business Asst.  
**Tom Jensen**, Technology Project Staff  
**Nicole Simpkinson**, Special Projects

### Last Chance to Submit Bids for Spring 2004 WSAC District Meeting Sites

As stated in last week's *Courthouse Journal*, we need to plan and be ready for next year's WSAC regional meetings that will take place in April 2004.

Sites will be chosen at the business meetings during the next two weeks. Western District will be held April 3 - 4 in Olympia and Eastern District April 10 - 11 in Clarkston. Meeting locations need to offer at least 75 sleeping rooms and appropriate meeting facilities. If you need further information please contact Ginni Peppert at WSAC if your county is interested in hosting a WSAC district meeting.

Also, if you are interested in attending either of the district meetings during the next two weeks, and have not already registered, you need to contact the association office immediately.

NOTE: Legislative Committee schedules and agendas can be found at <http://www.leg.wa.gov/wsladm/calendar.cfm>

## Window for Convention Center Tax Credit May Close

Senator Don Benton has introduced **SB 6031**, that would eliminate the 0.033 percent state sales tax credit for Public Facilities Districts (PFD) if they have not sold bonds relying on this credit by April 1, 2003. State law permits districts established before July 1, 2002 to levy the tax if they meet a series of conditions. The credit mechanism permits the PFD to collect a tax without raising the total tax level. The PFD tax is deducted from the state sales and use tax. The bill was heard in Senate Ways and Means on March 25.

## State Investment Board Policy Changed

On March 20, the State Investment Board changed its long held policy of not providing preference to in-state investments. The Board's primary objective still would be to obtain the best return on investment. The state's \$48 billion pension fund portfolio is invested by the Board. For years, state policy makers have steered away from any local preference because of the potential for political pressure to lead to investments not in the best interest of the state or pension fund members. They felt that if an investment was attractive it would attract private money and would not need a special preference from the state. Retiree groups expressed concern about the change in policy. Pension liabilities are funded through a combination of employer and employer contributions and investment income. If this decision reduces investment income, contributions from employers and employees will have to make up the difference.

## Exemption Review

One of the Tri-Association priorities this year was a review of tax exemptions. **ESHB 1869** would require performance audits for tax preferences/exemptions. The bill passed the House Floor on March 18, but was subject to a number of floor amendments. This legislation is needed to determine if the objectives of these exemptions is being met. The bill

does not sunset any tax preferences. It provides an opportunity to fine-tune exemptions over time.

The bill creates a citizen commission to develop a schedule for reviewing tax preferences such as exemptions, exclusions, deductions, credits, deferrals, and preferential rates. The Commission must develop a schedule for review each preference at least once every 10 years. The commission is to schedule all tax preferences for review, except those required by constitutional law or determined to be a critical part of the structure of the tax system. The Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee (JLARC) will then conduct the actual reviews, according to criteria set in the bill, with an annual report to the Legislature. For each tax exemption, the JLARC must provide a recommendation as to whether the tax preference should be continued with modification, modified, scheduled for sunset review at a future date, or terminated immediately.

The bill is currently in Senate Ways & Means and is not currently scheduled for a hearing.

## Assessor Interest Bills Set for Hearings Next Week

On March 31 at 1:30 p.m., the House Local Government Committee will hear **SB 5654** authorizing multiple fire districts to annex portions of a newly incorporated city or town. Currently, statutes do not allow a newly incorporated city or town to permanently annex to multiple fire protection districts. This bill would allow a fire protection district to annex the area of the newly incorporated city or the city may annex to one fire protection district. If there is more than one fire district involved an election must be held. In an election to annex to more than one fire protection district, the qualified elector must reside within the appropriate fire protection district, or within that area of the city located within the district. Also in the House, the Finance Committee hearings next week include a 1:30 p.m. hearing on April 1, on **SSB 5326** which would create regional fire protection service authorities. The financing

options for the new authority include a benefit charges as provided for fire protection districts and three 50 cent per \$1,000 of assessed value voter-approved excess property tax levies. This taxing authority is an alternative to, rather than in addition to, the existing taxing authority of the participating jurisdictions.

In the Senate, the Agriculture Committee will hear the Farm Bureau bill, **HB 1677**. The bill authorizes counties to exempt the personal property used in agriculture from taxation on a county-by-county basis. As the bill is written, the Department of Revenue has determined this would only include exemption from the County Current Expense Levy. This public hearing is scheduled for April 1 at 8:00 a.m. On April 2 at 1:30 p.m., the Senate Government Operations and Elections Committee will hear **HB 1510**. This bill modifies the prorationing of fire protection districts' property tax levies. The bill would remove 25 cents of the levy from the \$5.90 into the Constitutional 1%. In the same Committee on April 4 at 1:30 p.m. a public hearing will be held on **HB 1196**. This bill includes hospital districts in the definition of 'local government' in chapter 39.96 RCW. This would authorize hospital districts to enter into payment agreements in accordance with the provisions of chapter 39.96 RCW. On April 3 at 10:00 A.M. the Senate Natural Resources, Energy and Water Committee will hear **EHB 2146**. This bill provides tax incentives for wood biomass fuel production distribution and sale. Among other things, the bill exempts land, buildings, machinery, equipment, and other personal property used in the manufacture of wood biomass fuels. The exemption is good for six years from the date the facility becomes operational.

## WSAC Testifies in Support of SSB 6054

The Senate Ways & Means Committee heard testimony on March 27 on **SSB 6054**, clarifying the application of the industrial welfare act to public employers. WSAC Executive Director,

Bill Vogler testified in support of the bill. While the family leave provisions of the Industrial Welfare Act are expressly applicable to employees of the state and its political subdivisions, it is unclear whether the remainder of the act applies to public employees. Current litigation alleges that "straight eight" work shifts, without designated rest and meal breaks, by the institutional staffs of the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) and Department of Corrections (DOC) violate the Industrial Welfare Act. This bill would clarify that the family leave provisions of the Industrial Welfare Act were intended by the Legislature to be expressly applicable to state agencies and political subdivisions, but the remainder of the act (affecting "straight eight" work shifts) was not intended by the Legislature to be applicable to public employers.

However, in the future, public employers will be subject to the Industrial Welfare Act, but public employees may, through the collective bargaining process, waive or supersede the requirements of the act in matters pertaining to hours, wages, and working conditions. The bill contains an emergency clause and would take effect immediately.

### Post Retirement Employment Bill Passes Senate Ways & Means

**SHB 1829** passed out of the Senate Ways & Means Committee in executive session on March 27. This bill regulates postretirement employment in both the Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) and the Teachers' Retirement System (TRS). If passed, it would:

- Lengthen the period of separation required before a retiree may return to work in an eligible position,
- Establish a 1,900 hour limit on the cumulative hours a retiree may work beyond 867 hours,
- Require the employer to document a justifiable need to rehire a retiree,
- Require the retention of procedural records subject to audit,
- Mandate that the authority to hire a retiree rests with the highest public

officer of an employer,

- Forbid both verbal and written return-to-work agreements between a member and his or her former employer, and
- Require the Department of Retirement Systems and the Employment Security Department to prepare a notice to employers about the possible unemployment compensation consequences of hiring retirees.

### Senate Ways & Means Committee Hears Testimony on Retirement Bills

The Senate Ways & Means Committee heard testimony on two retirement bills, **SB 6029** and **SHB 1298**, during its March 27 public hearing.

**SB 6029** impacts the Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS), the Teachers' Retirement System (TRS), and the School Employees' Retirement System (SERS) by changing the actuarial funding method. Last fall, the Pension Funding Council recommended that rates be raised to 2.05% for PERS Plans 2 and 3 beginning in the 2003-2005 biennium. In December, the Governor's budget recommended a change in the actuarial funding method to reduce the rate of increase. This bill implements the Governor's proposal. As a result, employer contribution rates for PERS Plans 2 and 3 would increase from the current 1.1% to 1.21% (as opposed to the 2.05% proposed by the Pension Funding Council). However, proposed contribution rates would eventually exceed those that would be experienced using the current funding method. The bill contains an emergency clause and would take effect July 1, 2003.

**SHB 1298** would reduce the required lengths of service for vesting in PERS, TRS and SERS Plans 3 from 10 years (currently one of the longest vesting periods in the nation) to five years. The Office of the State Actuary estimates that this bill would not significantly impact PERS contribution rates. This bill also contains an emergency clause and would take effect on May 1, 2003.

### County Treasurers

**ESHB 1564**, the county treasurers' clean up bill, was heard by the Senate Government Operations and Elections Committee on Wednesday, and was given a do pass recommendation at the end of the hearing. Thanks to Thurston County Treasurer Robin Hunt and Mason County Treasurer Lisa Frazier for testifying in support of the bill. For those county treasurers who have members on the Senate Rules Committee, please give them a call and ask them to pull the bill to the floor calendar.

Lisa Frazier was also in the Senate Ways and Means Committee on Wednesday to support **HB 1073**, modifying the collection of property taxes on land subleased for residential and recreational purposes (Lake Cushman). That bill passed out of the Ways and Means Committee on Thursday afternoon. Please call Rules Committee members to get this bill on the calendar as well.

### Court Rules Thurston Justice Center Must Remain in County Seat

In a matter that could impact other counties as they attempt to expand jails and courts, a superior court judge ruled this week that a proposed Thurston County regional justice center, which would include elected officials' offices, must remain in Olympia, the county seat.

The county wanted to site the new justice center in Tumwater, about six blocks outside the Olympia city limits. The plan would have included a 768-bed jail, court facilities, and the offices of the county's elected clerk and prosecuting attorney. Judge F. Mark McCauley, a visiting judge from Grays Harbor County, ruled that state law requires core courthouse offices, such as the prosecutor and clerk, to reside within the city limits of the county seat.

State law and Supreme Court rules state that a county's prosecuting attorney and clerk shall keep offices "at the county seat." Thurston County officials filed the declaratory judgment to get the court to clarify the definition of "at" before they moved ahead with a ballot measure to fund the project.

Over many months of meetings, the county had enlisted inter-jurisdictional city partners in the project, and they chose the Tumwater site because it is the only undeveloped, non-residential land available in the urban area that is large enough to accommodate the regional justice center. The site of the existing courthouse complex is already fully built-out and cannot support the kind of jail and court expansion needed. The existing jail, built in 1978 to house 86 inmates, now routinely holds more than 400 inmates. Due to increased workloads, the Legislature has approved adding an eighth superior court judge, but the position remains unfilled because the county currently cannot provide courtroom and office space.

According to a recent article in *The Olympian*, county officials are now considering whether to split the project, keeping the elected officials' offices and civil courts on courthouse hill in

Olympia and locating the jail and criminal courts at the Tumwater site.

Although the decision in the Thurston case could impact many counties that have limited space to expand jails and courts, it will not affect the King County Regional Justice Center in Kent. While the Kent facility houses a jail, law library, courts and deputy prosecuting attorneys, the official offices of the elected county prosecutor and clerk remain at the courthouse in Seattle, the county seat.

### From the Prosecutors' Corner

Prosecutors support many of the provisions of **SB 5990**, but oppose one - the expansion of early release to 50% of some offenders' sentences. This expansion is limited to repeat property and drug offenders.

Under current law, a residential burglar does not go to the state until he or she has an offender score of 4 prior felony convictions - so this may be their fifth conviction. Likewise for car thieves, they do not go to prison until they have an offender score of 6 prior felony convictions - this may be their seventh conviction.

In Washington, non-violent and non-sexual offenders have to earn their way to prison. Studies show that more than 70% of high volume property offenders will be re-arrested within three years (see the 1994 to 1997 study of prison releases by the United States Department of Justice). This proposal may save the state money over the short term, but those savings will be at the expense of local government, who will have to re-prosecute these cases. It also undercuts truth in sentencing, a strength of a determinate sentencing state where sentences imposed are actually served.

In a similar move, Prosecutors support much of **SB 5903**, but oppose the transfer of state incarcerated juvenile offenders from state institutions to county "supervision". In 1997, the state juvenile justice policy changed to keep most juvenile offenders local, only serious offenders or repeat offenders would go to the state institutions. It

worked. The state institutional population has dropped from 1400 in 1997 to approximately 900 in 2003. This reduced number now reflects juvenile offenders that were not successfully rehabilitated by the county on their initial trips through the system - keeping them local didn't work.

It will save the state money to take them out of state institutions and place them under county supervision - but let's not fool ourselves into thinking this benefits the county. The funding will be inadequate in some cases, the tort liability ours alone, and the futility of continuing the same interventions but expecting a different approach obvious.

Most frustrating however is that all of this may occur while juvenile arrests are down, juvenile filings are down, and state and local bed space is not being overwhelmed. Ask yourself, what is the wisdom of rewriting a juvenile sentencing law that is working?

**SSB 5251**, foreign judgments, will be heard in the House Judiciary Committee on Tuesday, April 1, at 1:30 p.m. **SSB 5251** is a priority bill of the County Clerks and WACO.

**EHB 1427**, allowing confessions and other admissions to be admitted into evidence if substantial independent evidence establishes the trustworthiness of the statement, will be heard in the Senate Judiciary Committee on Thursday, April 3, at 8:00 a.m. **EHB 1427** has been a priority of the Prosecuting Attorneys.

**ESHB 5379**, revising rules for public access to dependency hearings, will be heard on Monday, March 31, at 1:30 p.m. in the House Children and Family Services Committee. WACO members submitted mixed reactions to **ESHB 5379** and subsequently, did not take a position. Interested parties are encouraged to forward their thoughts on **ESHB 5379** to Representative Kagi, the chair, and members of the committee.

---

## ***Courts, Law and Justice (continued)***

---

**SSB 5592**, allowing attorneys to issue writs of garnishment, will be heard in the House Judiciary Committee on Tuesday, April 1, at 1:30 p.m. The substitute version allows issuance of writs by attorneys in district courts only.

**HB 1816**, identical to the **SSB 5592** substitute was heard Thursday in House Judiciary. District court judges are expected to offer an amendment to clarify the district court fee.

**ESSB 5269** and **ESHB 1218**, building mappings systems, were heard in the opposite houses this week. **ESSB 5269** is still in the House State Government Committee at this writing, but **ESHB 1218** is in the Senate Rules Committee. Both bills have been amended to make certain that there is a distinction between this law enforcement system to map public buildings for response in critical incidents and geographical information systems used by the county assessors and that in no way are standards developed by WASPC to be construed as affecting any other system developed by local governments for any other purpose.

**SHB 1931**, law enforcement training, was heard Thursday in the Senate Judiciary Committee. SHB 1931 requires the Criminal Justice Training Commission to offer a training session on law enforcement interaction with developmentally disabled and mentally ill persons. The course must be developed in consultation with appropriate community and local organizations that have expertise in those areas. The substitute bill allows CJTC to offer this class via the internet as a two-hour course and will keep the cost of the program at \$35,000.

### **DSHS Abuse Reporting System**

The Centralized Intake for Child Protective Services drew heavy fire on Thursday from Lewis County Sheriff John McCroskey, Pacific County Sheriff John Didion, judges and child advocates as well. The House Committee on Children and Family Services held a work session to focus on performance of the centralized call center for reporting

suspected child abuse.

In the past, people who suspected child abuse called the local Child Protective Services office. Now all calls go through a centralized call center in Seattle where workers determine whether the information is a case for CPS. Complaints against the new system include delays, refusals to accept reports, and seemingly untrained workers unfamiliar with the basics of child abuse.

Sheriff McCroskey shared law enforcements' nickname "1-800-Who Cares" (We suspect newspaper accounts have edited this slightly.), while Sheriff Didion said, "You may have consistent decision-making, but you don't have decision-making with the best information available. You're sacrificing people who invested in the community, who know the families ... all to save a buck."

A 30 day review of the system ordered by DSHS Secretary Dennis Braddock is scheduled to start next week.

---

# Elections, Licensing and Recording

---

## Hearings Next Week

**HB 1594**, clarifying the role of a chief financial officer in a charter county has been scheduled for a hearing in the Senate Government Operations & Elections Committee on Friday, April 4 at 1:30 p.m. in Senate Hearing Room 3. **HB 1593**, requiring the delivery of endorsements by recording officers is also on the agenda.

**EHB 1152**, revising funding of the archives division has been scheduled for a hearing in the Senate Government Operations & Elections Committee next Wednesday, April 2 at 1:30 p.m. in Senate Hearing Room 3.

**2SHB 1796**, provides funding for reduced-fee traffic safety education for low-income students through the assessment of a \$1 per plate fee assessed on all reflective license plates issued at the initial vehicle registration and on replacement. The bill is scheduled for a hearing in the Senate Highways & Transportation Committee on Tuesday, April 1 in Senate Hearing Room 1.

**SB 5477**, requiring the delivery of endorsements by recording officers was heard in the House Local Government Committee on Thursday, March 27. Prime sponsor, Senator Paul Shin testified in favor of the bill along with Kitsap County Auditor Karen Flynn and Pierce County Auditor Pat McCarthy. Representative Berkey offered an amendment to clarify the language; the county auditor can either remit the documents electronically or by mail. **If you have members on the House Local Government Committee please contact them and ask them to pass the bill out of committee.**

**SHB 1081**, increasing the recording fee on deeds of trust by \$1 to prosecute real estate fraud has been referred to the Senate Financial Services, Insurance & Housing Committee, and has **not** been scheduled for a hearing.

**SHB 1153**, which allows records that were previously confidential to become available to the public 75 years after they

are created was passed out of committee and is in Senate Govt. Operations & Elections Committee.

**HB 1154**, which provides funding for the State Archives oral history program as well as other archive activities, is in Senate Govt. Operations & Elections Committee.

The Secretary of State's request bill, **SSB 5274**, revising funding of the archives division, was heard in the House State Government Committee and was given a do pass recommendation this week. As the bill now reads, two accounts for the Division of Archives and Records Management are created. The imaging account is a non-appropriated account, and the local government archives account has been made subject to appropriation in the Senate version of the bill.

## Elections Hearings Next Week:

Wednesday, April 2, 1:30 p.m. - Senate Government Operations and Elections Committee

**SHB 1390**, authorizing instant runoff voting

Friday, April 4, 1:30 p.m. - Senate Government Operations and Elections Committee

**SHB 1093**, ballot candidate order

**SHB 1160**, harmonizing election crimes and penalties

**SHB 1222**, requiring voting devices to be accessible to individuals with disabilities

**ESHB 1431**, changing the date of the primary election

**ESHB 1158**, enhancing voting systems certification

The House State Government Committee heard several election bills on Thursday, including Secretary of State (SOS) request bills, **SSB 5218**, requiring timely mailing of ballots; **SSB 5221**, reorganizing election laws; **ESB 5374**, administering funds received under the Help America Vote Act (HAVA); and **SB 5463**, authorizing a pilot project for military and overseas voters to vote over the Internet. Pierce County Auditor Pat McCarthy was there

to testify in favor of the bills. Do pass recommendations were given at the end of the hearing to **SB 5463**, authorizing a pilot project for military and overseas voters to vote over the Internet, and to **ESB 5374**, the HAVA bill (the Senate version of the bill has an emergency clause

The Senate Government Operations and Elections Committee gave a do pass recommendation to **HB 1935**, changing prerequisites for county auditors calling special elections, this week. Auditors' Association President Vern Spatz, Grays Harbor County, was on hand to testify in support of the bill. Legislative co-chair Donna Eldridge, Jefferson County, was also present in support of the measure. The bill now moves to the Senate Rules Committee. Auditors: please call Senate Rules Committee members and ask them to pull the bill to the Senate calendar.

The Senate Government Operations and Elections Committee also passed **HB 1106** this week, which allows the Secretary of State to make unannounced visits to county election offices and facilities to observe handling, processing, counting or tabulation of ballots.

## Supreme Court Hears Oral Arguments on the Reconsideration of the Moses Lake and Yakima Annexations Case

On March 25, the Washington State Supreme Court heard oral arguments on the reconsideration of their decision last year that invalidated the petition method of annexation.

Each side had forty minutes to present their argument. Any Justice can ask a question at anytime during the argument. It was difficult to tell from the questions how the Court might rule. Neither party asked the Court for a speedy decision, so it could be months before the Court rules.

In the meantime, interested parties will still move forward with legislative solutions to create new methods of annexations that will stand a constitutional challenge.

## Ecology and Environmental Community Recruiting Counties to Volunteer as Early Adopters

The Department of Ecology and the environmental community might be contacting you or your staff to see if your county is interested in being named as an early adopter in **ESHB 1769**. This bill sets up the schedule for counties and cities to update the shoreline master programs (SMP). The proposed guidelines still have to go through the rule making process and that process should be completed by the end of this year.

The legislature has indicated their support to appropriate \$2 million in the next biennium for counties and cities to update their SMP as an early adopter. They are interested in the early adopter program in order to help Ecology fine tune the guidelines and develop cost estimates for future updates.

Before you agree, we encourage you and your staff to:

1. Have your planning director read the proposed guidelines in order to understand what changes you will need in your current SMP. The guidelines are available at

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov./programs/sea/SMA/guidelines/newguide.htm>

2. Have your planning staff develop a realistic budget and work plan to update the SMP.
3. If your county is under the jurisdiction of the Central Puget Sound GMHB, have your prosecutor and planning staff review their recent decision about Everett's SMP.

There are a couple of advantages of going early.

1. Your county could receive more technical assistance from Ecology.
2. Your county wouldn't have to update your SMP again until sometime after 2018 according to the bill that passed the House.

If you want your county to be named in the proposed bill, please send a letter to Scott Merriman at WSAC indicating your willingness to be an early adopter. The letter will be used in the legislative process to commit your county in the bill.

## House-Senate Water Negotiations to Begin Soon

Hearings on water bills will continue in the House on April 2. After hearings that day on **SSB 5025** (relinquishment) and **SSB 5145** (exempt wells for domestic use), hearings on bills addressing all the major water topics will be complete.

Representative Linville, Chair of the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee has indicated that she and Senator Morton, who chairs the Senate Natural Resources, Energy and Water Committee have met and discussed how to move forward on the mass of water legislation that remains in play. Negotiations are expected to begin soon.

Expect the final list to include watershed planning implementation, municipal water rights, stockwatering, greater flexibility for replacement wells or additional wells, and limits on the use of water quality statutes to impact water rights.

Trust water rights and relinquishment are other topics that may make the list of

bills to be sent to the Governor.

## Senate Grapples with Stormwater

The Senate has now heard **ESHB 1689** and **ESHB 2088**. While both bills passed the House with 98-0 votes, both attracted substantial testimony pro and con in the Senate Natural Resources, Energy and Water Committee.

**ESHB 1689** creates a permit advisory committee to consider a long list of issues surrounding Phase I and Phase II permits for Western Washington and confirms the existing workgroup for Eastern Washington Phase II stormwater program development. Although the bill generally retains the original premise advanced by counties and cities that municipal stormwater management programs administered by the Department of Ecology ought not exceed the minimum requirements of federal law, both the business community and the environmental community opposed language sought by counties and cities to establish in state law a compliance standard reflecting that premise.

Benton County Public Works Director Ross Dunfee and King County Stormwater Manager Curt Crawford joined WSAC staff in seeking strengthening amendments to limit the cost of developing local stormwater programs and to ensure a well-balanced permit advisory committee.

**ESHB 2088** would require local stormwater programs to provide at least a 10 percent rate reduction for property owners with a rainwater collection system and limit stormwater fees and charges on commercial timber land. While supporting a fee reduction to provide an incentive for rainwater collection systems, county and city testimony suggested that a fee reduction based on the actual performance of the rainwater system would provide a better incentive and greater fairness to other ratepayers.

## Hydraulics Code Revision Proposals at Odds?

Legislation to rewrite the Hydraulics Code is under consideration in the House Fisheries Ecology and Parks Committee.

---

## ***Environment, Land Use and Resources (continued)***

---

**ESSB 5375** is scheduled for hearing in the Committee at 8:00 a.m. on April 3.

But will the Committee actually want testimony on the Senate bill crafted by Senator Mark Doumit (D-Wahkiakum County) that streamlines and reforms the hydraulics code by requiring numerous general permits and offers equivalency to eliminate redundant regulation already covered through other programs? Will it instead propose to strike the Senate effort and substitute it with a rewrite of the hydraulics code by Representative Buck that primarily simplifies existing law? Or will the Committee combine the rewrite and pieces of the **ESSB 5375** reform?

WSAC has supported **ESSB 5375** because much of the original purpose of the hydraulics code to protect fish life is now addressed through other statutes, including GMA critical areas protection, shorelines master programs, and stormwater programs at the local level, and ESA review at the federal level.

Meanwhile, Legislation designed to save as much as 30,000 acres of prime Skagit Valley farmland from inundation with saltwater has been endorsed 97-0 by the state House of Representatives.

**House Bill 1418**, sponsored by Rep. Dave Quall (D- Skagit County), would halt a move by the state Department of Fish & Wildlife (DFW) to perforate miles of coastal dikes with self-regulating tide gates - a mechanism described by one area farmer as "a hole in the dike."

Rep. Quall worked on the bill with farmers in his 40th district and in the neighboring 10th district, where most of the threatened farmland lies. He shares their fears that generations of family farming, and the tens of millions of dollars they generate for the Skagit County economy, would be wiped out if DFW succeeded in replacing as many as 30 one-way tide gates with the self-regulating, two-way version. DFW's goal is to periodically inundate the low-lying fields in an effort to restore or create salmon habitat.

**HB 1418**, if passed by the Senate and signed by Gov. Locke, will:

- prohibit DFW from unilaterally requiring self-regulating tide gates;
- direct DFW to pursue salmon-

habitat-restoration efforts on publicly owned land first, before eyeing privately owned property; and

- require DFW to conduct a comprehensive study of the relationship between tide gates and salmon habitats in Skagit County. Please contact Paul Parker at WSAC with comments on hydraulics code reform.

### Open public meetings

#### SSB 5185

The House State Government Committee heard **SSB 5185** yesterday with near-unanimous opposition. The bill would provide that public agency governing bodies must adopt rules fixing the agenda requirements for meetings, including deadlines for posting agendas, and time allotted per agenda item. They must also adopt rules fixing the location for meetings, including meetings involving more than one jurisdiction.

Cowlitz County Commissioner Jeff Rasmussen testified in opposition explaining that to require allotted time for every agenda item would just make meetings longer and cause large gaps of time when no one would likely testify.

The Board of County Commissioner/Council Clerks made opposition of this bill a top priority and sent numerous letters and phone calls to their legislators.

## Death Investigations

**2SHB 1223**, coroner jurisdiction, was heard in the Senate Government Operations and Elections Committee earlier this week. Kitsap County Coroner Greg Sandstrom was on hand to oppose the bill. 2SHB 1223 gives the coroner jurisdiction over deceased minors that they already have; expands notice requirements by coroners and medical examiners to DSHS of all child deaths, even though there is no suspicion of abuse or neglect; and gives DSHS the ability to determine if a death investigation should occur. To accomplish this on the DSHS end, a fiscal note for one social worker is included. DSHS is not required to keep a file unless there has been an active case in the past year. Coroner Sandstrom testified that the current system can accommodate the ends of **2SHB 1223** and also fielded questions regarding newspaper articles that apparently generated this year's legislation. Reporting would be handled by the DSHS centralized reporting system that came under heavy fire Thursday in a House committee. Please see a synopsis of that hearing in the *Court, Law and Justice* section of this edition of the *Courthouse Journal*.

**SB 5545**, increasing vital records fees to use to develop and maintain a web-based vital records system, was heard in Senate Ways and Means on Thursday and expected to be amended to increase the certified copy fee for birth and death records to \$17, two dollars over the original bill. While there is no increase to the \$5.00 from the fee paid into the Death Investigations Account, there will be a two dollar fee increase to the issuing agency and the rest is directed to development of the system. The fee for issuance of the initial birth or death certificate will go from \$13 to \$17, if the bill is amended and additional death certificates received at the same time will go from \$8 to \$17.

## Two SAMSHA Grants Available

Two new grants are available from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMSHA). One is for providing substance abuse prevention services along with HIV/AIDS services in minority community and the other is for methamphetamine and inhalant prevention programs.

\$3.8 million is available to expand substance abuse /HIV services. SAMSHA announces the availability of up to 14 awards in FY 2003 for the "Targeted Capacity Expansion Initiative for Substance Abuse Prevention (SAP) and HIV Prevention in Minority Communities: Services Grants." The grants are designed to expand substance abuse prevention services in conjunction with HIV/AIDS services in the African American, Latino/Hispanic, and other racial or ethnic communities highly affected by the twin epidemics of substance abuse and HIV/AIDS.

A grant request may be made for up to, but not more than, \$350,000 in total costs (direct and indirect). Cost-sharing is not required for this program; however, all successful applicants will develop and implement a plan to ensure continued provision of services subsequent to cessation of federal funding. The grants will be awarded by SAMSHA's Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP) for a period of up to 5 years. Annual awards will depend on continued availability of funds and progress achieved.

Who Can Apply: Eligible entities may include: Not-for-profit community-based organizations, national organizations, faith-based organizations, colleges and universities, clinics and hospitals, research institutions, and tribal government and tribal/urban Indian entities and organizations. Since the purpose of this program is to expand the capacity of community based organizations, State and local government agencies are not eligible to apply. The goal of this program is to increase access to integrated substance abuse prevention and HIV prevention programs in high risk minority

communities disproportionately impacted by substance abuse and HIV infection.

How to Apply: Applications for RFA No. SP-03-005, are available by calling SAMSHA's clearinghouse at 1-800-729-6686, or by downloading from [www.samhsa.gov](http://www.samhsa.gov).

Application Due Date: Must be received by May 23, 2003.

Additional Information: Applicants with questions on program issues should contact Francis C. Johnson, M.S.W., at (301) 443-2332 or [fjohnson@samhsa.gov](mailto:fjohnson@samhsa.gov). Queries on grants management should be directed to Steve Hudak, at (301) 443-9666 or e-mail at [shudak@samhsa.gov](mailto:shudak@samhsa.gov).

\$4 million is available for methamphetamine and inhalant prevention programs or infrastructure development. SAMSHA announces the availability of \$4 million for 14 awards for cooperative agreements to expand methamphetamine and inhalant prevention interventions or infrastructure development as part of the Targeted Capacity Expansion program.

The average annual award will range from \$300,000 to \$350,000, and applications with proposed budgets exceeding \$350,000 will be returned. Awards may be requested for up to three years, depending on the availability of funds and progress achieved. SAMSHA's Center for Substance Abuse Prevention will administer the cooperative agreements.

Who Can Apply: Eligible applicants are public and domestic private non-profit entities including units of state and local governments, Indian tribes and tribal organizations, community based organizations, managed care and other health care delivery systems, universities and colleges, faith based organizations and local law enforcement agencies. Current grantees, as well as entities that are not current grantees, are welcome to apply.

How to Apply: Applications for RFA SP03-006 are available from SAMSHA's clearinghouse at 1-800-729-6686, or by downloading from the SAMSHA website at [www.samhsa.gov](http://www.samhsa.gov).

---

## Public Health and Human Services (continued)

---

Application Due Date: Must be received by May 23, 2003.

Additional Information: Applicants with questions on program issues should contact Pamela C. Roddy, Ph.D, at 301-443-1001 or [proddy@samhsa.gov](mailto:proddy@samhsa.gov). Queries on grants management should be directed to Stephen Hudak at 301 443-9666 or e-mail at [shudak@samhsa.gov](mailto:shudak@samhsa.gov).

### DSHS Services at a Glance: Client Data Snapshot is Updated

The Washington Department of Social and Health Services has freshly updated a set of data that provides a revealing snapshot of the clients who receive services from DSHS and from 100,000 businesses, non-profit organizations and individual care providers who are paid to deliver services.

“A Day in the Life of Washington without DSHS” is a regular feature on “DSHS in Detail” the department’s online briefing pages.

Based on data as of March 2003, these are some of the services that are provided on a typical day by DSHS and its contracted providers.

On a single day in Washington State, without the services provided through DSHS:

- Over one million people would be without some type of social service.
- 900,000 people are without health insurance.
- 100 babies would be born today without health coverage.
- 139,000 women and children would be without cash assistance.
- 40,000 families would be without cash assistance.
- 116,000 women and children would be without subsidized child care.
- 21,000 older or disabled people would not be receiving care today in nursing homes, boarding homes, and adult family homes.
- 24,000 older and disabled people, living at home, would need help with feeding, bathing, ambulation, or personal care.
- 1,300 severely disturbed mentally ill adults now residing at Eastern State Hospital and Western State Hospital

would be without treatment and supervision.

- 6,600 people with developmental disabilities would be without residential care.
- Over 1,800 juvenile offenders would be without supervision.
- 216 cases of suspected child abuse or neglect would go without investigation.
- 67 cases of suspected abuse or neglect of a vulnerable adult would not be investigated.
- 182 civilly committed sex predators would be at large rather than undergoing treatment in a secure and supervised setting.
- 13,000 people would be without drug and alcohol abuse prevention and treatment services.

From an economic standpoint, nearly 100,000 contracted providers would not receive \$14 million in federal and state payments today to provide services to Washington residents.

For more details about DSHS clients, see the DSHS Research and Data Analysis website at: <http://www1.dshs.wa.gov/rda/research/default.htm>.

For DSHS budget data, see the DSHS Budget website at: <http://www1.dshs.wa.gov/budget/index.shtml>.

For More Information: Dr. Liz Kohlenberg, DSHS Research and Data Analysis, 360-902-0707, Dave Workman, DSHS Communications, 360-902-7828.

### May 6th Faith-Based/Community Conference: “Exploring New Opportunities”

A one day conference about faith-based and community initiatives will be held on May 6 at the Red Lion Inn at the Quay in Vancouver. The conference will run from 9 – 5 PM with registration at 8:30 AM.

The purpose of the conference is to network with faith-based and community organizations to learn about capacity building, funding resources, and faith-based and community initiatives. Please

mark your calendars and join the sponsors for a Regional Conference on Faith-Based and Community Initiatives. This free conference will provide a unique opportunity for you to talk with representatives from the federal agencies responsible for implementing these initiatives.

Presentations by federal agency representatives and practitioners will include such topics as assisting the homeless, at-risk youth, elderly, and disabled and promoting homeownership and employment. This event will take place one day before the Annual Washington State Coalition for the Homeless Conference at the same hotel.

Registration material for the conference will be mailed in early April. To ensure that you are on the mailing list, please send an e-mail to [terri\\_krick@hud.gov](mailto:terri_krick@hud.gov) that includes your name, organization, address, and telephone number. Or, you can call Terri Krick at (206) 220-5364. Box lunches will be available for purchase at a reasonable charge.

The conference is sponsored by: U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Education, U.S. Department of Justice, U.S. Department of Labor, Seattle Federal Executive Board, Oregon Housing and Community Services, Washington State Department of Community, Trade, and Economic Development, Fannie Mae and Washington Community Reinvestment Association

### Hearings of Interest in the Human Services Area the Week of March 31 – April 4

Monday, March 31

House Children & Family Services – 1:30 – HHR D

**ESB 5379**, revising rules for public access to dependency hearings.

**ESSB 5692**, establishing a 211 network

House Health Care – 6:00 PM – HHR B  
**SSB 5578**, allowing for bed hold for boarding home residents.

---

## Public Health and Human Services (continued)

---

**SSB 5579**, revising provisions for boarding homes.

**SSB 5733**, improving fairness and protection in boarding homes and adult family homes.

**SSB 5797**, requiring the department of social and health services to inspect adult family homes at least every twenty-four months.

Senate Children & Family Services & Corrections – 6:00 – SHR 4  
Executive Session

### Tuesday, April 1

House Health Care – 8:00 – HHR B

**SSB 5521**, offering health insurance to small employees.

**ESSB 5807**, revising the basic health plan.

Senate Children & Family Services & Corrections – 8:00 – SHR 4

**SHB 1767**, permitting a forensic competency examination to be conducted in a jail, detention or correctional facility, or appropriate community setting by one examiner.

House Juvenile Justice & Family Law – 1:30 – HHR C

**ESSB 5903**, providing additional sentencing alternatives for juvenile offenders.

Senate Education – 1:30 – SHR 1

**E2SHB 1545**, providing for coordination of early learning and child care programs.

Senate Health & Long-Term Care – 1:30 – SHR 4

**SHB 1694**, requiring the department of social and health services to inspect boarding homes at least every eighteen months.

**HB 1753**, concerning nursing practices in community-based and in-home care.

### Wednesday, April 2

Senate Children & Family Services & Corrections – 8:00 – SHR 4

**EHB 1010**, changing provisions relating to discharge of a minor from a mental health facility.

**2SHB 1784**, improving coordination of

services for children's mental health.  
**2SHB 1841**, establishing funding criteria for prevention and early intervention services.

House Juvenile Justice & Family Law – 6:00 PM – HHR C

Possible Executive Session

**ESSB 5903**, providing additional sentencing alternatives for juvenile offenders.

### Thursday, April 3

Senate Judiciary – 8:00 – SHR 1

**EHB 1427**, allowing confessions and other admissions to be admitted into evidence if substantial independent evidence establishes the trustworthiness of the statement.

House Juvenile Justice & Family Law – 10:00 – HHR C

Work Session: Overview of the Becca Laws.

Specific bills are not yet scheduled in many committees, especially the two fiscal committees. Check the legislature's website for agendas closer to the day of interest.

### **Action This Week on Bills Related to Public Health**

**ESHB 1754** relates to the regulation of the sale of poultry. The original bill would have exempted poultry growers selling 1000 birds or less per year from all regulation including both the Department of Agriculture and all public health and safety regulations. The bill, as amended in the House, required permitting by the Department of Agriculture, but still exempted the growers from public health regulations. The Senate Agriculture Committee further amended the bill this week so that it clearly applies only to chickens because of a concern that the definition of poultry could be too broadly construed. The senate committee also struck Section One of the bill and by doing so eliminated a public health concern that the language contained in Section One broadly exempted growers from all State Board of Health rules, not just food service rules. With this

amendment, major public health concerns were addressed. The amended bill passed out of the Senate Agriculture Committee and moves on to Senate Ways and Means.

The Senate Agriculture Committee also passed **HB 1318** out of committee and on to Senate Rules. **HB 1318** is a Department of Health request bill that would direct the State Board of Health to reference the United States Food and Drug Administration's food code for the purpose of adopting food services rules in Washington. The effect of the bill would be to reduce and streamline the State Board of Health rule-making process related to updating the Washington State food code.

---

# Transportation and Public Works

---

## The House Democrat's Announce a Proposed Transportation Package

The House Transportation Committee held hearings this week on a package of bills to fund current law and new law transportation budgets.

**HB 2231** is the new revenue bill. It has four basic components: a 3 cent increase in fuel taxes, a 15% increase in truck weight fees, and a new 0.6% vehicle transfer tax and a \$2 clean air fee.

**PSHB 1163** is the actual transportation budget bill. The 2003-05 budget funds operating and capital investments, from both existing revenue sources and new tax revenues.

### WSDOT Operating Budget – \$1.045 Billion

The largest component of the Department of Transportation's operating budget is the ferry system, which is appropriated \$313 million in 2003-05. The budget maintains passenger-only service to Vashon, and adds passenger-only service to Kingston and Southworth. It maintains existing auto-ferry routes.

Highway maintenance is the second largest component, budgeted at \$293 million. Other operating costs are \$375 million, include traffic operations; information technology; transportation planning, data and research; management; and other charges necessary to run DOT.

\$64 million of the new transportation revenue will be spent on mobility improvements in 2003-05. This includes improved passenger rail service (\$7 million), funds to transit agencies and non-profit organizations for paratransit service, rural mobility and sales tax equalization (\$46 million); vanpools (\$5 million); and commute trip reduction investments (\$6 million).

### WSDOT Capital Budget – \$2.448 Billion

The Department of Transportation's capital budget for 2003-05 includes

revenues from current sources and the proposed tax increases. Current revenue sources are invested in preservation of the existing system (\$682 million); the ferry system (\$185 million); improvements to the highway system (\$1.432 billion of which \$631 million is the Tacoma Narrow Bridge) and capital is provided for traffic operations (\$26 million), rail capital (\$60 million) and for local capital needs (\$63 million).

New tax increases are invested in preservation (\$21 million); safety and improvements to the highway system (\$410 million); the ferry system (\$21 million) and local capital needs (\$22 million).

### Other Agencies Operating Budgets – \$477 Million

Other agencies funded in the 2003-05 transportation budget include the Washington State Patrol, funded at \$253 million; the Department of Licensing, funded at \$181 million; and other transportation related agencies are funded at \$43 million.

The County Road Administration Board and the Transportation Improvement Board remain as separate agencies in this budget. The Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board is transferred to Department of Transportation.

### Other Agencies Capital Budgets – \$273 Million

The capital budget for the Transportation Improvement Board totals \$198 million, for road-building grants primarily to urban areas. The County Road Administration Board, which makes road building grants to rural areas, is appropriated \$75 million in capital funds.

### Reactions from the Senate, Governor and others.

Although everyone appreciates the start at 3 cents per gallon, the Governor and the Senate prefer an amount around 5 cents per gallon. Freight advocates, the construction industry and others would also like the amount to be higher. The environmental community asked to

see the balance stay the same if the gas tax rate goes up.

### **Washington Association of County Commission Clerks (WACCCs) Scholarship Available for WSAC Summer Conference**

Calling all Clerks! It's conference time again. There is a conference scholarship available this year for members of the WACCCs for the WSAC Summer Conference in Spokane, June 24 – 27. Application deadline is Monday, April 14. This will be a full scholarship for up to \$500 to cover registration, travel and lodging expenses. Application forms may be obtained by calling Vickie Musgrove at the Cowlitz County Commissioners' Office, (360) 577-3020 or E-mail: [MusgroveV@co.cowlitz.wa.us](mailto:MusgroveV@co.cowlitz.wa.us).

---

## Training and Upcoming Events

---

### GIS Conference

For the past eleven years, the Columbia river Region of the American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ASPRS) and the Oregon chapter of the Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (URISA) have collaborated to hold a conference dealing with current issues on Geographic Information Systems (GIS) from a regional perspective. This year's conference will be held April 21-23 in Portland, Oregon. The theme will be "GIS in Action 2003 – Collaborative Effort".

A full day of training workshops will be presented on Monday, April 21. The general conference will be held Tuesday, April 22 and Wednesday April 23 and will include many opportunities to see the latest activities and technologies as they are being applied to GIS in our region.

For more information contact WACO.

followed by economic development practitioners who are using these tools in their communities.

- What the Washington Wine Industry means to economic development.
- How to brand your community, a case study from the City of Tacoma.

Each day is \$45 for members, \$70 for non-members. Cost includes lunch. A more detailed agenda is available on our website. Become a Professional member of WEDA today and get one day free. Register by calling 509-777-0525 or via our website at: [www.wedaonline.org](http://www.wedaonline.org).

### Spring Conference to Cover Technology and Tools for Economic Development

*(Submitted by Melissa Dulin, Executive Director, WEDA)*

PASCO, Washington –Washington Economic Development Association (WEDA) is holding it's spring conference April 15 – 16 at the Red Lion Hotel.

**April 15 Agenda: "Technology and Economic Development: Learn How To Create a Successful Website as Part of Your Economic Development Efforts."**

Taught by Mark James of ED Solutions, will teach attendees how to evaluate and promote websites. Also, a panel of economic development practitioners will share their experiences developing successful websites. *Sponsored by the Washington State Department of Community, Trade & Economic Development.*

**April 16 Agenda: "Tools for Economic Development: Public Development Authorities, Branding your Community and the Washington Wine Industry"** Attendees will learn:

- The legal side of PDA's and PFD's by Preston, Gates & Ellis LLP,

---

## ***Courthouse Ramblings***

---

Pend Oreille County Prosecutor **Tom Metzger** has been appointed by Governor Locke to the Criminal Justice Training Commission, succeeding Thurston County Prosecutor Ed Holm. Metzger's term will run until June 30, 2006.

---

## ***April County Calendar***

---

- 15 Financial affairs statements (Public Disclosure Form F-1) are due for the preceding calendar year. Many county officials have qualified to file an F-1A form, which is a single amendment added to a previous F-1 statement. An F-1A form can be used only three consecutive times, at which point a new F-1 form must again be filed. RCW 42.17.240 NOTE: County treasurers are to file with their F-1 forms a statement that no public funds under the treasurer's control are invested in any institution in which the treasurer has an interest. (This also applies to any member of a county finance committee.) RCW 42.17.245
- 30 First half property taxes are due and payable to the county treasurer. RCW 84.56.020
- 30 By this date, the county assessor shall require each person liable to assessment of personal property to make a correct list and statement of such personal property and file it with the county assessor. RCW 84.40.040

---

## ***Calendar of Events***

---

### **2003 MEETINGS**

April 2  
CPO Training – Emergency Management 101 for Elected Officials (half day elective course, Joint City/County), Olympia

April 3  
CPO Training – County Government Structure Roles and Responsibilities, (full day course), Spokane

April 3 – 4  
WSAC Western District Meeting, Red Lion Hotel (Formerly WestCoast), Olympia

April 6-12  
National Counties Government Week

April 9  
CPO Training – Emergency Management 101 for Elected Officials (half day elective course, Joint City/County), Wenatchee

April 10  
CPO Training – Emergency Management 101 for Elected Officials (half day elective course, Joint City/County), Everett

April 10-11  
WSAC Eastern District Meeting, Quality Inn, Clarkston

April 16  
WCIF/WCIP ACE Committee Meeting

April 16  
CPO Training, Public Meetings – Public Disclosure, (half day elective, Joint City County, repeated from 2002), Colfax

April 17  
CPO Training, Public Meetings – Public Disclosure, (half day elective, Joint City County, repeated from 2002), Wenatchee

April 23  
CPO Training, Public Meetings – Public Disclosure, (half day elective, Joint City County, repeated from 2002), Silverdale

April 23-25  
WAPA Spring Training Program, Tumwater

April 24  
CPO Training, Public Meetings – Public Disclosure, (half day elective, Joint City County, repeated from 2002), Chehalis

April 25  
CPO Training, Public Meetings – Public Disclosure, (half day elective, Joint City County, repeated from 2002), Edmonds

May 1  
L & I Retrospective Rating Meeting, Best Inn R&R, Ellensburg

May 5-8  
County Auditors' Elections Conference, Yakima

May 5-9  
WAPA-Support Enforcement, 2003 Annual Training, DoubleTree Hotel Spokane City Center, Spokane

May 8  
CPO Training, Decision-Making in the Workplace (full day elective course), Puyallup

May 14-16  
WAPA Support Staff Training Program, Sun Mountain

May 15  
CPO Training, Decision-Making in the Workplace (full day elective course), Eastside TBD

May 19–22  
WASPC Spring Conference, WestCoast Grand Hotel, Spokane

May 21-23  
Association of County Human Services meeting, Tri-Cities

May 28 – 31  
Western Interstate Region (WIR) Annual Conference, Reno-Sparks, Nevada

May 29-30  
WAPA District Court Training Program, SeaTac

June 5  
CPO Training, Risk Management (full day core course), Westside TBD

June 11-13  
Washington State Association of County Auditors' Annual Conference, Sun Mountain Lodge, Winthrop

June 16-18  
Washington State Association of County Assessors Conference, Okanogan

June 16-20  
Washington State Association of County Treasurers' Annual Conference, Davenport Hotel, Spokane

June 18-19  
Washington State Association of Coroners and Medical Examiners Conference Training, Spokane

June 18-20  
WAPA Summer Conference, Chelan

June 18-20  
Association of Washington Cities (AWC) Annual Conference, Red Lion Grand Hotel at the Park, Spokane

June 23-27  
Washington State Association of County Clerks' Annual Conference, Silverdale Hotel, Silverdale

June 24  
CPO Training, (full day core course), Spokane

June 24  
CPO Training, Navigating through Change (tentative) (half day elective course), Spokane

June 24  
WCIF Board of Trustees – WSAC Summer Conference/Spokane

June 24–27  
WSAC Summer Convention, Spokane Valley Doubletree

July 11–15  
NACo Annual Conference, Milwaukee County, Milwaukee, WI

July 16-18  
Association of County Human Services (ACHS) meeting, Vancouver

---

## Calendar of Events (continued)

---

July 29-August 23  
IACREOT Conference, Denver CO

July 30  
CPO Training, WCRP Sponsored  
Elective Course Title (TBD), Spokane

August 21  
WCIP Board of Directors Rate Setting –  
Wyndham Gardens at SeaTac

September 3-5  
WAPA Special Assault Training  
Program, Leavenworth

September 7-9  
WAPA Juvenile Training Program  
Leavenworth

September 9-12  
County & Regional Planning  
Directors/City Planning Directors Joint  
Conference, Campbell's, Chelan

September 17-19  
ACHS meeting, Moses Lake

September 18  
WCIF/WCIP Insurance Advisory  
Committee 2004 Renewal Meeting,  
WCIP Board of Directors, WCIF Board  
of Trustees --- West Coast Hotel at  
SeaTac

September 29–October 3  
WACO/WSAC Joint Conference,  
Doubletree Hotel, SeaTac

September 30  
CPO Training, Ethical Dilemmas:  
Integrity as a Tool for Successful Public  
Officials (full day core course), SeaTac

October 1  
WCIF Board of Trustees in conjunction  
with the WACO/WSAC Legislative  
Conference

October 15  
WCIF/WCIP A.C.E. Committee  
Meeting, Yakima

November 17–20  
WASPC Fall Conference, Campbell's  
Resort, Chelan

November 19-21  
ACHS meeting, Seattle

### **2004 MEETINGS**

February 27 – March 2  
NACo Legislative Conference, Hilton  
Washington & Towers, Washington  
D.C.

April 21-23  
WAPA Spring Training Program,  
Spokane

May 12-14  
WAPA Support Staff Training Program,  
Chelan

May 24–27  
WASPC Spring Conference, Yakima  
Convention Center, Yakima

June (Date TBD)  
National Sheriffs' Association meeting,  
Seattle

June 22–25  
WSAC Summer Convention, Sheraton  
Tacoma, Pierce County

June 23-25  
WAPA Summer Conference, Chelan

July 16-18  
ACHS, Vancouver

July 16–20  
NACo Annual Conference, Maricopa  
County, Phoenix, AZ

September 14-17  
County & Regional Planning  
Directors/City Planning Directors Joint  
Conference, Campbell's, Chelan

October 4–8  
WACO/WSAC Joint Conference,  
Spokane

November 15-18  
WASPC Fall Conference, Shilo Inn,  
Ocean Shores

### **2005 MEETINGS**

March 3-4  
NACo Legislative Conference, Marriott  
Wardman Park Hotel, Washington D.C.

May 11-13  
WAPA Support Staff Training Program,  
Spokane

May 23–26  
WASPC Spring Conference, West Coast  
Wenatchee Center Hotel, Wenatchee

June 13-16  
WSAC Summer Convention, Kennewick

June 22-24  
WAPA Summer Conference, Chelan

July 15–19  
NACo Annual Conference, City &  
County of Hawaii, Honolulu, HI

September 13-16  
County & Regional Planning  
Directors/City Planning Directors Joint  
Conference, Campbell's, Chelan

October 3-7  
WACO/WSAC Joint Conference, Ocean  
Shores

### **2006 MEETINGS**

July 21-26  
NACo Annual Conference, Denver, CO

### **2007 MEETINGS**

TBD  
NACo Annual Conference, Richmond,  
VA (Sponsored by the Counties in the  
Metropolitan Richmond Area)



**WACME  
Summer Conference**

**Spokane Valley Doubletree Hotel**

**JUNE 19, 2003  
9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

**JUNE 18, 2003  
WACME ASSOCIATION MEETING: 7:00 p.m.  
Coroners & Deputy Coroners are encouraged to attend this meeting**

Audience: All Coroners are urged to attend; Law Enforcement may also attend.

Topic areas to be covered during this course include, but are not limited to:

- ◆ **Medical Mysteries Unsolved: Differential Diagnosis of Common Medical Problems**  
Dr. Dean Gushee
- ◆ **How to Find Someone from a Private Detectives View**  
Frank Sebastian
- ◆ **The Mexican Consulate: How to Notify NOK, Find Family, Cultural Differences in Dealing With Death. The Name confusion made easy.**
- ◆ **NW Tissue: The Latest Updates & Advances**  
Jan Hendricks

1100 North Sullivan Road, Veradale, WA 99037  
PHONE: (509) 924-9000-  
FAX: (509) 922-4965  
www.doubletreevalley.com

**Cost Per Night \$63.00 for a Single \*\* \$73.00 Per Night for Double (10.1% tax is additional)**  
*All attendees with hotel reservations will be eligible for a complimentary breakfast buffet from 6:00-9:00 a.m.  
Quoted rates will be offered, based on availability, to attendees 2 days before and 2 days after the training date.  
Coroners will be reimbursed their lodging for June 18, 2003, and Per Diem.*

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

AGENCY: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

*To confirm your attendance to this course, please complete this form and return it by fax or mail ASAP to: Deb Fullerton, CJTC, 19010 1<sup>st</sup> Ave. So., Seattle, WA 98148-2055, Fax 206-439-3865 or 206-439-3752.*