

the Courthouse Journal

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*Washington Association of County Officials
Washington State Association of Counties*

San Juan County Becomes Sixth Charter County

After 25 years and many unsuccessful attempts a new charter has been approved by the citizens of San Juan County. Nearly 63% of the voters approved a new charter and amendment that will create a non-partisan six member county council/county administrator form of government. All of the other elected officials remain the same, except they now become non-partisan also.

The council will hire an administrator to run the day-to-day functions of the county implying, although not clearly stated in the charter, that the council will be part-time. The administrator has broad powers to hire and direct all appointed officials and many other functions of the

county. The elected officials are "subject to: all ordinances passed by the Legislative Branch or initiatives passed by the voters; and to all personnel, budgeting, expenditure and any other policies of general application recommended by the County Administrator and adopted by the Legislative Branch."

The charter takes effect January 9, 2006 and the three current county commissioners will oversee the implementation of the new government.

The last charter approved was in Pierce County in 1980.

Unofficial General Election Results – Incumbents Do Well but Most Local Tax Issues Fail

With the exception of one member, Snohomish County Councilmember Jeff Sax, who lost to former Councilmember Dave Somers, all other WSAC and WACO members were unofficially elected or re-elected in the General Election. Two King County Councilmembers, WSAC Vice President Carolyn Edmonds and Steve Hammond, had been defeated during the Primary Election in September.

On the other hand, only three out of eight county revenue measures passed. Grant County passed the 1/10 Local Option Sales Tax for communications and Whatcom County passed a local option

sales tax for emergency management. Spokane County passed an advisory ballot proposition on imposing the 1/10th of a cent sales tax option for mental health and chemical dependency services authorized in Sen. Hargrove's Omnibus Bill, **SB 5763**. The tax would be limited to 3 years. Jefferson County already enacted the local tax. Spokane County would be the first urban county statewide and first eastern Washington county to enact the local option tax.

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The Courthouse Journal

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

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CPO PROGRAM

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(*Denotes incumbent)

Clallam County

Assessor:

Mike Hopf (acting assessor) (NP)

5,414 46.66%

Pamela Rushton (NP)

6,188 53.34%

Treasurer:

*Judith Scott (NP)

9,915 100%

Clark County

District No. 3 Commissioner:

*Steve Stuart (D)

35,587 52.08%

Tom Mielke (R)

32,749 47.92%

Cowlitz County

Assessor:

*Terry McLaughlin (D)

12,200 97.82%

Clerk:

*Roni Booth (D)

12,179 97.87%

Jefferson County

Clerk:

*Ruth Gordon (D)

Won in primary

King County

County Executive:

*Ron Sims (D)

158,617 54.35%

David Irons (R)

119,065 40.80%

Gentry Lange (G)

13,535 4.64%

King County Council

(Voters approved an initiative last fall shrinking the King County Council from 13 members to nine, forcing new district lines to be drawn - because of the downsizing and redistricting, the entire Council was

up for election this year – two incumbents lost to two other incumbents in the primary – Bob Ferguson (D) beat Carolyn Edmonds (D) and Reagan Dunn (R) beat Steve Hammond (R). Incumbent councilmember David Irons (R) ran for County Executive and lost to Executive Ron Sims (D), and Councilmember Dwight Pelz ran for the Seattle City Council, losing to incumbent Richard McIver (nonpartisan race).

District No. 1:

*Bob Ferguson (D)

24,217 73.76%

Steven Pyeatt (R)

8,498 25.88%

District No. 2:

*Larry Gossett (D)

22,785 79.53%

Brian Thomas (R)

4,589 16.02%

Morgan Catha (L)

1,210 4.22%

District No. 3:

*Kathy Lambert (R)

26,484 97.97%

District No. 4:

*Larry Phillips (D)

25,141 76.65%

Ed Pottharst (I)

7,538 22.98%

District No. 5:

*Julia Patterson (D)

14,504 66.91%

Orin Wells (R)

7,133 32.90%

District No. 6:

*Jane Hague (R)

24,770 98.04%

District No. 7:

*Pete von Reichbauer (R)

15,069 62.49%

Geni Hawkins (D)

9,003 37.33%

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

District No. 8:
Dow Constantine (D)
20,549 73.58%
John Potter (I)
7,293 26.12%

District No. 9:
* Reagan Dunn (R)
20,476 61.92%
Shirley Gaunt-Smith (D)
12,468 37.71%

King County Sheriff
*Sue Rahr (NP)
202,626 75.23%
Greg Schmidt (NP)
65,905 24.47%

Kittitas County
Auditor:
*Jerry Pettit (D)
3,571 48.23%
Robert Eaton (R)
2,777 37.51%
Lisa Bowen (I)
1,055 14.25%

Lewis County
Sheriff:
*Steve Mansfield (R)
8,547 100%

San Juan County
District No. 3 Commissioner:
Steve Ludwig (G)
1,101 21.65%
Bob Myhr (D)
3,793 74.58%

Snohomish County
County Council:
District No. 1:
*John Koster (R)
12,501 46%
Suzanne Smith (D)
10,650 54%

District No. 4:
*Dave Gossett (D)
11,636 58%
Eva Davies (R)
8,302 42%

District No. 5:
*Jeff Sax (R)
9,448 43%
Dave Somers (D)
10,909 49%
Greg Stephens (I)
1,694 8%

Spokane County
Assessor:
*Ralph Baker (R)
68,631 100%

Whatcom County
County Council:
District No. 1A:
*Ward Nelson (NP)
17,307 98.49%
District No. 2A:
*Laurie Caskey-Schreiber (NP)
12,168 53.64%
Craig Mayberry (NP)
10,476 46.18%

District No. 3A:
Mike Kent (NP)
10,847 48.88%
Carl Weiner (NP)
11,294 50.89%
At Large:
*Seth Fleetwood (NP)
11,223 50.63%
Gary Lysne (NP)
10,896 49.16%

State Representative, District 19,
Position 1
*Dean Takko (D)
13,964 61.37%
(former Cowlitz County Assessor)
Dawn Courtney (R)
7,690 33.80%
Judi Roberts Fiest (L)
1,098 4.8%

Tax Issue Propositions

Asotin County
Sales tax increase for law and justice:
Yes
2,038 41.98%
No
2,817 58.02%

Clallam County
Buyer's excise tax for agricultural
conservation areas:
Yes
5,283 39.38%
No
8,131 60.62%

Franklin County
Sales and use tax for criminal justice
(70%) and roads (30%)
Yes
3,072 43.19%
No
4,041 56.81%

Grant County
Sales and use tax increase for
Emergency Communication system:
Yes
9,746 67.29%
No
4,737 32.71%

Kittitas County
Sales and use tax for criminal justice
center & courthouse renovation:
Yes
2,938 39.36%
No
4,525 60.63%

Criminal justice obligation bonds -
\$26,140,000:
Approved
3,067 40.83%
Rejected
4,443 59.16%

Spokane County
Sales tax advisory ballot proposition
for mental health and chemical
dependency services:
Yes
53,236 57%
No
39,769 43%

Whatcom County
Sales and Use Tax for Emergency

Management System:

Yes

16,186 66.96%

No

7,988 33.04%

Whitman County

Sales and use tax for adult jail and juvenile detention passed in Primary.

Whatcom County Charter Is Amended

The Whatcom County Charter Review took six amendments to the voters on Tuesday and five of those amendments received "yes" votes, some of them by a substantial margin:

Amendment 1 – 68.94% yes, Vote by District

Shall the charter be amended to provide that each member of the County Council, except the Council-at-Large, be elected by majority vote by voters in his/her own Council District?

Amendment 2 – 26.84% yes, Salary Cap Removal (Failed)

Shall the charter be amended to eliminate the limitation on the County Council member salaries, which is currently 15 percent of the County Executive's salary?

Amendment 3 – 58% yes, Voters' Pamphlet

Shall the charter be amended to add a duty on the Auditor to publish and distribute a voters' pamphlet for all Whatcom County primary and general elections?

Amendment 4 – 78.93% yes, Citizen's Rights

Shall the charter be amended to read "The right of the individual citizen shall be guaranteed under the Constitutions of the United States and the State of Washington? No regulation or ordinance shall be drafted and adopted without considerations of and provisions for

compensation to those unduly burdened?"

Amendment 5 – 77.81% yes, County Council Meetings

Shall the charter be amended to read that the Council shall meet regularly throughout the year no fewer than 22 times?

Amendment 6 – 83.35% yes, Vacancies in Office

Shall the charter be amended to read, "Vacancies in elective office shall be filled at the next November general election, unless the vacancy occurs after the last day for filing declarations of candidacy, in which case the vacancy shall be filled at the next succeeding November general election?"

Eric Johnson Joins WSAC as New Assistant Director

Last week WSAC Executive Director Bill Vogler announced that Eric Johnson will be joining the WSAC team as the new Assistant Executive Director effective December 6, 2005. Eric will officially resign as Lewis County Commissioner December 5.

Eric is currently Lewis County Commissioner and co-chair of the Legislative Steering Committee (LSC). Eric has been in office for almost five years and during his tenure he has been very active in WSAC. In addition to serving on the LSC he was also co-chair of the Rural Issues Subcommittee and a member of the WSAC Board of Directors.

Eric has 25 years of public administrative experience. In addition to being a Lewis County Commissioner her was the Assistant Director for the Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation/Salmon Recovery Board; Municipal Facilities Supervisor for the City of Chehalis, Department of Community Services; Recreation Supervisor Manager for Lewis County Parks, Recreation and Senior

Services; and, Park Planner for the City of Bellingham, Parks and Recreation Department.

In addition, Eric has served on several state boards and commissions including Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board; Agricultural Resource Lands Study Committee; State Forest Practices Board; State Public Works Board; and, State Parks and Recreation Task Force. He has also served on numerous local and regional organizations.

He has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Parks and Recreation Management from Western Washington University and is a graduate of the University of Washington, Cascade Center for Public Service and Leadership. He will replace Paul Parker who recently resigned.

Eric will be involved in the hiring process for the vacant position of the Transportation Policy Director and will be supervising a staff of four lobbyists. Welcome aboard Eric.

WACO President Makes Assignments

WACO President Dan Blasdel has made the following committee appointments for the coming year:

2006 Budget

Tom Fallquist, Immediate Past President, Chair
Dan Blasdel, President
Rick Bart, President-Elect
Mark Leander, Vice President
Suzanne Sinclair, Secretary Treasurer
Mary Dodge, Past President

Certification/Education

Kenneth Kunes, Grant Co. Clerk, Chair
Linda Fisher, Lincoln Co. Treasurer
Barb Wagner, Benton Co. Assessor
Shelly Johnston, Lincoln Co. Auditor

Peggy Robbins, Okanogan Co. Auditor
Kathy Martin, Walla Walla Co. Clerk
Patty Chester, Stevens Co. Clerk
Tim Davidson, Cowlitz Co. Dep. Coroner
Greg Zempel, Kittitas Co. Prosecutor
Mike Hawley, Island Co. Sheriff

Certified Public Official Program (CPO)

Al Brotche, Mason Co. Auditor
Dave Peterson, Kitsap Co. Clerk

Legislative

Sheriff Rick Bart, President-elect, co-chair
Suzanne Sinclair, Island Co. Auditor, co-chair
Dave Cook, Yakima Co. Assessor
Jack Westerman, Jefferson Co. Assessor
Bob Terwilliger, Snohomish Co. Auditor
Barb Miner, King Co. Clerk
Pam Daniels, Snohomish Co. Clerk
Dan Blasdel, Franklin Co. Coroner
Greg Sandstrom, Kitsap Co. Coroner
Russ Hauge, Kitsap Co. Prosecutor
Jim Nagle, Walla Walla Co. Prosecutor
Craig Thayer, Stevens Co. Sheriff
Garry Lucas, Clark Co. Sheriff
Gary Edwards, Thurston Co. Sheriff
John Didion, Pacific Co. Sheriff
Steve Whybark, Mason Co. Sheriff
Larry Taylor, Benton Co. Sheriff
Rose Bowman, Lewis Co. Treasurer
Ron Strabbing, Grays Harbor Co. Treasurer
*Note: The WACO President is an ex-officio member of every committee.

Travel – Past presidents

Tom Fallquist, Spokane Co. Clerk, Chair
Judy Arnold, Thurston Co. Coroner
Greg Zempel, Kittitas Co. Prosecutor
Ron Strabbing, Grays Harbor Co. Treasurer

Siri Woods, Chelan Co. Clerk

Personnel

Randy Gaylord, San Juan Co. Prosecutor, Chair
Siri Woods, Chelan Co. Clerk
Bob Terwilliger, Snohomish Co. Auditor
Jerry Jasman, Grant Co. Coroner
Rick Bart, Snohomish Co. Sheriff
Randy Gaylord, San Juan Co. Prosecutor
Mark Leander, Skagit Co. Assessor

Award Selection

John Didion, Pacific Co. Sheriff, Chair
Donna Eldridge, Jefferson Co. Auditor
Kim Eaton, Yakima Co. Clerk
Greg Sandstrom, Kitsap Co. Coroner
Steve Tucker, Spokane Co. Prosecutor
Kathy Turnbull, San Juan Co. Treasurer

Nominating

Bylaws dictate that this committee is comprised of members who are serving as affiliate presidents at the time of the 2006 WACO Board elections.

Bylaws changes, election issues

H. Steward Menefee, Grays Harbor Co. Prosecutor, Chair
Barb Cory, Whatcom Co. Treasurer
Mike Harum, Chelan Co. Sheriff

Archives Oversight Committee

Mike Killian, Franklin Co. Clerk, Chair
Bob Terwilliger, Snohomish Co. Auditor
Diana Housden, Klickitat Co. Auditor
Karen Flynn, Kitsap Co. Auditor
Siri Woods, Chelan Co. Clerk
Fawn Opp, Pend Oreille Co. Clerk
Dianne Dorey, Lewis Co. Assessor
Judy Ainslie, Cowlitz Co. Treasurer
Tracy Shawa, Pacific Co. Treasurer

Dan LaRoche, Douglas Co. Sheriff
Jim Nagle, Walla Walla Co. Prosecutor
Judy Arnold, Thurston Co. Coroner

CTED Completes Management and Organization Review of Ferry County

During the 2005 session the Legislature approved an emergency appropriation through the Governor's budget to cover a projected shortfall of funds for Ferry County. The county projected that they would be unable to meet their January payroll as a result of declining revenues and increasing costs. Ferry County was required to submit to management audit of their finances and organization as a condition of receiving the funding.

CTED was charged with the study and they hired an outside consultant who has been preparing the study since this summer. On November 1st the report was presented to the Board of Commissioners. The key points are that they must increase their revenues or decrease their expenditures by \$1.1 to \$1.3 million, over one third of their budget. As a result of diverting their road budget for many years they also recommended they replace \$40 million dollars of paved road, about 53 miles.

They concluded that the tax base will not support basic local government services in Ferry County. They also recommended that the county ask the taxpayers for additional taxing authority. Tuesday the voters rejected a \$190,000 property tax increase for criminal justice purposes.

The Report will be presented to the House Finance Committee during a special hearing in Ellensburg on Monday November 14, 2005 at 10:00 a.m. in the Hal Holms Center of Central Washington

University.

A complete summary of conclusions and recommended alternative actions follows.

Ferry County Management and Organization Review October 2005

Purpose: Identify alternative actions to improve Ferry County's fiscal position

Management Issues:

- **Increase revenue or decrease expenditures by \$1.1 to \$1.3 M dollars per year**
- **Replace \$40 M dollars or 53 miles of paved county roads**

Conclusions:

- **Tax Base will not support basic local government services**
- **Small population counties revenue base is significantly different from other counties in the state**
- **Ferry County does not compensate more, nor employ more employees than similar Counties**
- **New revenue available in 2006 will address only 10% of the problem**
- **State or Federal grant programs will not address \$40 M dollar road need**
- **Ferry County can not address their fiscal issues alone**

Ferry County Recommended Alternative Actions:

- **Adopt extraordinary tax measures (up to \$183,000)**
- **Fully fund Special Revenue Funds through contracts and fees (up to \$75,000)**
- **Use property portfolio to create**

revenue

- **Foster long term tax base growth through economic development**
- **Downsize Jail and revise method of acquiring public defense services (up to \$290,000)**
- **Make selected reductions in staffing by 2 to 3 FTE (up to \$80,000)**
- **Charge grants and special revenue funds more for current expense fund services (up to \$35,000)**

State of Washington Recommended Alternative Actions for Small Population Counties:

- **Establish a Basic State Allocation from the General Fund to support basic services (\$604,000 to \$5.7 M)**
- **Broaden the use of REET (conservation), Conservation Futures property tax and 0.08 diverted state sales tax; allow all court fees and fines to be kept locally (up to \$600,000)**
- **Change State law to allow departments headed by elected officials to be consolidated and more multi-county service delivery (up to \$126,000)**
- **Revise revenue payment schedule for SB 6050 to address cash flow requirements (up to \$269,000)**
- **Increase State investment in technology, roads, recreational facilities and buildings.**
- **Increase technical assistance in key areas – financial management, management capacity and alignment of GMA and economic development.**
- **Create single State agency umbrella contracts for county grants and services**

DSHS Picks New Assistant Secretary for Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration

DSHS announced October 18 they had named a new Assistant Secretary for the Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration, Sekou Shabaka. Shabaka has spent more than 40 years working in juvenile justice and corrections. He currently resides in Richmond, Virginia and will start his new position December 1. Shabaka will replace Cheryl Stephani who has moved over to become the Assistant Secretary for the Children's Administration.

Sekou had retired in 2001 to become a community volunteer and professional speaker on African American and children's issues. Prior to his retirement he was the associate executive director at the Berkshire Farm Center and Services for Youth in Canaan, NY. The Berkshire Farm serves more than 10,000 children and their families each year. He previously worked as the deputy director the Columbia, SC Department of Juvenile Justice, deputy secretary for our own Department of Corrections in the late 80's, and in Maryland and California.

Governor Gregoire Names Current Division of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Director Ken Stark to Head up the Federal Mental Health Transformation Grant.

Ken Stark, the long-time director of DSHS' Division of Alcohol and Substance Abuse, has been named by Governor Gregoire to head the recently awarded federal Mental Health Transformation Grant. Washington is one of seven states to

win one of the grants which will total between \$2 million to \$3 million per year over the next five years.

Mr. Stark is a veteran administrator and winner of the Governor's Sustaining Leadership Award earlier this fall, one of many honors he has received over the years. He has led DASA since 1988 and built it into a leader in research-based treatment strategies. During the 2005 legislative session, he was the leader of the effort to increase funding for treatment, the first substantial increase in funding since 1989's Omnibus Drug Act. Holder of two Master's degrees, he also serves on the National Advisory Council of the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and a national policy advisory panel for the National Conference of State Legislatures.

The mental health transformation grant will spend its first year fact-finding and coordinating with mental health providers, consumers and stakeholders. It will enable a comprehensive review of mental health services at all levels of government as well as allied systems that interact with mental health. Its ultimate goal is to find new ways of delivering effective mental health treatment, putting patients at the center of care, and building enhanced stakeholder and consumer feedback into the implementation of the systems. The effort is scheduled to kick off with a public forum and workshop including DSHS Secretary Robin Arnold-Williams in early December.

Ken will be succeeded at DASA by Doug Allen, a 10 year veteran of the division and former policy analyst for the Governor's Office.

Ken will be sorely missed at DASA as he has been a pleasure to work with over the past 17 years and a real leader in the field. However, we applaud the Governor's choice of Ken to lead the Transformation Grant effort and look forward to continuing our state and local partnership in improving the lives of our mutual clients over the next several years. We also welcome Doug as Acting Director and look forward to an equally fruitful relationship.

County-Designated Mental Health Professional (CDMHP) Pays Ultimate Price for his Service

WSAC is sad to announce the untimely death of Marty Smith, a 46-year old CDMHP for Kitsap Mental Health Services, and the primary provider for Peninsula Regional Support Network. Mr. Smith had responded to a family member's request to come see her son because he had stopped taking his medication and might need to be involuntarily committed for mental health treatment. He was unaccompanied by a law enforcement officer. An altercation broke out and Mr. Smith was fatally stabbed by the suspect in the case, Larry William Clark. Fellow residents of the apartment complex were awakened by Clark's mother calling for assistance and both called police and attempted to offer aid and comfort to Mr. Smith.

Clark was jailed on \$2 million bail on suspicion of first-degree murder, the first homicide in Poulsbo in 18 years. He has a prior criminal record, a 3rd degree rape charge from 1994.

The death of Marty Smith brings

Public Health and Human Services (continued)

home both the risk and the importance of the work done by mental health professionals in administering the Involuntary Treatment Act. In a time of emphasis on paperwork processes and added administrative burdens, jumping technical hoops and filing many-hundred page documents, it is easy to forget what the public mental health system is really for. The needs of the people we serve and the courage of our front-line professionals must always come first.

Association of County Human Services (ACHS) Meets in Ellensburg

ACHS will hold its bi-monthly meeting in Ellensburg on November 16 and 17. The meetings will be held at the Elmview conference room at 204 East 6th (between 5th and 6th off of Pine Street in downtown Ellensburg). Elmview is the DD provider for Kittitas County. They reserved a block of rooms at the Comfort Inn on 1722 Canyon Rd. NOTE: The Mental Health Section will not be held during the November meetings due to the requirements of completing the Request for Qualifications due December 1.

On Wednesday, November 16, the Chemical Dependency Section will meet from 9 to 4. Their agenda include a lengthy roundtable kicking off the morning. The roundtable agenda includes the detox study, medicaid outpatient rates, DASA re-organization, group care enhancement, Children's Administration CD counselors, TANF funding and other items as necessary. The regular agenda includes workgroup report, an update on the federal budget

proposals reducing social services, and a central office update on many of the items included in the roundtable.

The Developmental Disabilities Section will meet on Thursday, November 17 from 9 – 4. The morning will include committee reports on DVR, legislative, CAC and the county rate study. It will also cover the CMS review of the waiver implementation, the self-determination summit and policy references in the county/DDD agreements. Immediately prior to lunch Candice O'Neal and Ces Coulson will join the group and discuss technical assistance and the training budget. In addition, the group will discuss the County Mentoring Handbook, 2005-2007 transition student spend down and the DSHS Medicaid Integration Partnership. After lunch, DDD will join the group as well as the new director of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Lynnae M. Rutledge. Discussion will continue on the waiver, process improvement team, transition student spend down, county rate study, the summit in October and a general update from DDD from the Director, Linda Rolfe. See you all in Ellensburg.

Attorney General Meth Task Force Releases Recommendations

Attorney General Rob McKenna's Meth Task Force met November 9 and reviewed their draft recommendations. They voted to finalize the recommendations and release the report. The recommendations are divided into three sub areas which were the subject of subcommittees of the task force members. These were Demand

Reduction, Clean-up and Governance, and Criminal Sanctions. The subcommittees were chaired by Sen. Jim Hargrove, Snohomish County Prosecutor Jan Ellis, and Whatcom County Sheriff Bill Elfo respectively.

In brief, the recommendations are:

Demand Reduction

Drug Courts: Ensure statutory language is clear regarding eligible drug court participants and add juveniles to the authorizing language.

Treatment: These four recommendations focus on support for the treatment expansion authorized last session, adoption of best practices and unified service delivery system for individuals with mental health, substance abuse or co-occurring disorders; increased treatment for those on community supervision under DOSA and support for counties adopting the 1/10th of a cent sales tax option authorized in **SB 5763** last year.

Housing and Support Services: These recommendations focus on supporting additional housing resources, assisting in rehab of damaged property and self-help models such as Oxford House plus a summit with faith-based organization regarding their role in serving recovering drug addicts.

Transportation: Three recommendations are under transportation focusing on utilizing the existing Agency Council on Coordinated Transportation (ACCT) implementing an awareness campaign through DOC to promote the use of special needs transportation; including recovering addicts as part of their strategic plan and allocating a certain percent of

Public Health and Human Services (continued)

CJTA funds to be used for transportation for those in treatment.

Employment: The two recommendations here would revive the Drug-Free Workplace Program that expired in 2001 and provide employer incentives to retain employees with substance abuse issues. Support requirements of employees to remain in treatment, make progress and be subject to urinalysis tests.

Education and Prevention: There are three recommendations dealing with developing and supporting public service announcements and media education regarding treatment and the dangers of drugs and meth in particular including the Office of the Attorney General in the campaign and working with other Attorneys General and Congress to preserve and increase funding for the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities program.

Community Methamphetamine Action Teams: The recommendation is to increase funding including not only a baseline allocation but a competitive grant process.

Drug-endangered Children: There are three recommendations including encouraging all counties to create county-wide guidelines on drug-endangered children; establishing a Washington Chapter of the National Alliance for Drug-Endangered Children and recommending every local meth action team have a representative trained each year and review the guidelines every five years.

Vulnerable adults: There are five recommendations here including proposing support mechanisms for vulnerable adults who are victims of drug manufacture in their homes; examining possible exceptions for

drug manufacture forfeiture of homes where vulnerable adult is innocent victim; establishing housing for those made homeless due to drug manufacturing; encouraging adoption of vulnerable adult guidelines like those for drug-endangered children; and expanding the definition of "abuse" in RCW to include abuse by manufacture of meth in the home.

Cleanup & Governance

Cleanup and Enforcement Authority: There are 14 recommendations in this section. They are primarily focused around increasing and clarifying the role of local public health in posting the property with contamination orders; obtaining administrative search warrant; letting local law enforcement post the initial health warning; adding drug manufacture to statutory definitions of hazardous chemicals and property; authorizing the posting of emergency orders; recommending future amendment that allow the branding of a vehicle by the Department of Licensing as contaminated with release only authorized by local public health; property owner requirements and time frames; and secure funding for both state and local health to ensure cleanup occurs.

Remediation of Real and Personal Property: There are 12 recommendations in this section including additional research to determine size of problem; limiting liability for municipal corporations or private entities that accept conveyance and clean it up for a public purpose; and a pilot project where remediated property is used for clean and sober housing.

Future Governance: There are

seven recommendations in this section primarily focused about using the Governor's Council on Substance Abuse (GCOSA) as the vehicle to continue a focus on meth. These include asking them to evaluate the benefits of being codified into statute and making the Governor's Methamphetamine Coordinating Committee (GMCC) a formal committee of GCOSA.

Criminal Sanctions

Sentencing Enhancements: There are four recommendations including requiring multiple drug enhancements to be served consecutively; creating an additional crime for possession of large quantities of precursor drugs; aligning meth-related anticipatory crimes with other at 75% of standard range sentence; and seeking parity with Oregon and Idaho to avoid cross-border movement.

Prison-Based Treatment: The three recommendations here require treatment to occur prior to earned release, only during the final two years of a sentence; and making prison-based "therapeutic community" treatment available to DOSA offenders and increasing the number of treatment beds available.

Drug Offender Sentencing Alternative: The four recommendations here include reducing the amount of good time off for DOSA from 50% to 33%; tightening eligibility; restore authority of superior court judges to order pre-sentencing examinations for all felonies and require community supervision; and evaluation of DOSA.

Wiretaps and Bugs – "No Party Consent:" It is recommended that Washington's privacy laws be

Public Health & Human Services (Continued)

amended to apply to no-party consent and minimum Fourth Amendment standards and the statute dealing with admissibility of intercepted communication as evidence be repealed.

“One Party Consent:” It is recommended that the probable cause and judicial review requirements be removed and the statute apply to all cases; authorizations are good for 30 days; and that evidence obtained legally in another jurisdiction is admissible in Washington.

Law Enforcement Search Warrant and Subpoena Power: Two recommendations are included – requiring out-of-state businesses to respond to Washington search warrants and subpoenas and vice versa for Washington business and allowing police to issue subpoenas to third parties for business records.

Northern Tier Border State Security and Interdiction: There are four recommendations here including supporting federal legislation to reimburse border counties for the cost of prosecuting defendants when the arrests are initiated by federal agents; accurate fact-based threat assessment; the Attorney General should work with other Northern Tier states to

advocate for additional agents, and initiate the establishment of a National Meth Chemicals Initiative.

Funding for Drug Task Forces: These recommendations are focused around restoring federal funding for drug task forces; ensuring ongoing direct state support; reviewing existing distribution criteria; and creating a successor to this Task Force to propose a new integrated strategy for narcotics interdiction.

Pseudoephedrine, ephedrine and phenylpropanolamine (PSE) logs: The three recommendations here focus on implementing a web-based PSE products log pilot program and testing the usefulness of the new Washington State Drivers License barcode as part of a log system.

The Attorney General and members of the Task Force held a press briefing after they moved to adopt the recommendations. Chris Johnson the Attorney General’s Policy Director will be working with the Code Reviser to draft legislation for the 2006 Legislature to consider. One of the glaring omissions from the report at this time is a fiscal analysis of the recommendations. Legislative fiscal staff will be asked to assist with developing that information. WSAC is of course very concerned that many of these

recommendations could present the potential of unfunded mandates so we will be watching the development of this package very closely and bringing it to the Legislative Steering Committee as necessary in January. Given the comprehensive nature of the recommendations across criminal justice, public health and human services, questions may be directed to any of the WSAC Policy Directors excluding the new Transportation lobbyist.

Boards and Commissions

Three Openings to Fill

With Eric Johnson joining WSAC he has resigned from three boards that will need to be replaced.

Members interested in being a member of the:

- ✓ *Forest Practices Board,*
- ✓ *Public Works Board*
- ✓ *Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board*

may submit letters of interest to WSAC no later than November 15, 2005. The WSAC Board of Directors is meeting on November 17 and will consider nominations at that time.

These are appointments of the Governor and she has requested that a minimum of two names be submitted for her consideration.

In order to submit the nominations to the Governor's office we will need you to complete and forward an appointment packet to our office as soon as possible. Mail the packet material with original signatures to:

WSAC
Attn: Boards & Commissions
206 Tenth Av SE
Olympia WA 98501

Your packet MUST include a letter of interest (addressed to WSAC), a brief resume and an Application for Gubernatorial Appointment. This application can be found at the Governors' Boards & Commissions website at the following link - [Application and Information](#).

You can also find more detailed information regarding the above mentioned boards at the above link by clicking on the "Boards and Commissions Alphabetical Listing".

Courthouse Ramblings

It is good news from Douglas County! Sheriff **Dan LaRoche** reports he is back in his office half-days after convincing his doctor he was "going crazy" at home. He is recuperating from a stem cell

transplant to treat lymphoma. The Sheriff asked us to "pass on his gratitude to all of the WACO members who sent prayers and encouragement." He says he will not be attending the Washington

Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC) Conference in Olympia next week but will be there in the spring. We are all looking forward to it!

Calendar of Events

Meeting	Location	Date	Information
For your convenience training and workshops are bolded.			
<u>NOVEMBER 2005</u>			
WSAC Board of Director Meeting	Radisson Hotel, SeaTac	November 17	(360) 753-1886
VETERANS DAY	WA Counties Bldg CLOSED	November 11	(360) 753-1886
Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs' (WASPC) Annual Fall Conference	Red Lion Hotel, Olympia	November 14-17	(360) 753-7319
Assn of County Human Services	Ellensburg	November 16 - 18	(360) 753-1886
Washington Counties Insurance Fund (WCIF) Board Meeting	Red Lion at Columbia Center, Kennewick	November 18	(360) 586-0466
THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY	WA Counties Bldg CLOSED	Nov. 24 and 25	(360) 753-1886
WA State Assn of Local Public Health Officials	SeaTac	November 29 - 30	(360) 753-1886
<u>DECEMBER 2005</u>			
WA Association of Prosecuting Attorneys' (WAPA) Winter Meeting & Banquet	Crowne Plaza Hotel, Seattle	December 8 - 9	(360) 753-2175
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY	WA Counties Bldg CLOSED	December 26	
<u>JANUARY 2006</u>			
NEW YEARS HOLIDAY	WA Counties Bldg CLOSED	January 2	
TENTATIVE - WSAC Urban County Caucus Dinner Meeting	Mercato's Ristorante	January 4	(360) 753-1886
TENTATIVE - WSAC Rural Issues Subcommittee Dinner Meeting	Rambling Jacks	January 4	(360) 753-1886
TENTATIVE - WSAC Legislative Steering Committee Meeting	WA Counties Building	January 5	(360) 753-1886
Legislative Session Begins	Olympia	January 9	http://www.leg.wa.gov/wsladm/calendar.cfm
WSAC Legislative Steering Committee Meeting	Olympia	January 19	(360) 753-1886
WSAC Legislative Luncheon	Ramada Inn, Olympia	January 19 (11:30a)	(360) 753-1886
WSAC Legislative Reception	Ramada Inn, Olympia	January 19 (5:30p)	(360) 753-1886
County Treasurers' Legislative Conference	WA Counties Bldg Olympia	January 23-24	(360) 753-7319
County Clerks' Legislative Conference	WA Counties Bldg Olympia	January 25-26	(360) 753-7319
County Assessors' Legislative Conference	WA Counties Bldg Olympia	January 31-February 2	(360) 753-7319