

WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION OF SHERIFFS & POLICE CHIEFS

3060 Willamette Drive NE Lacey, WA 98516 ~ Phone: (360) 486-2380 ~ Fax: (360) 486-2381 ~ Website: www.waspc.org

Serving the Law Enforcement Community and the Citizens of Washington

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
WASPC OFFICE | 3060 WILLAMETTE DRIVE NE | LACEY, WA
JANUARY 16, 2018 | 10:00 AM



President Brian Burnett called the Board meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. There was a quorum present with the following Board members in attendance:

President Sheriff Brian Burnett, Chelan County	President-Elect Chief Ken Thomas, Kent PD
Vice President Sheriff John Snaza, Thurston County	Sheriff Bill Benedict, Clallam County
Sheriff John Turner, Walla Walla County (by phone)	Chief Dusty Pierpoint, Lacey PD
Sheriff Rick Scott, Grays Harbor County	Director Mark Couey, OIC, Criminal Investigations Unit
Chief Craig Meidl, Spokane PD	Sheriff Brian Winter, Yakima County
Special Agent in Charge Jay Tabb, FBI	Chief Ronnie Roberts, Olympia PD
Chief John Batiste, WSP	

The following WASPC staff were in attendance:

- Steve Strachan
- Kim Goodman
- Mike Painter
- Ned Newlin (by phone)
- Joan Smith
- Deb Gregory

The following guests were in attendance:

- Dr. Fiona Couper, WSP
- Tom McBride, WA Association of Prosecuting Attorneys
- Jeanne Johnson Jacobs, Everett PD, LEIRA President
- Sara Fitzgibbons, King County Sheriff's Office, LEIRA
- Lezlie Arntz, Kennewick PD, LEIRA

CALL TO ORDER

President Burnett welcomed Chief Craig Meidl from Spokane PD as a new Board member and Steve Strachan as the new WASPC Executive Director.

President Burnett called for a motion to approve the November 14, 2017 Executive Board meeting minutes.

Motion: Sheriff John Snaza moved to approve the minutes as written. Sheriff Bill Benedict seconded. The motion carried.

REPORTS

Finance

- Sheriff Brian Winter reported that WASPC staff is working on end of year close out, and preparing for the annual audit in the spring.
- A deposit of \$50,000 was made for the month of January into WASPC's Morgan Stanley investment account.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

Proposed Funding Request for Additional Toxicology Lab Resources

Chief John Batiste introduced Dr. Fiona Couper of WSP's Toxicology Laboratory to discuss WSP's efforts to get some additional funding for new staff in the Toxicology Lab to keep up with the increasing demands on staff time in response to new laws and new requirements. Lab staff has been working hard to keep up with demands in testing for clients of the lab, and to meet the needs of prosecutors in trying cases. The number of case submissions has increased dramatically and it doesn't appear it will subside any time soon. The increase the lab is seeing is mostly in DUI and DRE cases.

Dr. Couper noted that they've done okay for a number of years and were able to absorb the increases. They've reached capacity and can no longer continue to absorb the increasing workload. They have had to cap the number of cases the analysts can do. The average time to complete a case was 20-21 days. October 2017 cases are averaging up to 71 days to complete.

WSP has approached the Traffic Safety Commission for assistance. They were given two grants that will last for three years. The Department of Health, also through a grant, provided funding to support an additional position. While this is helpful, these are temporary solutions.

WSP has also discussed additional funding needs with the Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys (WAPA), who voted to make this their number one priority during the legislative session.

Because this is a supplemental budget year, the request must be in the form of a budget request, not a stand-alone bill. The request is for 13 full-time employees. Nine of those would be scientists and four would be support staff.

This request is currently not in the Governor's supplemental budget. WAPA is hopeful, but does not currently have a commitment from the budget chairs on whether they are including the fund request in the budget. WSP requested WASPC's support for this funding increase for the Tox Lab when the subject arises during legislative sessions and meetings.

Steve Strachan responded that this is something WASPC may be willing to support and asked the Board their thoughts. Board members agreed that this is an important issue and agreed to support. Sheriff Snaza further suggested that this may be a good discussion topic to add to the L&J Day talking points with legislators. Steve will ask James McMahan to develop some talking points for members to use when meeting with their legislators on 1/30/18.

Accreditation Commission Appointments

There are currently several vacancies on the Accreditation Commission. Mike Painter discussed the vacancies by category as follows:

Sheriffs – Mike has asked both Sheriff Rick Scott of Grays Harbor County and Sheriff Tom Jones from Grant County if they would like to continue as Accreditation Commissioners. Both indicated they would. Mike is recommending that both be reappointed.

Jail Manager

Curt Lutz from Chelan County has resigned his position on the Commission. To fill the jail vacancy, Mike looked at those jails who have been accredited. There are three. Penny Bartley from SCORE currently sits on the Commission. The two candidates are Chief Deputy Wendy Peterson from Clallam County Sheriff's Office, and Commander Diane McCuistion from Kent PD. Both are very capable, but to spread out appointments more geographically, Mike is recommending Chief Deputy Wendy Peterson.

Accreditation Manager

Mike was recommending Captain Jim Burchett from Bremerton PD, but Captain Burchett was recently appointed as the Acting Chief for a period of up to six months while the City recruits a new Chief. It now appears that Captain Burchett may be appointed to the Chief position permanently, making him ineligible to serve as an Accreditation Manager. Mike is recommending that Sgt. Randy Maynard from Kennewick PD. Chief Hohenberg has indicated he will be promoting Sgt. Maynard to a Commander position, making him a good choice to serve as the Accreditation Manager.

Motion: Chief Ken Thomas moved to approve the recommendations as presented by Mike Painter. Sheriff John Snaza seconded. The motion carried.

Accreditation Commission Charter

Because the Commission is not a committee, there was no charter for them. Mike Painter put one together based on the same format committees use and shared that with Accreditation Commissioners. They agreed with content, which outlines what the Commission does in accordance with policy and procedure. Mike recommended the Board approve the Commission's charter.

Motion: Chief Ronnie Roberts moved to approve the Accreditation Commission charter. Chief Ken Thomas seconded. The motion carried.

Professional Services Survey Results 2017

Based on discussions at the Board's retreat this past September in Leavenworth, Mike developed a survey and sent it out to membership in December. There were 46 responding agencies. Overall, there were positive comments about all three services provided by WASPC's Professional Services office. There were also some misunderstandings about how the programs work. For those agencies that included a contact name, Mike will be reaching out to each of them to discuss services offered in more detail and to answer any questions.

After the Board has looked through the results, it is Mike's intent to share the results with Chief Jeff Myers and Sheriff Tom Jones, Chairs of the Professional Services Committee, for their review. Where there are identified opportunities, Mike will follow up on all of those to assist agencies interested in accreditation and LEMAP.

Contract Chiefs and What They Can Be Appointed To

Steve Strachan noted that there are a number of contract Chiefs that would like to be more involved in WASPC and on committees. Currently, contract Chiefs are considered Active members for billing purposes, and are able to vote in Board elections, but have not been considered for Committee chair opportunities.

Motion: Sheriff Bill Benedict moved that contract Chiefs be considered for appointment as Committee Chairs by the WASPC President. Sheriff Rick Scott seconded. The motion carried.

WASPC Committees

Chief Ed Holmes forwarded a request from a member to President Burnett that recommended WASPC consider forming a new committee on mental health issues. It is a huge issue, and one that all jurisdictions are dealing with across the state.

Before taking any action on this item, Steve wanted to give the Board a legislative update that includes major emphasis on the issue of mental health.

Overall Messaging and Goals for the Legislative Session

Steve discussed a number of issues that are of interest to WASPC. There seems to be some momentum to end the session on time and to avoid some of the last minute chaos that often ensues each year.

The Legislature has made it clear that they will likely not modify I-940 as written or take action on it. It will now move to the ballot in November. As an initiative, WASPC cannot take a position, but Association members can individually. As an alternative to I-940, Steve suggested that WASPC offer an alternative bill that focuses more on mental health needs and funding.

Steve wants to focus on mental health and attacks against police, and to encourage others to stop using law enforcement as a political football. It is important that our messaging be very focused and that we're all on the same page. If there are long-term task forces on mental/behavioral health and funding needs, WASPC will want to be squarely in the middle of this with decision-makers. The same with any task forces discussing sentencing reform.

Steve then highlighted all of the major bills or potential bills that are being introduced and debated in the Legislature. The Board provided input and feedback on each for Steve's and James' use during discussions with legislators.

Approval of Membership

Chief Chuck Spoor of the Membership Committee provided a list of membership applicants that have been reviewed and approved by the Membership Committee. The Committee is recommending approval by the Executive Board.

In addition, there was discussion of two appealed membership applications from Col. Thomas Russell-Tutty, and Major Jolene Ayres from Joint Base Lewis-McChord. Both of their membership applications were approved at the Associate level at the November 14, 2017 meeting in Chelan. Major Ayres appealed those decisions and asked that both of their memberships be approved at the Active level. After reviewing the additional information she provided to the Membership Committee, the Membership Committee is recommending that Col. Russell-Tutty's be changed to Active level, and Major Ayres' remaining at the Associate level.

Motion: Sheriff Bill Benedict moved to approve the list of membership applications as submitted by the committee, and that the appealed applications be revised to reflect Col. Russell-Tutty as an Active member, and Major Ayres remain at the Associate level. Chief Batiste seconded. The motion to approve carried, with two opposed.

Other Business

President Burnett confirmed the Board meetings for 2018 as follows:

- March 13, 2018 – WASPC Office, Lacey
- May 22, 2018 – Spokane Convention Center (at spring conference)
- September 13-14, 2018 – Alpenrose Inn, Leavenworth
- November 13, 2018 – Campbell's Resort, Chelan (at fall conference)

President Burnett requested that Deb Gregory update contact information, to include cell phone, and provide that to Board members for their information and use.

With there being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 12:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Gregory
Executive Assistant, WASPC