

Courthouse Journal

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Washington State Association of Counties
Washington Association of County Officials

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Journal*

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Newly Elected Officials' Orientation Next Week!

We hope that all of newly elected county officials and many of the current officials have registered for the Newly Elected Officials' Orientation scheduled for December 10-12, at the West-Coast Olympia Hotel, in Olympia. (County Sheriffs will be beginning on December 8 with the Criminal Justice Training Commission program.)

If you have not yet registered and wish to attend, please call (360) 753-7319 to sign up! Room reservations at the WestCoast can be made by calling 1-866-896-4000 or (360) 943-4000.

The orientation is designed to help new officials learn more about their positions, the county government environment and the resources that they will have available through both the Washington Association of County Officials (WACO) and the Washington State Association of Counties (WSAC). Veteran officials are invited to attend and meet their new colleagues and many of them will be helping with the training sessions.

The agenda for the conference is included in this edition of the Courthouse Journal.

Courts, Law and Justice

First-ever Tribal/County Criminal Justice Summit Set for January

By now county commissioners and other county officials should have received an invitation to attend a statewide Tribal/County Criminal Justice Summit January 8-10 at the Skagit Resort in Bow, Washington. Final agendas are scheduled to be sent this week.

Grant funding covers the full cost of registration, two nights lodging and most meals for one member of each board of county commissioners. The summit registration deadline is December 23; however, room reservations at the Skagit Resort should be made by December 6. For more information, or to register, contact Sharon Morrow, office of the Attorney General, 360-493-9500 or sharonm@atg.wa.gov.

The event has been designed as a

“working summit,” where participants work to strengthen relationships between tribes and counties. Key participants include county commissioners and councilmembers, tribal leaders, and both tribal and county law enforcement and attorneys.

For several months a steering committee of representatives from federal, state, local and tribal government has been planning the summit, titled “Building New Partnerships for Community Safety.” Clallam County Commissioner Mike Doherty represented WSAC on the steering committee.

Topics will include: sovereignty; liability insurance; federal tort claims act; emergency management and homeland security; and cross-jurisdictional issues. Speakers include: Governor Gary Locke; Attorney General Christine Gregoire; state Supreme Court Justice Susan Owens; University of

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Washington professor Bob Anderson; University of British Columbia professor Bruce Miller; U.S. Attorneys James McDewitt and John McKay; Brian Cladoosby, Chair, Swinomish Tribe; and Marilyn Scott, Chair, Upper Skagit Tribe.

FEMA Launches New Emergency Management Web Site

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) last week debuted a pilot

version of "DisasterHelp.gov," a one-stop portal for emergency preparedness and response information.

The DisasterHelp.gov web site is part of a larger initiative aimed at enhancing disaster management on an interagency and intergovernmental basis. While DisasterHelp will provide interested citizens with credible information and services across a wide range of relevant sources, the web site's major objective is to provide first responders, emergency managers, and homeland security advisors an online capa-

bility to collaborate with other members of the emergency management community.

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 Av SE, Olympia, WA 98501-1131 or www.wacounties.org

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Environment, Land Use and Resources

Rural Development Council Offers Community Assessments

The Washington Rural Development Council (WRDC) has partnered with several organizations, state and federal agencies, and private businesses to bring the Resource Team Assessment to Washington State. What is a Resource Team Assessment? A community-based planning and assessment process consisting of an independent team interviewing a large number of people in the community; recording their suggestions and comments; and having the independent team write up implementation plans, based on the interviews, for community use.

Over 90 individuals have been trained and are available to volunteer their time and talents to rural communities in Washington State. The objective of the Resource Team is to recruit partners to assist rural communities with locally conceived and driven development strategies. Through facilitated Listening Sessions, the Resource Teams hold up a mirror to rural communities so they can get a good look at themselves.

The Quincy Valley (including George, Crescent Bar, the Gorge, and surrounding unincorporated county) was the first community in Washington State to request a community assessment. Lisa Karstetter, Executive Director of the Chamber, coordinated the Quincy effort. At the request of the City Councils of George and Quincy, the Quincy Valley Chamber of Commerce, and the Quincy

Port Commission, the 5-member resource team converged upon the Quincy Valley November 12, 13, and 14 and met with 16 groups ranging from high school students to senior citizens.

The team of five spent 3 days in Quincy. The week began with an in depth tour of the area and ended with a town meeting where the resource team presented the major themes from the listening sessions. The report will be sent to Quincy within 6 weeks that will include recommendations, resources and opportunities for the community to implement, based on the major themes.

One month from the time the community receives the report the team or some portion of the team will return to Quincy to help with a prioritization process on the major themes.

The Rural Development Council will conduct a review and follow up after 6 months and then again at the end of the first year.

If you are interested in bringing a Resource Team to your community, contact Jim Lowery, Executive Director of the Washington Rural Development Council at (360) 943-5151 or email to washrdc@reachone.com <<mailto:washrdc@reachone.com>>.

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Long-Sought Water Infrastructure Package Evaporates to Almost Nothing

Excerpted from a letter from Jim Waldo, Governor Locke's Water Policy Advisor: "Over the fall it became clear, given the recession and the current budget deficit our state is facing, that we were not going to be successful in securing a \$1 billion program this coming session to support our water infrastructure needs. On the other hand, our water project needs are very real and cannot be ignored because times are tough. Governor Locke understands these needs. He has been and continues to be a strong supporter of addressing our future water needs now, rather than delaying action. That is why he reaffirmed his commitment to make whatever progress is possible in this area and to work closely with your legislators in finding solutions to allow local governments to proceed on implementing water projects. The governor outlined a new proposed approach containing four key elements to begin making progress now:

1. Prioritize available state financial resources to continue moving forward on critical water needs.
2. Pass legislation to let basins and regions fund plans. Provide greater flexibility for local governments to use

- existing local funding mechanisms for priority needs.
3. Pursue modest increased funding for existing water capital programs. Where necessary, add or clarify the authority to fund water infrastructure projects such as storage or re-use. This will help critical projects move forward.
4. Strive for federal funding to match state and local funding."

In the letter, Waldo continues and adds that that he and state agencies will continue working on recommendations for the Governor's consideration to make progress on water project priorities around the state. Counties Need New Shorelines Hearings Board Representation

With election of Kittitas County Commissioner Bill Hinkle to the Washington State Legislature, WSAC will need to appoint a new representative to the Shorelines Hearings Board. Commissioner Hinkle has been the lead county representative; a list of alternates, including some other commissioners, have been active in representing counties as well.

The Shorelines Hearings Board consists of six members: the three members of the Pollution Control Hearings Board, a county representative, a city representative, and a representative of the Commissioner of Public Lands. Under a policy adopted by the WSAC Board of Directors last summer, the Board will appoint a representa-

tive and alternates. The alternates will be ranked, with first rank going to current commissioners and councilmembers, second to current staff who are supported by their county, and third to former county elected officials whom the Board wishes to keep available to serve.

WSAC will schedule training for the county representative and alternates. If you are interested in being appointed as the SHB representative or alternate, please call Paul Parker or Scott Merriman at WSAC by December 31.

Stormwater Developments

There are many developments on stormwater and a good way to keep up to date is through Ecology's webpage:

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/stormwater/>.

It provides updated information on the Snohomish County's appeal of the industrial stormwater general permit and ongoing information on the rewrite of the construction stormwater general permit. There is also information on emerging stormwater treatment technologies, NPDES Phase II workshops that are sponsored by WSAC and the Association of Washington Cities through a grant from the Department of Ecology, and the request for a technical review of the Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington.

Boards and Commissions

Nominees Sought to Fill Ethics Commission Vacancy

The citizen commission responsible for promoting and upholding ethical conduct in Pierce County government is seeking to fill a position that will be vacated at year's end. The term for the position expires in February 2004.

Applicants for the volunteer position must reside in Pierce County and be registered voters. Other criteria are that commissioners may not hold or campaign for elective office, serve as a political party of committee officer, actively support or oppose candidates for County office, or lobby, employ or assist a lobbyist.

The position to be vacated is held by attorney Michelle Sherls. Her replacement need not be an attorney. Other commissioners are Chair Denise Hood, Gary Jacobson, Richard McGrue and Richard Nickell.

Appointments to Ethics Commission positions are made by County Executive John W. Ladenburg and subject to County Council confirmation. Persons interested in being appointed can obtain an application by contacting Giselle Kamieniecki in the Executive's Office at 253-798-7477 or pcethics@co.pierce.wa.us.

The commission responds to and investigates citizen complaints concerning questionable behavior by county employ-

ees, as defined by the Pierce County Ethics Code. The commission also serves as a non-biased community resource on matters dealing with ethical conduct. The Ethics Code can be viewed at

www.piercecountywa.org/council.

Contact: Diane Braaten, Executive Aide, 253-798-6691; or Dick Ferguson, Media and Community Relations, 253-798-3979

Elections, Recording and Licensing

Correction on Clark County Charter Vote

In the last Courthouse Journal, we reported that voters in Clark County turned down a county home rule charter by a vote of 50.11% to 49.89%. We confused the issue

by saying that Clark County voters approved a proposition to elect county commissioners by district. That would have been effective only if the charter had been approved. All propositions related to the charter were tied to the charter vote and

because that failed, there will be no change in how commissioners are elected. We are sorry for any misunderstanding.

General Government and Miscellaneous

Washington Counties Benefit From Cooperative Purchasing

Hundreds of local governments in the State of Washington are saving tens of thousands of dollars every month by participating in the US Communities Government Purchasing Alliance. The Alliance is co-sponsored by the National Association of Counties and the Washington State Association of Counties along with other national and state associations of counties, cities and schools. Any local government in Washington may use the program under existing state statutes.

So how does the program work?

Large public agencies from across the United States solicit contracts on behalf of all local and state governments. These public agencies follow the public purchasing procedures of the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing. Each solicitation includes language that allows other public agencies to piggyback on the contract without having to re-solicit.

Any county, city, school, special district, state agency or non-profit serving local government can access these contracts. The public agencies pay no fees to participate and do not have to commit to a specific amount of spending on the program.

Presently contracts are available for office supplies, industrial and electrical supplies, office furniture and computers and peripherals. In 2003 the program will also have janitorial supplies, copiers, school classroom furniture and auto parts.

Large and small counties alike benefit from the program. For example, Fairfax County, Virginia saves over \$800,000 a year on office supplies by using the program. The smaller the jurisdiction, the greater the savings, due to the substantial buying power of the US Communities Alliance.

An advisory board of public purchasing officials oversees the US Communities program. The representative from Wash-

ington is Melody Mociulski, Director of Purchasing for the City of Seattle. Eighteen counties in Washington are presently using the program and King County recently joined the Alliance.

The program is very easy to use. Sign up on-line at www.uscommunities.org. Once you register for the program, you will be asked to check the contracts you would like to access. A representative from the supplier will contact your county within 48 hours to set up an account, provide the appropriate catalogues and pricing sheets, and answer any questions. Your county may then purchase as much or as little as it desires.

For more information on the program, contact Ginni Peppert at the WSAC office, telephone (360) 753-1886, email gpeppert@wacounties.org or Rob Braulik at rbraulik@uscommunities.org. Get on board today and start saving!

UW Executive MPA Program

The Daniel J. Evans School of Public Affairs at the UW is asking for your opinions to help them design a new degree offering: the Executive Masters in Public Administration. They have a short survey on the web. It takes just a few minutes to point and click through the questions.

The Executive Masters Degree program is designed for experienced professionals in leadership positions in public and nonprofit organizations. The format is designed for working professionals and features intensive seminars plus distance learning (instead of attending weekly classes on campus). Emphasis will be on high-level decision-making, practical application, and the integration of learning with experience.

Please take a few minutes to click on the following link to fill out the survey. (They hope to gather responses as quickly as possible.) <http://www.outreach.washington.edu/survey/mpa/>

Thank you for taking the time to do this. Please be assured that the Evans School will only use your e-mail or mailing address to correspond with you regarding the Executive MPA program and for no other purpose.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call Diana Wu, Program Manager of the Executive MPA at the UW at 206-221-7385 or e-mail exmpa@u.washington.edu.

Courthouse Ramblings

John O. Trent, director of the Pierce County Public Works and Utilities Department is retiring December 31.

Trent joined Pierce County in 1986 as assistant public works director. He was promoted to public works director four years later. When the Public Works and Utilities departments were merged in 1993, Trent was named to lead the combined organization.

Trent gave generously of his time to professional organizations and served as president and western regional vice president of the National Association of County Engineers and as a board member for the National Association of Counties, also on the Washington State Transportation Improvement Board and the County Road Administration Board. The University of Texas graduate is a member of American Society of Civil Engineers, the American Public Works Association, and the Washington State Association of County Engineers/Public Works Directors.

Trent and his wife, Donna, have four grown children and five grandchildren.

We wish him a very happy retirement.

* * * * *

A party honoring **Stevens County Assessor Blanche Estep** for her many years in office will be held Thursday, December 19 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. The reception will be held in the basement of the Colville City Library across from the Courthouse (corner of Oak and Astor). If you need further information, please call Sandy at (509) 685-0669 or email her at sjones@co.stevens.wa.us. Blanche is retiring on December 31 after serving as assessor for 37 years. Blanche has been an active member of both WACO and the Washington State Association of County Assessors for whom she is a past president. We wish her a happy and healthy retirement!

* * * * *

Congratulations to **Snohomish County Elections Manager Scott Kohnpasek** who is leaving Washington to assume his new position as the San Bernardino County, California, Registrar of Voters, the first of the New Year! Scott has

been the Elections and Voter Registration Manager for six years and during the last year has been instrumental in the successful conversion from optical scan voting to touch screen voting at the polls in Snohomish County for both the primary and general elections this year. Last week we reported that Snohomish County Auditor Bob Terwilliger had appointed Carolyn Diepenbrock as the new Elections Manager, but failed to report on Scott's new job. Best of luck to him! Carolyn has served as Licensing Manager in the Snohomish County Auditor's office since 1990 and we congratulate her as well on her new position!

* * * * *

The staff in the Lincoln County Clerks' Office extends an invitation to all county officials to a farewell reception honoring Lincoln County Clerk Joyce Denison. The reception will be held on Friday, December 27, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. in the Superior Courtroom in Davenport.

Upcoming Events and Training

Public Information Officer Special Meeting: Smallpox Preparation

During the next couple of weeks, smallpox will be in the headlines again, hopefully not because of a case but because the federal government is asking states and locals to prepare and implement plans for pre-vaccinating people who will be responsible for inoculating the public if someone does contract the disease. Remembering the public response to anthrax fears, it's a good idea to prepare messages and fact sheets in advance of any questions about smallpox.

Public Information Officers and Communication Specialists in Pierce County are welcome to a meeting at the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department on Tuesday, December 10, from 2:30 - 4:00 PM. We'll cover information about smallpox and vaccination. We'll agree on a plan and messages for responding to public questions about this disease. There is no charge to attend. Refreshments will be available.

Logistics:

PIO Meeting on Smallpox Preparation-

Tuesday, December 10, 2:30 - 4:00 PM
Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department,
3629 South D Street
Tacoma (directions can be found on website: www.tpchd.org)

Agenda:

Introductions
Smallpox 101 (Basics of the disease, vaccination process, public health preparatory work) Planning for Public Anxiety Next Steps Adjournment

For more information, contact:

Joby Winans
Public Health Manager (Training, Org Dev and Public Information) Emergency Management Coordinator Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department 3629 South "D" Street Tacoma, WA 98418-6813
Phone: (253) 798-2853
Pager: (253) 396-3936
Fax: (253) 798-7627
E-mail: jwinans@tpchd.org

Mosquito Control Workshops

The Washington Departments of Agriculture, Ecology and Health are offering

workshops statewide in January to introduce local government and private pest control operators to mosquito control. The training is focused toward those interested in getting started in mosquito abatement in response to West Nile virus arriving in Washington.

The one day sessions run from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM and are planned for the following cities and dates:

Longview

January 7 County Conference Center,
1942 First Avenue (SE of the Hall of Justice)

Tacoma

January 9 Tacoma-Pierce Co Health Dept Auditorium, 3629 South D Street

Mt Vernon

January 10 Skagit County PUD Aqua Room, 1415 Freeway Drive

Spokane

January 14 Spokane County Agricultural

(Continued on page 6)

Upcoming Events and Training

(Continued from page 5)

Education Bldg, 222 N. Havana

Wenatchee

January 16 Chelan County Auditorium,
400 Douglas Street

Yakima

January 17 Ecology Central Regional Of-
fice, 15 W. Yakima Avenue

Walla Walla

January 22 City/County Health Bldg, 310
W. Poplar (5th & Poplar)

Topics will cover the history of mos-
quito-borne disease in the state, West Nile
virus, mosquito vectors and habitat, sur-
veillance, permits, control materials and
their uses, monitoring requirements and
record keeping.

Who should attend? Local govern-
ment managers and pest control operators
new to or interested in mosquito control
requirements and methods or those who

are considering starting mosquito control
activities and programs.

For registration or additional informa-
tion contact Kathleen Emmett, Department
of Ecology, (360) 407-6478, Tom Gibbs,
Department of Health, (360) 236-3060 or
Wendy Sue Wheeler, Department of Agri-
culture (360) 902-1972.

December County Calendar

- 1 Property taxes not paid to county treasurer by this date are subject to an additional penalty of 8% on the total amount of the tax delinquent. RCW 84.56.020
- 1 County assessors to begin preliminary work for assessing property. RCW 84.40.040
- 2 Alternate date for budget hearing. County legislative authority may meet for purpose of holding a budget hearing. RCW 36.40.071
- 10 Election date for irrigation district directors. RCW 87.03.080
- 25 Christmas Day - Legal Holiday. RCW 1.16.050
- 31 The county prosecutor shall make an annual report to the Governor. RCW 6.27.020(12)
- 31 The county prosecutor shall report to the State Liquor Control Board all state liquor law prosecutions during the calendar year. RCW 36.27.020(13)
- 31 Last day to apply for January 1 (coming year) open space classification on qualifying properties. RCW 84.34.030
- 31 By this date, applications for classification as eligible historic property shall be approved or denied by the local review board. If the property qualifies as eligible historic property, the review board shall certify this fact, in writing, to the county assessor within 10 days. The county assessor shall record these certificates with the county auditor. RCW 84.26.050, .060
- 31 By this date, every special purpose district shall file a statement with the auditor of each county in which it lies including the following information: name of special purpose district; location; statutes under which it operates; name, address, telephone number and remaining term of office of each member of its governing authority; and the functions that the district is presently performing. RCW 36.96.090(1) NOTE: This information shall be forwarded by the county auditor to the State Auditor by January 31. RCW 36.96.090(2)
- 31 On or before this date, the Department of Revenue sets stumpage values for January through June (of coming year). RCW 84.33.091
- 31 By this date, the county treasurer shall designate one or more financial institutions in the state which are qualified public depositories as set forth by the public deposit protection commission as depositories for public funds. RCW 36.48.010

Calendar of Events

2002 MEETINGS

December 10-12
CPO Newly Elected Officials Training—
Understanding Your New Job at the Court-
house, Olympia—Cost: TBD, CPO Cred-
its: All newly elected officials must attend
to become certified. **County Sheriffs be-
gin December 8**

December 12-13
WAPA Winter Meeting & Banquet
Crowne Plaza Hotel, Seattle.

2003 MEETINGS

January 13
Legislative Session Begins

February 24 – 26
County Auditors Recording Conference
Sun Mountain Lodge, Winthrop

February 28 – March 4
NACo Legislative Conference, Washing-
ton, DC

April 3 – 4
WSAC Western District Meeting, West-
Coast Hotel, Olympia

April 23-25
WAPA Spring Training Program, Tumwa-
ter

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

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

May 5-8
County Auditors' Elections Conference
Yakima

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

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

May 29-30
WAPA District Court Training Program,
SeaTac

June 10-12
Washington State Association of County
Auditors' Annual Conference, Sun Moun-
tain 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 18-20
WAPA Summer Conference, Chelan

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

June 24-27
WSAC Summer Convention, Spokane

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

September 3-5
WAPA Special Assault Training Program,
Leavenworth

September 7-9
WAPA Juvenile Training Program
Leavenworth

September 29-October 3
WACO/WSAC Joint Conference,
SeaTac

November 17-20
WASPC Fall Conference, Campbell's Re-
sort, Chelan

2004 MEETINGS

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 22-25
WSAC Summer Convention,
Sheraton Tacoma, Pierce County

June 23-25
WAPA Summer Conference, Chelan

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

October 4-8
WACO/WSAC Joint Conference, Spokane

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

2005 MEETINGS

May 11-13
WAPA Support Staff Training Program,
Spokane

May 23-26
WASPC Spring Conference,
West Coast Wenatchee Center Hotel, We-
natchee

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

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

Employment Opportunities

In our effort to hold down costs and save timber, we are asking for your help. You may submit a job opening to us for publication in the CHJ using MS Word. When submitting an article for the Courthouse Journal's Employment Opportunities section we ask that you use the following format and thank you for your help.

- | | |
|--|---|
| ⇒ County or Agency Name | ⇒ Application requirements
(Resume, Cover Letter, Application, Etc.) |
| ⇒ Position Title | |
| ⇒ Compensation – Salary/Hourly and Amount | ⇒ Where to submit application |
| ⇒ Brief description of duties & responsibilities (4-6 lines) | ⇒ Application submission deadline |
| ⇒ Minimum requirements (2-3 lines) | ⇒ Where to get more information (Web page, phone, etc) |

PIERCE COUNTY: Civil Engineer 1, (Environmental Services, Sewer Division Job #2590). Salary: \$47,424 - \$60,257/Annually. Closes: December 20, 2002 Responsible for the review of sanitary sewer plans for commercial and residential development projects for the Public Works and Utilities Department. Duties include layout, drafting, and review work on a variety of sewerage system projects and pump stations; review of related documents, specifications, and cost estimates; reviews calculations and routine work of lower level engineering technicians. Family oriented benefits, retirement, and growth potential opportunities offered. Requires four-year degree in civil engineering or closely related field. Engineer-In-Training or four years of progressive responsible and broad based engineering experience may substitute for the recruiting requirements. Union membership required within 30 days of employment. Contact Pierce County Personnel Dept. at www.co.pierce.wa.us/jobs or (253)798-7480 or TDD (253)798-3965. EOE

PIERCE COUNTY: Civil Engineer 2, (Two vacancies: A) Consultant Engineering/Environmental Section and B) Program Development Division (Job #2591). Salary \$53,352 - \$68,348/Annually. Closes: December 20, 2002. Public Works & Utilities Department. A) Perform advanced engineering duties associated with corridor studies, transportation infrastructure improvements, environmental documentation, and selecting and managing consulting engineering firms. B) Perform project scoping and cost estimating; project prioritization; grant application preparation; establishing traffic impact fees, preparing interagency agreements, and other related civil engineering work pertaining to transportation issues and capital

improvement projects. Requires three years of progressive responsible experience related to the position and either a four year degree with major course work in civil engineering or closely related field or substituting for the degree, registration as an Engineering-In-Training with the State of Washington. Experience using AASHTO and Washington Design manual or similar publication/manual is highly desired. Experience with AutoCAD, Land Development Desktop 2000, Storm shed, GIS or other related engineering software program is desired. Union membership is required within 30 days of employment. Contact Pierce County Personnel Dept. at www.co.pierce.wa.us/jobs or (253)798-7480 or TDD (253)798-3965. EOE

GRAYS HARBOR COUNTY: Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, Prosecuting Attorney's Office. Salary: \$36,684.00 to \$49,806.00 + benefits, depending upon experience. Trial experience is preferred, but not required. Applicants must be admitted to practice law in Washington State, and must hold a valid Washington State Driver's License, or have the ability to obtain such a license. Applicants are subject to a background check because of the sensitive nature of the position. Union exempt position. The successful applicant must establish residency in Grays Harbor County within six months of accepting employment. Submit application, resume, including references and writing samples (if available) to: Grays Harbor County Prosecutor's Office, 102 West Broadway, Room 102, Montesano, WA 98563, 360-249-3951, fax: 360-249-6064. Applications are to be received by 5:00 p.m. on December 13, 2002. EOE.

GRAYS HARBOR COUNTY: Senior Real Property Appraiser, \$3,120-\$3,709

Appraises residential and light commercial properties to establish fair market. Positions in the Senior Real Property Appraiser classifications are distinguished from positions in the Real Property Appraiser classification by a greater depth of knowledge and experience required for appraisal of light commercial properties. Qualifications: Four (4) year degree. Applicable exp. may be substituted for education at a rate of one for one. IAAO Courses 201 and 301 or equivalent courses. Real Property Appraiser Accreditation. Four (4) years real property appraiser exp. WSDL. Applications and a complete job description may be obtained from Marilyn Lewis, GHC Management Services, 3rd Floor Admin. Bldg., Suite 33, P.O. Box 790, Montesano, WA 98563 (360) 249-4144 or download from the website at www.co.grays-harbor.wa.us on or before 5:00 pm. December 23, 2002. EOE

GRAYS HARBOR COUNTY: Communications Supervisor, \$3,437 - \$4,248 Responsible for technical oversight, preventive maintenance, long term planning of upgrades, implementation, evaluation, and budgeting of the County's radio, video, intercom, fiber and microwave systems. This is an exempt position. A complete job description, list of qualifications and applications are available at the Public Services Department, 100 W. Broadway Suite 31, Montesano, WA 98563 (360) 249-4222 Ext. 415 or you can download off the website at www.co.grays-harbor.wa.us. Open Until Filled. EOE

WHATCOM COUNTY: Deputy I or II, DOQ, Prosecuting Attorney's Office Salary Range for Deputy I: \$3,480-\$4,360 / month, DOQ, and for Deputy II: \$4,035-

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Employment Opportunities

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\$5,160 / month, DOQ. Requires good standing in Washington State Bar Association. Trial experience in criminal law is desired. Whatcom County offers excellent benefits, which currently include employer-paid medical, dental and vision coverage for employees and their family, plus life insurance coverage for employees. Our benefits package includes attractive paid leave provisions, an average of 12 holidays per year, and sick leave. County employees participate in the Washington State Retirement System (PERS) with joint contributions by the County and the employee. Whatcom County offers an employee assistance program and employees may, at their option and expense, participate in a flexible spending plan for health

care/dependent care, and deferred compensation plans. The County provides a match of up to 2% of salary for deferred compensation plan contributions. Closes 12/13/02. For more details & to request required application packet contact Whatcom County Human Resources, Bellingham, WA, (360) 676-6802 or visit www.co.whatcom.wa.us. Equal Opportunity Employer.

ISLAND COUNTY: Watershed Project Manager, (Coupeville & Camano Island), Public Works has 2 full-time openings. Position on Camano Island is grant funded. Duties include but not limited to: developing and managing plans and programs to deal with Island County Surface Water issues incl. researching, applying for and managing Grants, providing education and

information to the public on watershed issues; serves as the Public Works primary contact to the Water Resource Advisory Committee (WRAC), coordinator for the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRF Board) and implementer for Nonpoint Pollution Prevention Projects. Island County application required. Closes 12/12/02. For application and info www.islandcounty.net/hr Or call (360) 679-7372, from South Whidbey (360) 321-5111 ext. 7254, from Camano (360) 629-3443 ext. 7254. EOE.

News Clippings

Eyman's I-776 on Hold

Associated Press, 12/04/02

SEATTLE - A King County judge on Wednesday granted an injunction to put part of Initiative 776 on hold in King and Pierce counties.

The initiative, sponsored by anti-tax advocate Tim Eyman and approved by voters in November, reduces vehicle license-tab fees to \$30 a year and would end a \$15 vehicle-registration surcharge used to help pay for transportation projects in the two counties.

The initiative was scheduled to take effect Thursday.

Other counties in the state are not affected by the injunction granted by Judge Mary Yu, since only King and Pierce filed suit to challenge the initiative. The two counties want the state to keep collecting the \$15 fee for local traffic improvements.

The state attorney general's office is defending the initiative. It opposes the counties' motion and says the initiative is constitutional.

Pierce County and Tacoma filed a lawsuit Nov. 27, seeking to have the initiative declared unconstitutional. King County joined the suit Tuesday. Eyman was critical of the challenge.

"The government's love for tax dollars clearly outweighs its respect for the voters, and for the law," he said Tuesday. "Laws need to be respected and obeyed whether you agree with them or not."

In a statement faxed to news agencies Wednesday, Eyman accused King County Executive Ron Sims of selling bonds just before the election as a way of committing the tax dollars I-776 would have cut and thereby preventing the measure from having its intended effect.

"Sims' actions are those of a dictator, not a representative," Eyman said.

Failure to Provide Beds For Mentally Ill Prompts Lawsuit

News Release ~ Pierce County ~ November 20, 2002

Barbara Jones (not her real name) voluntarily went to Puget Sound Behavioral Health, a licensed psychiatric facility in Tacoma operated by the Pierce County Regional Support Network, for mental health treatment. While there she attempted suicide by breaking a light bulb and using the glass shards to slit her wrists. She was involuntarily committed to Western State Hospital for 90 days by court order, but hospital officials didn't admit her. Instead, they informed PCRSN that she would be placed on a waiting list until a bed became available.

In another case, nursing home resident Charles Johnson (not his real name) was sent to Allenmore Hospital after he assaulted another resident. A mental health professional designated by the county placed Johnson on a 72-hour emergency

detention to WSH. Hospital officials refused to admit Johnson on grounds that no geriatric bed was available.

Although the patient names above are fictional, the cases are real and are cited in a lawsuit filed Wednesday, November 20 in Pierce County Superior Court. The lawsuit filed by Pierce County and PCRSN names the State of Washington, Department of Social and Health Services and Department Secretary Dennis Braddock as defendants.

The Regional Support Network contracts with the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services to assist in administering community mental health services. The county claims in the lawsuit that the defendants:

1. Failed to meet their constitutional obligation to "support and foster" institutions for the mentally ill;
2. Violated the state Involuntary Treatment Act and other state laws and regulations;
3. Violated the federal Medicaid law;
4. Impaired the contract with PCRSN by enacting legislation which reduces access to bed capacity at Western State Hospital for mentally ill patients;
5. Committed fraud by misrepresenting the number of WSH beds and

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News Clippings

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the total amount of state resources that would be available to PCRSN under the contract;

6. Breached the contract by failing to ensure access to the contracted bed allocation;
7. Breached their fiduciary duty under the contract by promising a specific bed allocation and other

resources knowing that those resources wouldn't be fully available;

The lawsuit seeks, among other relief, full access to WSH beds for patients detained or committed under the Involuntary Treatment Act and for compensation for costs incurred in providing mental health treatment at alternative facilities. The county also requests an order requiring

DSHS to pay damages to PCRSN or to accept responsibility for identifying an institution outside Pierce County for alternative placement if needed.