

the Courthouse Journal

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Washington Association of County Officials
Washington State Association of Counties

May 26, 2005
Issue No. 19

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Eastern Washington Commissioners Hold Eastern District Meeting May 19 & 20 in Kennewick

The Eastern Washington commissioners came together in Kennewick on May 19 & 20 for their annual spring meeting. It was a well-attended event with a number of highlights both during the scheduled program and the social gathering on Thursday evening at the Hedges Winery on famous Red Mountain. Red Mountain is an area of grape-growing that is becoming progressively more famous even on an international level, and Hedges was a fine example of why that is happening.

The major focus of the meeting was an open roundtable discussion by the commissioners that ran for two hours on Thursday morning and was the subject of the final wrap-up on Friday morning prior to adjournment. The commissioners had the opportunity to discuss at length their relationship with the larger association (WSAC) and ways the operation could be changed and improved and the support provided by staff enhanced.

Prior to the roundtable discussion, there was a presentation on the current status of the Transportation Permitting Efficiency and Accountability Committee (TPEAC) which brought the commissioners up to date and included a section on what Walla Walla County has been doing as one of the pilot counties. The Western District Meeting in Kelso on June 9 - 10 will also feature a TPEAC update and highlight Whatcom County's

efforts.

The luncheon speaker was Phil Crosbie from the Federal Office of Defense Preparedness, who covered the do's and don'ts of lessons learned by government agencies in the tragedy of the Oklahoma City bombing. His presentation continued the next morning with a 2-hour seminar on homeland security and the necessary steps local government needs to take to be prepared for any emergency. Crosbie was followed by the WSAC staff covering the just concluded legislative session with descriptions and summaries of important policy and budget enactments. These included the court funding bill, **SB 5454**; the indigent defense bill, **HB 1542**; the Cody bill on mental health and changing the RSN structure, **HB 1290**; the Hargrove omnibus bill on mental health and substance abuse, including the 1/10th cent sales tax option **E2SSB 5763**; **HB 2163** relating to reducing chronic homelessness and the county option to complete 10-year plans to meet that goal; management of hazardous waste such as tire piles; a summary of the transportation budget; and of course, a summary of **SB 6050** which provided funding for small counties on an ongoing basis.

The business meeting followed the legislative wrap-up with continued discussion and adoption of a resolution supporting Payment-in-Lieu-of -Taxes (PILT) as generated by Commissioner Al

McKee's presentation that morning on the National Forest and Schools Coalition. The members also debated their location for the 2006 Spring Eastern District Meeting and

The Courthouse Journal

Published weekly (during Legislative Session) and Bi-weekly (other than Session) 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.

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CPO PROGRAM

Julie Kaufman,
Certified Public Official Coordinator

chose Chelan County at the closing business meeting on Friday. Chelan County Commissioner Ron Walter will handle the details. We want to thank him for volunteering his county to host the annual spring meeting.

On Friday, the Homeland Security briefing wrapped up followed by Victor Vasquez, Assistant Director for Economic Development, Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development. Assistant Secretary Vasquez had begun a work session on rural economic development during the legislative session with the Rural Issues Subcommittee. This session continued at the District Meeting. Vasquez was joined by Brent Bahrenburg of his staff and Nancy Ousley, the Assistant Director, Local Government, DCTED. The meeting concluded with a continuation of the roundtable discussion on WSAC and how the organization can serve Eastern Washington more effectively.

WSAC wants to thank all those who made this meeting possible, especially the Eastern District officers: President Greg Partch, Whitman; Vice-President Merrill Ott, Stevens; Secretary-Treasurer Mary Lou Peterson, Okanogan; and Commissioners Leo Bowman, Claude Oliver and Max Benitz of Benton County who were our hosts. In addition, thanks are due to our host and the caterers at Hedges Winery; Michael Shaw and his parents, Eve and Ed Shaw, for their generous opening of their home; and WSAC staff for all their hard work.

New Face at WACO!

The new face you'll be seeing and voice you'll be hearing at WACO is Dave Clinton, who has joined the WACO staff as the new Financial Manager, replacing Brenda Bamford, who has held the position for 10 years. Brenda is heading home this week, taking a pause in her career to stay home with her family.

Dave comes to us from the Washington Rural Electric Cooperative Association (WRECA), where he held the position as General Manager for more than a year. Prior to that, he spent over 25 years with the Inland Power and Light Company, in Spokane, holding increasingly responsible positions, ending as chief operating officer. He is a CPA and has a BA in professional accounting, with experience in a variety of accounting, management and lobbying positions.

Dave's family includes wife, Sally, and two grown sons, Patrick and Chris. We welcome him to the WACO staff!

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

Courts, Public Safety, Law & Justice

Bail Bond Agents and New Licensing Requirements

The Department of Licensing has adopted new rules for the administration of RCW 18.185, which mandates that bail bond agents complete the same prelicense training and examination requirements as bail bond recovery agents (fka bounty hunters) if they perform recovery duties, even if they just do recovery for defendants on

their own bonds.

The Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 308-19 was effective May 1, 2005 and has been revised to provide instructions on how to apply as a bail bond recovery agent or receive an endorsement. Licenses will not be required of bail bond recovery agents until January 1, 2006. From now until July 1, 2005, applicants may submit proof of having already met the prelicense

training in field operations. The new requirements are a result of **HB 2313**, which passed in the 2004 Legislative Session, and include prelicense training, a background check, and examination requirements.

Instructions and applications will be available beginning July 25 at www.dol.wa.gov. Questions should be directed to (360) 664-6624.

Environment, Land Use and Resources

Pierce County Receives National Award

A map used to educate citizens about Pierce County's salmon recovery efforts has received national recognition. Entitled "The Pierce County, Washington, Coordinated Salmon Habitat Protection and Restoration Strategy," the map received the first place award in the

Specific Field category at the 2005 Washington Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (URISA) Conference.

The map, created as a public education poster, is the work of Tom Kantz, environmental biologist with Pierce County Special Projects. Kantz uses the map/poster at public education and outreach events to

show how Pierce County is relying on a combination of science-based, regulatory, administrative, and funding tools in its efforts to coordinate salmon recovery efforts.

Association News

Sheriffs Meet in Wenatchee

Stevens County Sheriff Craig Thayer, President of the Washington State Sheriffs' Association (WSSA), presided over the WSSA business meeting on Tuesday in conjunction with the 2005 Spring Conference of the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC) in Wenatchee.

Nearly 30 counties were represented for the session that included reports on search and rescue, drug recognition, seizures and forfeitures, and other topics. Mason County Sheriff Steve

Whybark and Pacific County Sheriff John Didion reported on a highly successful legislative session and outlined the sheriffs' involvement in a variety of areas not traditionally considered a priority for law enforcement. They recounted tremendous successes in mental health funding and prescription drug purchasing.

The membership voted to retain Spokane County Sheriff Mark Sterk on the WASPC Board and to support the nomination of Franklin County Sheriff Richard Lathim as vice-president of WASPC.

The balance of the week was devoted to joint meetings with police chiefs, committee meetings and updates from legislators, including Senator Dale Brandland, retired Whatcom County Sheriff. State Attorney General Rob McKenna was scheduled to address the group at lunch on Wednesday. Everett Police Chief Jim Scharf serves as president of WASPC. He was formerly the sheriff in Snohomish County.

Public Health and Human Services

Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) Mental Health Division Director Resigns

On Wednesday, May 25, the resignation of Karl Brimmer as Director of the Mental Health Division, DSHS, was tendered and accepted. Dr. Brimmer has been the director for over four years. He served during a time of great challenge for both the state and the local government administrative entities of the public mental health system. Despite declining revenues and increased administrative burdens placed on it by the federal government, the public mental health system has continued to serve additional persons each year and hold the population at the two state mental hospitals stable. Under his leadership an increased emphasis has been made on community care and for the first time, a budget was

enacted that provides funding for additional community inpatient services.

However, the coming several years will see significant changes and ongoing challenges in the system. Funds are still short despite the success in backfilling the \$80 million lost to federal re-interpretation of covered services. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration has offered a significant mental health system transformation grant, for which the state has applied, that would cover the next five years. The federal government still threatens as they seek to control the ever-spiraling costs of the Medicaid program. Both service and structure at the local level will be adjusted to fit the priorities of the legislature for even more-effective delivery of validated services and increased collaboration among systems such as

criminal justice and chemical dependency. Relationships must be improved among all the key stakeholders. We have the opportunity with a new Secretary of DSHS, Robin Arnold-Williams, who will retain a direct line of communication and command with her program staff for such an improved relationship. It is inevitable that personnel changes come with a new secretary. It is our job to make the transition smooth and provide Washington State specific expertise to enable those new people to succeed.

We wish Karl the very best in all his new endeavors and happy boating this summer, as we understand he has become the proud owner of a new boat. While we were not always in agreement, he has always been a gentleman to work with for WSAC staff.

Courthouse Ramblings

Pierce Auditor **Pat McCarthy** received the Distinguished Alumni Award from the University of Washington Tacoma (UWT) May 25. "Pat is a credit to our university. It's wonderful to see a former student and staff member working so hard for our community," said Karen Reed, director of Alumni Relations.

A 1992 UWT graduate, McCarthy also was involved with the university as a program assistant, administrator and advisor for several years. She served on the Tacoma School Board for 12 years prior to being elected auditor in November 2002.

McCarthy also was selected by McChord Air Force Base as an "Honorary Commander." She will be

paired with a unit commander and participate in base events during the next two years. "I am honored to have been selected for this program," she said. "I will use this as an opportunity to promote voter education and participation to our men and women fighting for freedom overseas."

More about Martha.... Mason County **Martha Reed** has been hospitalized for more than a month for treatment of acute leukemia and here is an update: Martha was scheduled to come home today but the white count in her blood is not high enough yet to allow it -- that means she will not be released until the first of next week.

The good news is that she is hoping the doctor will add to her orders that she can start walking the hospital a little more. Maybe even go outside, and breathe REAL air.

Martha is in isolation so she will have to wear her mask if she leaves the floor, but at least she'll get off her "gerbil" run around the 10th floor of St. Joseph's in Tacoma.

The other good news is that Martha still has her sense of humor. The hospital is going to be having an inspection during this extended time in the hospital, and she thinks they are keeping her there longer because she is such a good patient. Martha says to tell everyone "THANK YOU FOR THE CARDS AND LETTERS."

Boards and Commissions

Local Government Position on EMS & Trauma Care Steering Committee Open

The Governor's Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and Trauma Care Steering Committee is an advisory body that provides guidance and direction to the Department of Health in administering the state's EMS and Trauma System. Its primary responsibilities are to review and make recommendations to the department on the EMS and Trauma System's rules, policies and standards; regional biennial plans; and biennial budget. Members are appointed by the Governor to three-year terms and represent a broad base of key constituents who are knowledgeable about EMS and trauma care, including local government. The Committee meets six times a year on the third Wednesday of January, March, May, July, September and November. Members are entitled to reimbursement for travel expenses. Members also serve on standing Technical Advisory Committees (TACs) or Ad Hoc Workgroups, which are subcommittees of the Steering Committee.

More information and an application are available on the Governor's website at <http://www.governor.wa.gov/actions/appointments/boards/>. If you are interested in filling the local government position on the EMS & Trauma Care Steering Committee (WSAC has not had a member since former Commissioner Bill Hinkle left office), please contact Vicki Kirkpatrick, WSAC Staff, at (360) 753-1886 or vkirkpatrick@wacounties.org. The WSAC process includes forwarding the names of interested

Commissioners/Councilmembers to the WSAC Board of Directors who will select any or all of those interested to forward on to the Governor. The Governor prefers to have several names sent forward for her consideration.

Governor Makes Grant County Boundary Review Board Appointment

Gov. Christine Gregoire announced the appointment of **Don McDowall** to the Grant County Boundary Review Board. Don lives in Moses Lake and was appointed to a term effective April 27, 2005, ending Jan. 31, 2009. McDowall is a retired Grant County assessor and is member of the American Legion Post No. 209 and Washington Association of County Officials. Boundary review boards have jurisdiction over municipal annexations, incorporations, disincorporations and creation or annexation of certain special districts. The boards also have jurisdiction over extensions of sewer and water services outside the city or district. Congratulations, Don!

Local Government Advisory Committee Appointments

Jerry Pettit, Kittitas County Auditor, and Brenda Sherman, Grays Harbor County Auditor's office, have each been appointed to three-year terms on the Local Government Advisory Committee (LGAC), representing the Washington Association of County Officials (WACO). Pettit is new to the committee and Sherman will be serving her second term. The third WACO representative is Mike Garvison, Skamania County Auditor, whose term will expire the end of this year.

LGAC, which is overseen by the State Auditor's office, takes a lead role in setting statewide financial policies, including accounting, budgeting and financial reporting. The Committee makes recommendations to the Legislature and responds when lawmakers change policies effecting the BARS prescription. In addition, the Committee advises the State Auditor on issues relating to the prescription of a uniform financial reporting system. Members of the committee are appointed by the State Auditor's Office, Washington Finance Officers' Association, Association of Washington Cities, Washington City Managers' Association, Washington Municipal Treasurers' Association, Washington State Association of Counties, Washington Association of County Officials, Office of Financial Management, County Road Administration Board, and the Washington County Administrative Association.

Good Things

Pacific County Health & Human Services Director wins National Award

The Daily World reported that Kathy Spoor, Director of Pacific County Department of Health and Human Services, has been chosen to receive the national Robert Wood Johnson Community Health Leadership Award. Spoor is one of only 10 people out of more than 600 nominated to be selected for this prestigious national health leadership award. The Robert Wood Johnson program distributes \$1.2 million annually to people who have found ways to help those in their communities who need health care and social services, but have no access to them. All of the winners will receive \$105,000 for their programs and a \$15,000 personal award. They will be honored June 15 at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C.

The Daily World quoted Spoor: "I am so grateful for this award, and I am hopeful that it will create some opportunities for me to learn how other people work in their communities to improve health." Moreover it will bring "additional funding and creative ways to work with my community." Spoor would like to see the "majority of funding" used for youth programs. One such program is Youth Adventures, an outdoor program that currently targets sixth graders with opportunities for monthly outings, such as mountain biking and kayaking. Designed by her assistant director, Kevin Beck, the program is labor intensive, but it teaches skills such as communication, trust and team-building. Spoor would like to expand that program to include more kids.

Catherine Dunham, director of the awarding program, says Spoor "is helping many in her community to navigate a confusing and fragmented health care system in order to receive the services they desperately need." The Robert Wood Johnson award program looks throughout the nation for people like Kathy who have overcome incredible obstacles to bring health care to individuals who have no other access. Pacific County has some 21,000 residents; almost half have incomes below 250 percent of the federal poverty level, and more than 2000 have no health insurance. Many others don't have enough insurance, in addition to no dental insurance. Kathy has been instrumental in securing dental services for those in need, and ensuring that patients have transportation to appointments and have interpreters if needed. She has worked side by side with the Shoalwater Bay Tribe to address their exceedingly high rate of miscarriages and stillbirths – where in 1998, eight of nine pregnancies ended in death of the child – in a tribe with barely 200 members. Spoor helped the tribe secure congressional funding to help find out why the tribes' unborn babies were dying. Every pregnancy on the reservation is considered high risk and the patients receive additional follow-up from an obstetric specialist. Spoor said, "The tribe has had two years where their rate of loss is not higher than expected and they've celebrated a number of healthy births."

Congratulations to Kathy Spoor for her outstanding achievement, representing exemplary service to the residents of Pacific County.

Calendar of Events

<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Information</i>
For your convenience training and workshops are bolded.			
<u>MAY 2005</u>			
MEMORIAL DAY	WA Counties Bldg CLOSED	May 30	(360) 753-1886
<u>JUNE 2005</u>			
WA State Assn of Local Public Health Officials	Davenport Hotel, Spokane	June 1 – 2	(360) 753-1886
Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys (WAPA) District Court Training Program	Holiday Inn Select, Renton	June 2 - 3	(360) 753-2175
International Association of Coroners and Medical Examiners' Annual Conference	Golden Nugget, Las Vegas, Nevada	June 5-9	(360) 753-7319
Washington County Administrators' (WCAA) Spring Meeting	Lincoln Inn & Suites, Ellensburg	June 9	(360) 577-3065
WSAC Spring Western District	Red Lion Hotel, Kelso	June 9 - 10	www.wacounties.org/wsac
Washington State Association of County Assessors' Annual June Conference	Ellensburg Inn, Ellensburg	June 13-15	(360) 753-7319
Washington State Association of County Auditors' Annual Conference	Marcus Whitman Hotel & Conference Center, Walla Walla	June 14-16	(360) 753-7319
Washington Association of Coroners and Medical Examiners' (WACME) Annual Conference & Training	Campbell's Lodge, Chelan	June 20-21	(360) 753-7319
Washington State Association of County Clerks' Annual Conference	Red Lion Silverdale Hotel, Silverdale	June 20-24	(360) 753-7319
Washington State Association of County Treasurers' Annual Conference	Clarion Hotel, Yakima	June 20-24	(360) 753-7319
Association of Washington Cities' (AWC) Annual Conference	Tri-Cities	June 21-24	(360) 753-7319
WA State Association of County Engineers (WSACE) Annual Conference	Marcus Whitman Hotel, Walla Walla	June 22-24	http://www.crab.wa.gov/wsace/
WA Association of Prosecuting Attorneys' Summer Training Program	Campbell's Lodge, Lake Chelan	June 22–24	(360) 753-2175
National Sheriffs' Association Annual Conference	Louisville, Kentucky	June 25-29	(360) 753-7319
Government Finance Officers' Association (GFOA) Annual Conference	San Antonio, Texas	June 26-29	(360) 753-7319
Advanced Leadership Pilot Course – CPO Program	Westside – TBD	June 28	http://www.cpoprogram.org/
International Association of Clerks, Recorders, Election Officials and Treasurers' (IACREOT) 34th Annual Conference	New York, New York	June 29 – July 6	(360) 397-2003 or joanne.mcbride@clark.wa.gov
<u>JULY 2005</u>			
INDEPENDENCE DAY	WA Counties Bldg CLOSED	July 4	(360) 753-1886

Calendar of Events (continued)

2 nd Annual Pend Oreille Valley Lavendar Festival	Pend Oreille County	July 9-10	http://www.co.pend-oreille.wa.us/
Property Records Industry Association (PRIA) Annual Conference	Honolulu, Hawaii	July 13-14	www.pria.us
National Association of Clerks, Recorders and Elections Officials (NACRC) Annual Conference (with NACo)	Honolulu, Hawaii	July 15-17	www.nacrc.org
National Association of Counties' (NACo) Annual Conference	Honolulu, Hawaii	July 15-19	www.naco.org
National District Attorneys' Association (NDAA) Annual Summer Conference	Portland, Maine	July 17-20	(360) 753-7319
Assn of County Human Services	Okanogan County	July 20-22	(360) 753-1886
Risk Management – CPO Program	Richland	July 26	http://www.cpoprogram.org/
Washington Counties Risk Pool (WCRP) Training, 1 pm	Red Lion Hanford House, Richland	July 26	(360) 586-7447
Washington Counties Risk Pool (WCRP) Annual Board Workshop, 1 - 5 pm	Red Lion Hanford House, Richland	July 27	(360) 586-7447
Washington Counties Risk Pool (WCRP) Annual Board Meeting, 9 am	Red Lion Hanford House, Richland	July 28	(360) 586-7447
<u>AUGUST 2005</u>			
Washington Association of County Officials (WACO) Board Meeting	WA Counties Building, Olympia	August 3-4	(360) 753-7319
Washington State Association of County Assessors' Annual Conference	Davenport Hotel, Spokane	August 8-11	(360) 753-7319
Washington Counties Insurance Pool (WCIP) Board Only 2006 Rate Setting	Prime Hotel at SeaTac (formerly Wyndham Gardens)	August 18	(360) 586-0466
Ethics – CPO Program	Spokane	August 24	http://www.cpoprogram.org/
Meet the Media – CPO Program	Spokane	August 25	http://www.cpoprogram.org/

UPCOMING CPO COURSE...Registration online <http://www.cpoprogram.org>

Participants asked for a challenge! Put your skill set through the wringer!

Advanced Leadership Course- SIMSOC (Simulate Society) 4 Elective Course Credits

JUNE 28, 2005 Sea-Tac, Red Lion Hotel

Program Overview

Build a society based on a socio-economic situation. Use leadership, conflict resolution, negotiation, and other skills to increase your strengths. The simulation requires a minimum of 15 participants and a maximum of 60. Each participant needs the Participant Manual, and the Coordinator needs the corresponding manual. It is a complex simulation requiring some use of forms and subtle communication interplays between the participants.

The participant manual contains the rules. We recommend to the participants that they become familiar with the rules before playing, and we recommend some readings as a way to prepare for the simulation.

Attachments

WACME Conference & Training Campbell's Resort & Conference Center, Chelan June 20-21, 2005

JUNE 20 – ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT CONDUCTING AN INQUEST -- 8:00 – 5:00

The goal of this 8 hour course is to guide coroners and medical examiners through the intricacies and legalities of an inquest. This course will familiarize participants with the coroner's statutory authorization to convene an inquiry into deaths that are surrounded by suspicious circumstances. Why have an inquest? When would you have an inquest? Who are the players? How do you proceed? How is it done in Washington State?

Four hours will be devoted to lecture and equal time to relevant exercises and application to Washington State law.

The course is being instructed by Dr. William Lucas, Regional Supervising Coroner and past Acting Deputy Chief Coroner of Inquests, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

JUNE 21 – DEATH NOTIFICATION – TOXICOLOGY LAB ISSUES -- 8:00 – 12:00 noon

The concluding four hours of training are devoted to death notification and issues and answers from the Washington State Toxicology Laboratory.

Continuing education credits are available for those maintaining the American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigator's (A.B.M.D.I.) requirements.

Space is limited. Priority will be given to Coroner, Medical Examiner, and Prosecutor/Coroner personnel. All others wishing to register will be allowed as space provides.

Cost: Training Course is being provided by W.A.C.M.E. and is free to all registered participants.

Registration: Contact Kathie with WACO, send to 206 Tenth Avenue SE, Olympia, WA 98503.
Email: khouts@wacounties.org, Phone: 360-753-7319, Fax: 360-664-2812

Training Date: Monday, June 20, and Tuesday, June 21 until noon

Training Location: Campbell's Resort & Conference Center
104 W. Woodin Ave, Chelan, Washington 98816
Phone for reservations: (509) 682-2561

Questions: Contact W.A.C.M.E. Education Chair Tim Davidson
Email: davidson@co.cowlitz.wa.us, Phone: 360-577-3079 (Cowlitz County Coroner's Office), Cellular: 360-957-6051.

CONFERENCE EVENTS

WACME LEGISLATIVE MEETING, Sunday 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Room location to be announced)

WACME DINNER/BUSINESS MEETING, Monday at 6:30 p.m. (Room location to be announced)

ABMDI Certification Testing, Tuesday afternoon (Time and location to be announced)

REGISTRATION:

Applicants Name (Last) (First) (Middle)		
Title/Rank:	Social Security Number:	Agency:
Agency Mailing Address:	(Street or PO Box)	(City) (State) (Zip)
Agency Phone:	Agency Fax:	Email Address:

Additional Applicants

Applicants Name:	Rank:	Social Security Number:

LODGING INFORMATION: A block of non-smoking rooms is being held at Campbell’s Resort on Lake Chelan, 104 W. Woodin, Chelan, WA 98816 **until May 19**. Room rate is *\$128.00 plus tax. (Be sure to let them know you are with the WACME group.) Registrants are required to make their own reservations. Phone for reservations: (509) 682-2561.

* Coroner and medical examiner staff will be reimbursed for lodging for **actual costs** up to \$128.00 plus tax per night for two nights (Sunday and Monday) if they attend the program from Monday a.m. until Tuesday noon.

Alternate Hotels

Best Western Lakeside Lodge: 2312 W. Woodin Avenue, Chelan, phone: 509-682-4396

Caravel Resort: 322 W. Woodin Avenue, Chelan, phone: 509-682-2582

Lake Chelan Motel: 2044 W. Woodin Avenue, Chelan, phone: 509-682-2742

Midtowner Motel: 721 E. Woodin Avenue, Chelan, phone: 509-682-4051