

Courthouse Journal

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Inside the Courthouse Journal

Budget, Finance and Taxes
Pages 1 - 2

Courts, Law and Justice
Page 3

Transportation and Public Works
Page 3 - 4

Environment, Land Use
and Resources
Page 5

Public Health and
Human Services
Page 6

Boards and Commissions
Page 7

Elections, Recording
and Licensing
Page 7 - 8

General Government
and Miscellaneous
Page 8

Courthouse Ramblings
Page 9

Upcoming Events
and Training
Page 9 - 10

Calendar of Events
Page 10 - 12

Employment Opportunities
Page 12 - 14

Budget Hearings Display Legislative Dilemma

See Page 2

Washington State Association of Counties
Washington Association of County Officials

Senate Majority Leader West to Address WSAC Legislative Rally

In this important legislative session focused on funding and reprioritizing state government, WSAC is honored that Senate Majority Leader Jim West (R-Spokane County) has accepted our invitation to speak at the WSAC Legislative Rally. At the February 13 Rally, commissioners, councilmembers and county executives from all of Washington's counties will convene in Olympia to address county issues with legislators.

In addition to meeting with legislators, WSAC has arranged a legislative briefing and lunch from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the

Ramada Inn Governor House. We will also host a reception for WSAC members that evening at the Phoenix Inn. The WSAC Legislative Steering Committee will meet the morning of February 14.

Registration information was sent out weeks ago and those seeking hotel rooms should do so now. **PLEASE fax** your registration to the WSAC office, (360) 753-2842. If you have not received your information packet, or if you have any questions, please call the WSAC office at (360) 753-1886.

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

Reminder Notice-Rural Issues Sub-committee

The Rural Issues Sub-committee will be meet-

ing this coming Thursday, January 30, 2003 at the Washington Counties Building in Olympia. The meeting time is 1:30 to 3:30 pm.

Budget, Finance and Taxes

Assessor Interest Bills set for Hearings Next Week

HB 1140 which allows counties to increase funding for properties acquired through conservation futures will have a hearing before the House Local Government Committee on January 27 at 1:30 p.m. This will increase the conservation futures levy to eleven cents and allow up to twenty-five percent of the total amount collected from the tax levied in the preceding year to be used for the purpose of maintaining and operating any property acquired. Also on January 27 the House Transportation Committee will have a public hearing on **HB 1102** which revises the provisions for exchange agreements for environmental mitigations sites and **HB 1086** affect-

ing moving mobile homes by mobile home park owners.

January 28 at 1:30 p.m. the House Trade & Economic Development Committee will hold a hearing on the Tax Increment Financing Bill, **HB 1281**. This bill is also scheduled for executive session on January 30 in the same Committee. The same day on the Senate side, the Senate Government Operations & Elections Committee will hold a 1:30 p.m. hearing on **SB 5232** and the corresponding Constitutional amendment **SJR 8208** authorizing multiyear excess property tax levies for cemetery districts. The Senate hearing will be broadcast on TVW.

HB 1133 requiring county assessors to submit an annual property tax report to the department of revenue will have a hearing on

(Continued from page 1)

January 28 at 1:30 p.m. before the House Finance Committee. This bill was also proposed last year but did not pass. At the same hearing House Finance will also hear public comment on **HB 1073** modifying the collection of property taxes on land subleased for residential and recreational purposes.

On January 30 at 8:00 a.m. the House Finance Committee will have a marathon senior citizen bill day. The hearing will be broadcast on TVW and the bills being heard include **HB 1029**, **HB 1044**, **HB 1071** and **HB 1116**. All these bills provide

property tax relief for senior citizens and persons retired because of physical disability.

HB 1250 Determining annual rental rates for the lease of state-owned aquatic lands for qualifying marinas will be heard by the House Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee on January 31 at 8:00 a.m. The Bill sets public marina rents for state owned property. This bill will also be voted on in executive session in the Senate Natural Resources, Energy & Water Committee on January 30. Looks like its got wings.

arrival of over 20,000 teachers on the capital grounds. Human service providers have been making a compelling case that increased unemployment and reduced charitable contributions will mean that many needy, disabled and elderly folks will be falling between the cracks. You lobbyists are out there too, making the point that counties have been cutting. That basic public safety services are under threat. We also make the case that counties cannot meet state mandates without funding.

County Treasurers Legislative Meeting

The county treasurers will be meeting in Olympia on Monday and Tuesday, January 27 and 28, at the Washington Counties Building. Monday will begin with breakfast at 8:00 a.m. Legislative Chair Rose Bowman will discuss legislation of importance and joining us for lunch will be WSAC Timber Coordinator Tom Robinson who will give an overview of PILT. At 1:30, treasurers will go up on the hill to their appointments with legislators. The meeting Tuesday will also begin with breakfast at 8:00, followed by reports from the treasurers on their visits with legislators. At noon, Representative Sandra Romero, Chair of the House Local Government Committee will be the luncheon guest.

HB 1023, modifying interest and penalties on delinquent property taxes and **HB 1069**, authorizing additional waivers on interest and penalties, was heard by the House Finance Committee today (January 24) and Treasurers' Legislative Committee Chair Rose Bowman was on hand to oppose the bills and gave committee members impact papers on both bills, as well as the figures on revenue losses that would be caused by **HB 1023**.

The House Transportation Committee will hear **HB 1086**, concerning moving mobile homes by mobile home park owners, on Wednesday, January 29 at 3:30. This bill would allow a landlord to move a mobile home or park model trailer without a decal if the mobile home or park model trailer has been abandoned or a final judgment for restitution of the premises has been executed in favor of the landlord.

The Courthouse Journal

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

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New WSAC Web Page and Fiscal Bills to Watch

Thanks to board support for technology improvements, WSAC has remodeled its web page. As the session begins we will post bill lists in key areas. The first lists will focus on tax related proposals and bills of general fiscal and administrative concern. Soon our Mandate Watch list will also make its debut on the WSAC home page. Come visit us at: www.wacounties.org/wsac/index.htm or if you use the MRSC home page go to links and click on WSAC.

Budget Hearings Display Legislative Dilemma

To no one's surprise, budget hearings have revealed that Legislators think we need to cut the budget, but they sure wish they could cut something no one cares about. Legislators are all over the map on taxes. Members from both parties have signed on to various tax increase bills. Members from both parties have signed on to tax cut bills. It is a sign of the times that business lobbyists who normally haunt the tax committees are showing up in budget hearings to decry budget cuts that hurt their clients.

The health care industry, in particular is making the case that many providers (hospitals, doctors, clinics, nursing homes, etc) will close or stop serving low income clients if they are not given some financial assistance. Many of them are working on tax proposals to restore their funding. Higher Education, with its strong connections to private and public opinion leaders, is arguing that it will start denying admission to many qualified students. The public schools started their offensive with the

Courts, Law and Justice

SB 5411, Nonpartisan sheriffs, was introduced today and referred to the Senate Committee on Government Operations and Elections Committee. Senators Rasmussen, Hale, Brandland, Haugen, Reardon, Kline, Prentice, Regala and McCaslin have sponsored the bill. County sheriffs have proposed that their position be nonpartisan in the past.

HB 1400, Controlling dangerous dogs, has been sponsored by Representative Bill Grant and has some interesting provisions for sheriffs. A sheriff or his deputy will be required to "kill any dog without an identification tag that is running between August 1 of one year and March 1 of the following year." Sheriffs are also directed to kill marauding dogs but may spare stray dogs if they determine they are not dangerous. The sheriffs will most likely want to respond to **HB 1400**. It has not been referred to a committee yet.

SB 5251, Modifying foreign judgments, will be heard next Wednesday, January 29, at 8:00 a.m. in the Senate Judiciary Committee. **SB 5251** is a county clerk bill and a WACO priority that will require a judgment summary on each judgment filed from a jurisdiction outside Washington State and must include information on the entry and expiration dates of the judgment. Senator Dale Brandland (former Whatcom County Sheriff) is the prime sponsor.

Three bills of interest to county clerks will be heard next week:

HB 1236, Providing public access to dependency hearings, is up in House Children and Family Services Committee on

Wednesday, January 29, at 8:00 a.m. **HB 1236** also states, "except if the judge finds that excluding the public is in the best interest of the child." Do you favor opening up dependency hearings to the public?

SB 5084, revising the method of jury selection, is in Senate Judiciary Committee on Thursday, January 30, at 8:00 a.m.. **SB 5084** repeals the expanded jury source list and only registered voters will be called to serve. Do you favor this?

SB 5064, Providing a sole caregiver jury duty exemption, is on the January 30 agenda in Senate Judiciary as well. Yea or nay?

Law Enforcement

SB 5001, Restoring the felony murder statute, moved out of the Senate Judiciary Committee on Thursday. **SB 5001** reaffirms a 1975 law allowing felony murder charges to be filed against someone accused of an assault that results in murder. **SB 5001** was drafted in response to last year's Supreme Court that assault can't be used as the basis for felony murder charges. Felony murder applies to killings that occur in the commission of another crime, such as robbery.

01/16/03 Letter from Ted W. Anderson, Commissioner District 3, Skagit County

As the representative for Washington Counties on the Dependency and Termination Equal Justice Committee, I would like to provide you with an update on our activities. At our last meeting on December 12, 2003, we had an opportunity to review the overall survey we had commissioned

regarding service. I serve on the Access to Service Sub-committee, and want to make sure that I am representing all counties in a proper manner.

Specifically, I would like to speak to the draft recommendations to ensure on time services for parents whose children have been abused or neglected or are in foster care. The original recommendation from the committee and the consultant was for the state to develop a coordinated statewide master plan to ensure on time services. Being a county commissioner, this caused me particular heartburn.

I was able to help change the recommendation of the sub-committee to state that counties should be given the opportunity to develop their own plan. In doing so, we would be utilizing services that, for the most part, already exist. Counties with limited services would be able to partner with each other. (In this respect I am thinking about some eastern Washington counties.) It is my belief that counties could accomplish the same thing but not be placed under a state mandate. I also indicated that counties would be expecting some support from the state for our efforts.

It appears that this is a position that works very well for most counties, since we have some great health department programs, community action programs, criminal justice programs and, in most counties, emergency affordable housing programs.

This is an important issue for counties, and I would appreciate any feedback or other observations you may have prior to our next meeting. I want to make sure that we are on the same page.

Transportation and Public Works

The Transportation sub-committee adopted the following policy statement at their December 5, 2002, meeting. The Legislative Steering committee also adopted this policy the same day.

CONSOLIDATED LOCAL TRANSPORTATION GRANT BOARD.

WSAC is opposed to the consolidation of the County Road Administration Board (CRAB), Transportation Improvement Board (TIB), and the Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board (FMSIB) into a single grant funding agency. The proposal focuses on the granting function and ig-

nors technical services and accountability functions that CRAB provides to the counties.

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION DISTRICTS.

WSAC will seek legislation to expand this authority to the rest of the counties in the state. WSAC will also seek the following amendments to the existing authority:

1. Clarify the bonding and tolling authorities;
2. Permit a local RTID only gas tax;
3. Reduce the local match requirement; and expand the eligibility of what the funds can be used for.

REVENUE TO SUPPORT KEY PROGRAMS.

WSAC supports sufficient revenue to:

1. Adequately fund, maintenance, preservation and improvements to county roads.
2. Enough revenue to the ferry system and public transit in order to provide access to all citizens.
3. Both the Rural Mobility and Commute Trip Reduction programs should be funded.
4. Adequate revenue to fund large projects/corridors that will relieve congestion and foster economic growth for the state.

(Continued on page 4)

Transportation and Public Works

(Continued from page 3)

Funding mechanisms to compensate for the future loss of road funds.

GAS TAX DISTRIBUTION.

WSAC is opposed to any redistribution of the existing gas tax revenues.

FUND FLEXIBILITY.

WSAC supports the ability to divert funds out of the county road fund without penalty. If counties over 8,000 in population, divert road funds for general government purposes, they are ineligible to apply for Rural Arterial Program funds. Counties need flexibility to manage existing fund sources to manage competing budget priorities at the local level.

Transportation

Both committees held work sessions on the various planning efforts at the local and state level and how they role up to a state wide plan.

House Republicans Transportation Reform

The House Republicans introduced their transportation reform package "Five for Five"; the five reforms would be linked to a one cent increase in the gas tax per reform.

1. Permit streamlining-allowing DOT to self permit, subject to audit. They would also exempt projects of statewide significance from local permits.
2. Require the DOT secretary to report on contracting out and what programs which might be better performed by other parties.
3. Removing the barriers to privatize the passenger only ferries.
4. Conducting performance audits of DOT every 4 years by the LTC.
5. Common sense prevailing wage changes-apply to projects over \$250,000 and other changes.

New Bills this week

SB 5239/HB1114-Clarifying the bounda-

ries of school or playground zones

SB 5248 -Achieving transportation work-force efficiencies this is the same bill that passed last year that was tied to the passage of R-51.

SB 5279 extending the date of the Transportation Permit Efficiency and Accountability committee

SB 5344 designating SR 9 that runs from SR 522 to the border a highway of statewide significance

Hearings next week

House Transportation-Requiring gravel trucks to be covered

Senate Transportation 1/29/03 –**SB 5247**, authorizing a local option fuel tax

Hydraulics Program, Department of Fish and Wildlife Under Attack

For decades the Department of Fisheries, and now the Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW), has required that persons seeking to work in waters of the state first obtain a hydraulics permit. These apply to seawalls, to bridges, to culverts, and many other public and private activities.

The Department has come under steadily increasing criticism for its implementation of the program from the fisheries community, the development community, and private property owners. Salmon advocates for decades have criticized the Department for inadequate review, conditioning and enforcement. As new environmental regulations such as SEPA, Shoreline Management, critical areas and ESA have been implemented, there has been increasing pressure to reduce overlap of the HPA program with these other statutes.

The debate has reached a new level with DFW efforts to use the Hydraulics Code to require removal or modification of floodgates in the Skagit Valley, DFW advocacy on critical areas regulations, and efforts to streamline the state regulatory process.

Senator Mary Margaret Haugen (D-Island County) has introduced several bills to address these issues. **SB 5280** repeals the HPA law. **SB 5350** would allow the Governor to appoint the Director of DFW. She has introduced several other bills more narrowly target tidegates and agricultural practices in the shoreline area. Similar measures are expected to be dropped in the House soon.

With the focus of Senate Republicans on regulatory reform to improve Washington's business climate, and legislative efforts to reduce the size of government to balance the budget, there are real possibilities that long-time state programs -- such as the hydraulics program -- may shrink or disappear. The mood in Olympia is different in 2003.

Pace Picks Up on Water Legislation

The Water Subcommittee of the Senate Natural Resources, Energy and Water Committee will continue to hold hearings on water resources bills the week of January 27. Expect to see water bills begin to move from the Senate Committee in the coming week.

The House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee will begin to hold hearings on water legislation starting on January 29 with the Governor's water package. His five bills address watershed planning, municipal water rights, groundwater withdrawals and trust water rights.

Expect these issues, as always, to remain in play until the final days of the legislative session.

Land Use

The Senate Land Use committee held a work session on the Shoreline Management Act settlement agreement. The parties to the agreement walked the committee through the history and the substance of the agreement. The cities, ports and WSAC expressed concerns about time and money to update the shoreline master programs. The ports also expressed concerns about how the recent decision by the Central Puget Sound Growth Management Hearing board on the city of Everett's shoreline master program. This is the first shoreline master program appeal that has been heard by a hearings board. The Senate Land Use committee will be holding a work session on this decision and the implications to critical area ordinance updates and best available science.

The committee also held a work session on the costs of local governments to comply with the Growth Management Act. Bob Johnson, principal planner, for Lewis County explained the costs for them to comply with the GMA and the funding they received from the state.

The House Local Government com-

mittee held hearings on water and sewer district issues and a bill to revise rules for the vesting of short plats. This bill would change the short plat vesting to five years. This would correct an old Supreme Court decision that involved Pierce County.

New Bills this week.

SB 5308-relating to growth management hearings board review of plan and regulation compliance-Mulliken

SB 5309-relating to the appointments to growth management hearings boards-Mulliken

SB 5354-relating to the deference due to cities and counties in growth management planning matters before hearings boards, and superior and appellate courts-Haugen

SB 5352-relating to agricultural conservation programs-Haugen

SB 5353-relating to agriculture and shorelines-Haugen

SB 5351-relating to state agency land use mandates-Haugen

SB 5282-relating to the elimination of the growth management hearing boards-Hargrove

HB 1112-relating to the standard of review by growth management hearing boards-Hinkle

Hearings and work sessions next week

The Senate Land Use committee will hold a work session on Monday to learn about the recent hearings board decision for the city of Everett. Skagit County will present information about their efforts with best available science.

Both the House and Senate committees will hold a hearing on the annexation coalition bills on Thursday.

The Senate will be holding hearing on several GMA related bills on Thursday also.

First Two Weeks Filled with Work Sessions and Briefings in Human Services, Juvenile Justice and Housing

The first two weeks of session have been filled with numerous work sessions and briefing in the human services, juvenile justice and housing areas. Committees as varied as House Juvenile Justice and Senate Financial Institutions, Insurance, and Housing have held meetings with intensive staff and agency briefings on subjects that will be holding their attention later this session as bills are drafted and budgets drawn up. The fiscal committees have had the first go round on the Governor's budget as well as the deficit in the Health Services Account and in the House have held the first public hearing to hear from the many human services advocates sorely distressed by the contents of Gov. Locke's budget. Many of the stakeholder advocates spoke to their particular areas of concern while WSAC testified to the overall impact to local government of over \$400 million in impacts to the local community that counties will have to deal with in one way or another either in our jails or emergency systems or local food or shelter programs. WSAC briefly discussed the Tri-Association package as one possible solution to our concerns, the need for more tools in the tool kit such as reducing state program parameters, enacting a long list of recommended efficiencies, providing liability reforms, and additional revenue options.

In the policy committees, there have been presentations on areas as varied as housing, age of consent for involuntary treatment of youth with chemical dependency or mental illness, Workfirst, the overall DSHS budget, the recent DSHS Facing the Future forum and Secretary Braddock's Medicaid Integration Project, siting of secure community transition facilities, and developmental disabilities. Two work sessions in particular involved county representatives. The House Children and Family Services Committee held a session on systems of care. Clark County and King County made presentations that were very well-received by the Committee and interest in seeing these pilots go statewide. The House Criminal Justice and Corrections Committee held a work session on Housing for High Risk Offenders: A Partnership for Community Safety which included

RSN representatives (Fran Lewis and Dave Stewart from Pierce County), and local law enforcement (King County Sheriff) as well as the state Department of Corrections and many other key stakeholders. This group is successfully building a community partnership to house level three sex offenders and dangerous mentally ill offenders keeping their whereabouts known and getting them engaged in safe activities.

By the end of the second week a few bills were beginning to be heard, but the unique circumstances of this session indicate that the committees are taking the time to examine a number of issues in depth which is welcome to many of us formerly content with 2 – 3 minutes of hurried testimony on complex subjects.

Secure Community Transition Facilities: They're Back!

At this writing, 10 bills have been introduced regarding the siting of secure community transition facilities (SCTFs). This flurry of energy has been engendered by the activities taken by DSHS to site the next SCTF in King County. King County was pre-empted by the state when they failed to update their comprehensive plans and development regs to deal with essential public facilities including SCTFs by October 1, 2002. They have the largest number of offenders in the Special Commitment Center and so have been selected by DSHS as the next county to site a facility to house up to 12 offenders. A number of public hearings have been held as required in locations near the selected sites and several remain to be held. Rumor has it that over 1000 attended the meeting January 22 held in Burien which is near the south Seattle site.

Both remaining sites are in residential areas and in response a number of bills have been introduced that would prohibit siting in anything but industrial areas. The third site which was removed from the list because of a school bus stop also was near two youth camps and several bills have been introduced that prohibit a SCTF from being located near campgrounds or youth camps. There have also been bills that would repeal the pre-emption of local government retroactively, prohibit siting anywhere where a child is home-schooled, require referrals of those who were criminally insane and regained competency to local prosecutors for hearings on whether they should be re-committed as sexually

violent predators, and enhancements to the required transportation plans whenever a resident leaves an SCTF. WSAC has not taken a formal position on any of these bills and will present them to the Legislative Steering Committee on January 31.

If anyone is interested in a specific bill or the bill numbers, please contact Jean Wessman, WSAC staff.

Age of Consent Bill Heard in House Juvenile Justice

House Juvenile Justice and Family Law heard a proposed substitute bill, **HB 1070**, regarding raising the age of consent for youth treatment from 13 to 16 on January 23. The testimony was pretty evenly split between proponents and opponents of the bill. Dr. Charles Huffine, King County RSN, eloquently delivered King County's opposition to the bill which is essentially the same for all the RSNs. The bill has been slightly improved in the proposed substitute. All reference to chemical dependency both outpatient and inpatient has been eliminated. Mental health outpatient treatment has also been eliminated from the bill. There are two remaining sections dealing with raising the age of consent – mental health inpatient going from 13 to 16 and the parent-initiated treatment option which would be limited to those ages 16 and older. There is also a limited immunity section for providers included and an odd little section that excludes all social workers even those qualified as psychiatric social workers from being authorized to determine whether the youth has a mental disorder.

Chair Mary Lou Dickerson indicated they were going to pass a bill out of committee but were still fine-tuning the proposal. County Mental Health Coordinators and RSN Administrators should contact their legislators regarding their concerns about raising the age of consent as it has a very good chance of passage if it gets out of the House.

Please Mark Your Calendars –

A conference, "Promising Practices for Reducing Disproportionate Minority Confinement of Juveniles" will be held on Thursday, April 3, 2003 at the DoubleTree Hotel, SeaTac. For more details please see attachment # 2.

Rural Development Council Seeks New County Representative

A partnership of various groups and interests from across the state that coordinates and leverages resources to address the unique development problems in small communities and rural areas seeks a new county representative. The Washington Rural Development Council (RDC) will choose a new county member from names provided by WSAC to replace former Pend Oreille County Commissioner Joel Jacobsen.

The RDC is a private non-profit and the board includes state agencies, federal agencies, local government, county gov-

ernment, non profits and private (education, environment, business, economic development, natural resources, labor, tribal, agriculture and health). The board meets 4 times a year (two of those are by conference call) the two meetings they meet in person are held; one in Olympia area in January and one in a smaller community in Washington in July.

The mission statement is: "To improve the delivery and accessibility of public and private resources to help rural communities meet their needs"

The goals established to accomplish that mission are to:

- Inform legislators, the governor's office, state agencies, and federal agencies about the rural perspective on community and

economic development issues;

- Identify, and in some cases develop, recommended improvements to existing resource delivery systems; and
- Serve as a liaison or intermediary between rural communities and public and private resource providers

To learn more about the Council and its activities, connect with its website:

http://www.yo-partner.com/Yo-PartnerWebUIProjects_WebUI/PublicArea/En-Us/RuralDevelopment/home.aspx

Those WSAC members interested in serving as the county representative to the RDC should contact Paul Parker at WSAC by February 6, 2003.

Elections, Recording and Licensing

SB 5153 requires county commissioners be elected by district.

Last year Clark County had a charter election that the voters rejected. However, the ballot asked the voters first if they approved of the charter and they were asked if they approved of various sections of the charter. One section was the election of county commissioners by district rather than countywide. This was the only section of the charter approved by the voters. Senator Benton, a Clark County Legislator, has now introduced a bill to implement this one piece of the charter into state law.

WSAC has historically opposed this legislation on the grounds that if the voters want to change their form of government they can use the freeholder process. Further, in the last debate before the Legislative Steering Committee the members felt that they wanted to represent all citizens of the county rather than just a district. This bill will be presented to the Legislative Steering Committee next week.

SB 5185, to require public discussion on every agenda item and limit all meetings be held inside county boundaries

This bill was introduced by Senator Benton, Clark County. This issue has been before the Legislature in past sessions and has generally died in committee. It would require that the agenda of any public agency be posted 72 hours before a regular meeting and 24 hours before a special meeting. Each item must be specified in twenty words or less. Fifteen minutes must be allotted for public comment for

each agenda item and each speaker is allotted three minutes to speak. The agenda shall indicate if final action is to be taken on an agenda item. All meetings must be held within the boundaries of the territory of the public agency.

This bill proposes to micro-manage how a local government sets their agenda and how they must conduct a meeting. Current law provides for full public disclosure and a process for public involvement in the decisions of public agencies. Further, public agencies may now hold meetings outside their boundaries and several governments have retreats outside their jurisdictions. Passage of this bill could raise questions of a majority of a legislative body attending meetings of associations, the legislature or other groups that may want to speak to a legislative authority outside their territory.

The Legislative Steering Committee will discuss this bill at their next meeting, January 31, in Olympia.

Auditors Legislative Mini-Conference

The County Auditors' legislative mini-conference will be held in Olympia, on Wednesday and Thursday, January 29 and 30, at the Washington Counties Building, in Olympia. They will start at 8:30 on Monday by reviewing the Auditors' legislative package and other bills that have been introduced by the legislature which have an impact on auditors. Secretary of State Sam Reed will be on hand to review all of his proposed legislation, and follow-

ing lunch auditors will be going up on the hill to meet with legislators. There will be a no-host reception at The Prime Connection, at 5:30 p.m. On Thursday morning at 7:00 a.m., legislators have been invited to breakfast with the auditors at The Mason Jar. Following that, we will reconvene back at the Washington Counties Building to talk about the legislative contacts and adjourn at 11:30 a.m.

HB 1155, Authorizing a pilot project for military and overseas voters to vote via the Internet, was heard by the House State Government Committee on Tuesday. The bill is a Secretary of State request and Sam Reed and Dean Logan testified in favor of the bill. Secretary Reed stated that the Department of Defense would run the program and be solely responsible for security, secrecy and validation of votes. **HB 1155** is on the schedule for executive session on Friday, January 31.

Senator Dave Schmidt has introduced the following bills: **SB 5397, Determining the order of candidates on ballots** (language similar to Rep. Hatfield's **HB 1093**); **SB 5398**, simplifying procedures for selection of precinct committee officers; and **SB 5399, revising absentee and mail ballot procedures**.

Senator Roach has introduced a bill relating to absentee ballots, **SB 5443**. The bill changes all references to information on absentee "return" envelopes to the "security" envelope.

On Tuesday, January 28, at 1:30 p.m., the

(Continued on page 8)

Elections, Recording and Licensing

(Continued from page 7)

House State Government will hear the following Secretary of State bills: **HB 1152**, revising funding of the archives division; **HB 1156**, requiring timely mailing of ballots; **HB 1157**, regulating actions on the validity of ballot measures; **HB 1158**, enhancing voting systems certification; **HB 1159**, reorganizing election laws; **HB 1160**, harmonizing election crimes and penalties; **HB 1161**, administering funds received under the Help America Vote Act; and **HJM 4006**, proposing a regional presidential primary.

Also on Tuesday, January 28, at 1:30 p.m., the Senate Governmental Operations and Elections Committee will hold a hearing on **SB 5063**, providing for elections for flood control zone district supervisors.

Licensing

The hearing on **HB 1036**, modifying sub-agent authority to process mail-in vehicle registration renewals that was scheduled for Wednesday, January 22 was cancelled and has been rescheduled for Monday, January 27 at 3:30 p.m. in House Transportation Committee in House Hearing Room B in the John L. O'Brien Building. Companion bill, **SB 5246** is scheduled for a hearing in Senate Highways & Transportation Committee on Wednesday, January

29 at 3:30 p.m. in Senate Hearing Room 1 in the J.A. Cherberg Building.

Recording

HB 1081 which creates a surcharge of two dollars to be charged by the county auditor at the time of recording of each residential first mortgage deed of trust, was heard Wednesday in House Financial Institutions & Insurance Committee.

WSACA President, Vern Spatz testified before the committee voicing concerns about the additional burden that would be created because the bill would require staff to make a determination as to whether a Deed of Trust is a *first residential mortgage*. *The committee seemed to be amenable to changing the language by dropping the reference to "first."* Vern also voiced concern for the way the recording fee has become a "Christmas tree" of surcharges to generate revenue for special interests rather than a true "user fee" for the recording of a document. Vern explained in detail the actual cost of recording a document, and stated that of the \$19 it costs to record the first page of a standard document only \$5 is retained by the county.

Also testifying before the committee was Mason County Chief Deputy Auditor Karen Herr. Karen did an excellent job of testifying and brought concerns to the

committee about the amount of time it would take the staff to determine whether the Deed of Trust was a first residential mortgage and apply the charge accordingly. Also of concern was trying to determine whether the Deed of Trust was residential or commercial. Currently, there is no indication whether a Deed of Trust is residential or commercial.

Karen also discussed the difficulty in notifying the numerous out-of-state financial institutions of the correct fee when recording their Deed of Trust by mail.

Overall, the testimony offered by Vern and Karen was well received by the committee. Representative Brad Benson came to the back of the room to thank Vern for bringing the auditors' concerns to the committee's attention and asked for continued cooperation from the county auditors.

Also at the hearing were Mason County Auditor Al Brotche and Thurston County Chief Deputy Auditor BG Sandahl.

Although the State of Washington Department of Financial Institutions is supportive of this bill, the Washington Association of Mortgage Brokers seems to be the driving force behind the bill.

Companion bill, **SB 5118** has not been scheduled for a hearing.

General Government and Miscellaneous

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Governor Seeks an EDGE for Economic Development

Legislation to expand upon the existing tax increment finance authority of counties, cities, and ports is scheduled for public hearing in the House Trade and Economic Development Committee on January 28 at 1:30 p.m. This Governor-request legislation, known as "Economic Development for a Growing Economy" (EDGE) has been introduced as **HB 1281** by Representative Eric Pettigrew (D-King County).

HB 1281 adds a sales tax credit opportunity to the existing property tax-based tax increment finance mechanism as an additional revenue stream to bond infrastructure improvements for economic development. The proposal is supported by a broad coalition of cities, businesses, ports, and economic development agencies.

Death Investigations

HB 1223, County coroner jurisdiction, was introduced this week by Representative Mary Lou Dickerson and will be heard next Wednesday morning, January 29, at 8:00 a.m. in the House Children and Family Services. **HB 1223** says two things: the county coroner has jurisdiction "where the deceased is a minor" and that the Department of Social and Health Services may examine and obtain copies of reports and records of autopsies or post mortems "in cases involving the death of any minor," thus exempting DSHS from the confidentiality provision for such reports. The coroners and medical examiners who have commented to date have asserted that they already have that jurisdiction and question why DSHS should have an interest unless it is a case of abuse or neglect. A concern was also expressed about the tremendous workload this would create in the largest counties.

Kitsap County Coroner Greg Sandstrom met with Representative Dickerson in November on this issue and was instrumental in surveying the coroners, medical examiners and prosecutor coroners to determine their view of this issue. Copies of the survey results are available by calling WACO or dwilke@wacounties.org. Your comments on **HB 1223** are welcome as well.

Web Fun

Ever wonder how the map of Washington evolved to have 39 counties located where they are? For a quick history of our state's political geography, check out this website: <http://www.ac.wvu.edu/~stephan/Animation/wa.div.html>

How much water do Yakima Basin Reservoirs hold and how much is there currently in this drier than normal winter? Take a look at the Yakima Basin Teacup: <http://mac1.pn.usbr.gov/yakima/yaktea.html>

Mason County Hits on Cost-Saving Innovation for Right-of-Way Acquisition

Negotiating for right of way can be very much like herding cats, especially when you're dealing with hundreds of small parcels. In preparation for constructing a 3.5-mile widening project along Grapeview Loop Road, Mason County faced the challenge of negotiating purchase of 131 small right-of-way parcels. The cost for negotiating so many small parcels was of great concern to the County. In most cases, the cost of negotiating and

purchasing the properties would be greater than the cost of the land itself. The time required to complete so many purchases was also of concern. Lacking the personnel to complete the work in a timely manner, the County advertised for a consultant and selected Skillings-Connolly, Inc. of Lacey because of their familiarity with the project and their creative proposal regarding how to acquire the right-of-way. At the consultant's suggestion, the County elected to make a blanket offer of \$2,500 for each parcel to all property owners who were willing to transfer title without negotiations, appraisal or any effort on the County's part beyond the preparation of the appropriate transfer documents. The County selected this figure based on their experience that fees just for the consultant to negotiate each individual parcel would average about \$2,500, regardless of how small the parcels were. A letter explaining the offer was mailed out to property owners, followed quickly by a public meeting. The property owners were given three weeks to take advantage of the offer. After that time the offer would expire. Any remaining properties would be acquired by negotiation, but only fair market value would be paid. By the time the offer ex-

pired, 94 parcels had been acquired – far more than the County has ever acquired in a three-week period before. The benefits of this approach were three-fold:

1. All of the 94 property owners who accepted the offer expressed satisfaction with the deal they got.
2. Although in most cases the County paid property owners more for the land than it would have appraised for, the total cost to taxpayers was still less than it would have been otherwise because the process greatly reduced consultant fees and administrative costs.
3. With 94 parcels acquired in the first month, and only 37 remaining to be negotiated in the more traditional fashion, it is expected that the acquisition process will be complete well ahead of schedule. "This method of right-of-way acquisition would not work as well everywhere," according to Mason County Public Works Director Jerry Hauth. "But, when the value of the land is less than (or not much higher than) the cost of the effort to buy it, this technique warrants consideration."

Upcoming Events and Training

Register Now for Cascade Center Courses

(From the Cascade Center at the Daniel J. Evans School of Public Affairs – University of Washington)

This is a gentle reminder that the last day to register for 2003 Cascade Center courses at the early discounted rate is next Friday, January 31, 2003.

In addition to two new two-day courses, we are pleased to be offering courses in the **Tri-Cities, Wenatchee, Vancouver, Olympia and Everett** this year. We need your help to spread the word about our courses -- please forward this to any of your colleagues who might be interested in our programs.

If you have already registered for 2003, we thank you and look forward to seeing you soon!

If you haven't yet registered, please note that registrations received on or after February 1, 2003 will be subject to a higher tuition rate. In addition, many of our courses will fill before the deadline, so

if you want to attend, now is the time to act. You can **register on-line right now** by going to our web site:

<http://www.cascadecourses.org>

You may also qualify for a **scholarship** for one or more of our 2003 courses. Scholarship applications received by the January 31 deadline will receive the highest priority. You can access the scholarship application via our web site. If you are a member of any of the following associations, special scholarship funds may be available to you; check with your association contact person for more information:

- *Seattle Management Association*
- *Washington City/County Management Association*
- *Washington City Planning Directors Association*
- *Washington Finance Officers Association*
- *Washington Public Ports Association*
- *Washington State Association of County and Regional Planning Directors*

The Cascade Center for Public Service is the executive education arm of the Evans School of Public Affairs. Courses are geared toward managers in the public and non-profit sectors. Participants are usually sponsored by their agency to attend the courses. 2003 course topics include the following (course locations are noted below in parentheses):

FIVE-DAY COURSES

- Effective Management and Strategic Planning in a Political Environment** (Seattle)
- Improving Operations and Customer Service** (Seattle)
- Managing the Budget Process** (Seattle)
- Managing People to Improve Programs** (Olympia and Seattle)
- Resolving Conflict and Building Consensus** (Wenatchee and Seattle)
- Working with Elected Officials, Interest Groups, and the Media** (Seattle)

(Continued on page 10)

Upcoming Events and Training

THREE-DAY COURSES

- Ethics, Leadership and Public Service** (Tri-Cities and Seattle)
- Managing Information Technology** (Everett)
- Managing Organizational Change** (Vancouver and Seattle)

TWO-DAY COURSES

- Communicating Skillfully to Resolve Problems and Maintain Rela-**

tionships (Seattle)

- Leaving a Legacy** (Seattle)
- EXECUTIVE PROGRAMS**
- Executive Management Program**, a two-week advanced residential program (Seattle)
- Executive Refresher Program**, a special two-day program for graduates of our two-week programs (SeaTac)

See our web site for course dates, descriptions, and more information about the Cascade Center:

<http://www.cascadecourses.org>.

Please contact us at the 206-685-0523 or via e-mail at cascade@u.washington.edu (you can simply reply to this message) if you have any questions. We look forward to seeing you at one or more of our 2003 courses and wish you all the best in the year ahead!

Calendar of Events

Public Works Board Meeting Dates for 2003

<i>Date/Time</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Location</i>
January 7, 2003	8:30 a.m.	Regular Meeting	SeaTac, Washington
March 4, 2003	8:30 a.m.	Regular Meeting	SeaTac, Washington
May 6, 2003	8:30 a.m.	Regular Meeting	SeaTac, Washington
June 3, 2003	8:30 a.m.	Regular Meeting	SeaTac, Washington
August 5, 2003	8:30 a.m.	Regular Meeting	SeaTac, Washington
August 19, 2003	8:30 a.m.	Regular Meeting	SeaTac, Washington
October 7, 2003	8:30 a.m.	Regular Meeting & Biennial Project Tour	Tacoma, Washington
November 4, 2002	8:30 a.m.	Regular Meeting	SeaTac, Washington

The Public Works Board adopted the 2003 Meeting Schedule at the November 5, 2002, Regular Meeting. Changes to the schedule, if any, will be published by the Washington State Code Reviser's Office.

For more details on the above meetings see Attachment # 1. Also, changes to the schedule, if any, will also be posted one week prior to Board meetings at the Board website: www.pwb.wa.gov.

2003 MEETINGS

January 27-28
County Treasurers' Legislative Meeting,
Washington County Building, Olympia

January 29-30
County Auditors' Legislative Meeting,
Washington County Building, Olympia

February 4-6
County Assessors' Legislative Meeting,
Washington County Building, Olympia

February 13
WSAC Legislative Rally, Luncheon and
Reception, Olympia

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

February 28 – March 4
NACO Legislative Conference, Wash-
ington, DC

March 13
Washington Counties Insurance Fund
(WCIF)/Washington Counties Insurance
Pool (WCIP) - Insurance Advisory Com-
mittee HIPAA Seminar WCIF Board of
Trustees – SeaTac

March 19-21
Association of County Human Services
meeting, SeaTac

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

April 6-12
National Counties Government Week

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

(Continued on page 11)

Calendar of Events

(Continued from page 10)

April 16 (tentative)
WCIP Board of Directors - SeaTac

April 23-25
WAPA Spring Training Program,
Tumwater

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

May 5-8
County Auditors' Elections Conference
Yakima

May 5-9
Washington Association of Prosecuting
Attorneys- Support Enforcement, 2003
Annual Training, DoubleTree Hotel Spo-
kane City Center, Spokane

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

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

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

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

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
WCIF Board of Trustees - WSAC Sum-
mer Conference/Spokane

June 24-27
WSAC Summer Convention, Spokane
Valley Doubletree

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

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

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

September 3-5
WAPA Special Assault Training Program,
Leavenworth

September 7-9
WAPA Juvenile Training Program
Leavenworth

September 17-19
Association of County Human Services
meeting, Moses Lake

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

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

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

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

November 19-21
Association of County Human Services
meeting, Seattle

2004 MEETINGS

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

April 21-23
WAPA Spring Training Program, Spokane

May 12-14
WAPA Support Staff Training Program,
Chelan

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

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

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

June 23-25
WAPA Summer Conference, Chelan

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

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

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

May 11-13
WAPA Support Staff Training Program,
Spokane

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

June 13-16
WSAC Summer Convention, Kennewick

(Continued on page 12)

Calendar of Events

(Continued from page 11)

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 Shore

2006 MEETINGS
July 21-26
NACo Annual Conference, Denver, CO

2007 MEETINGS

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

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) |

ASOTIN COUNTY: Environmental Health Director. Salary: \$39,889. Full-time, Monday-Friday. Position Description: Plans and conducts the entire environmental health program for the Health District. Typically duties include but not limited to approving and issuing operating permits, licenses, and renewals for on-site sewage disposal, restaurants, and the landfill, and responding to nuisance complaints. Reports to the Administrator. Requirements: A Bachelor's degree involving major study in a field closely related to environmental health. Registered Sanitarian or eligible to take the Washington State Board of Registered Sanitarians exam within one year. Environmental Factors: Strong written, verbal and listening communication skills. Must have a valid motor vehicle driver's license. Projecting Starting Date: Two weeks after suitable applicant is found. Applications: Applications, job descriptions, and Washington State Board of Registered Sanitarian information can be obtained from the Asotin County Health District, 431 Elm St, Clarkston, WA 99403 – (509) 758-3344. Applications accepted until position is filled.

CITY OF MERCER: Parks Maintenance Manager, Department of Parks and Recreation - Salary: \$58,000-\$60,000 annually, depending on experience. General Responsibilities: Responsible for coordinating the operation of the Parks Maintenance Team within the Parks

and Recreation Department to ensure maximum involvement and contribution from team members. This position manages 6 regular full-time union employees and up to 20 seasonal workers. The Parks Maintenance Manager is responsible for managing all maintenance activities in Mercer Island's 400-acre park system. This includes planning, organizing and coordinating the maintenance of City parks, athletic fields, park buildings, the I-90 facility, and landscaped or undeveloped open space areas. May also manage capital improvement projects related to parks. This position reports to the Parks and Recreation Manager and works in a management team along with the Director, Park and Recreation Manager, Recreation Supervisor, Special Events Coordinator, and Projects Administrator. This position is responsible for developing and managing an annual budget of over \$1 million dollars. Must be able to work cooperatively with other departments, citizens, regional groups, and the City Council. Must have excellent communication and managerial skills and be willing to handle tough personnel issues in a union environment. Knowledge of recreation programming is desirable. Work on weekends, evenings and holidays including irregular hours or shifts may be required and subject to seasonal variations. Attendance at evening and weekend meetings is required. To Apply: submit a cover letter, resume, supplemental questionnaire, and City of Mercer Island Application Form, available

at City Hall or on-line at www.ci.mercer-island.wa.us. If you would like a packet mailed to you, please call the 24-hour response line at (206) 236-3469 and a packet will be mailed to you as soon as possible. Submit completed application materials to City of Mercer Island, ATTN: Human Resources, #03-02; 9611 SE 36th Street; Mercer Island, WA 98040-3732. Application deadline is Tuesday, January 28, 2003 at 5:00pm.

CITY OF MERCER: 4 -5 Seasonal Park Maintenance Workers - Parks/Landscape (Working full-time - February 3rd through October 31st, 2003). Work Shifts: Varied work shifts are required including weekends and evenings depending on the position. Salary: \$12.00 - \$15.00 per hour, depending on experience. General Responsibilities: to provide assistance in maintaining and repairing City parks, sport fields, landscapes, trails, planter beds and natural areas in order to ensure safety, cleanliness and aesthetic appeal, as well as to meet customer needs and standards. Essential Job Functions:
- Perform restroom cleaning, litter control, and park inspection activities.
- Perform mowing, edging and weeding in parks, street ends and other City properties to maintain safe and aesthetic appearance of City assets.
- Identify and refer vandalism and needed repairs discovered in parks and street ends to parks staff.

(Continued on page 13)

Employment Opportunities

(Continued from page 12)

- Maintain, trim and remove fallen or diseased trees and brush in City parks, rights of ways, trails and natural areas for safety and aesthetic purposes.
- Visually inspect trails and perform routine maintenance including brushing, grooming and laying gravel and building and repairing steps.
- Prepare and maintain soccer, softball and football fields. Duties include dragging infields, watering, raking, setting bases and painting/chalking lines.
- Perform other duties as assigned.

To Apply: Submit a cover letter, resume, supplemental questionnaire, and City of Mercer Island Application Form, available at City Hall or on-line at www.ci.mercer-island.wa.us. If you would like a packet mailed to you, please call the 24-hour response line at (206) 236-3469 and a packet will be mailed to you as soon as possible. Submit completed application materials to City of Mercer Island, ATTN: Human Resources, #03-02; 9611 SE 36th Street; Mercer Island, WA 98040-3732. Application deadline is Tuesday, January 28, 2003 at 5:00pm.

GRAYS HARBOR COUNTY: PUBLIC HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES DIVISION has an opening for an **Environmental Health Specialist II** with a monthly salary of \$3,200. **MIN. QUALIFICATIONS:** B.S. in Environmental Health or related science. Minimum of two years professional exp. in Env. Health. A Master's Degree in a related field may be substituted for two years of the required experience. Field training in a local Health Department may be counted towards the required experience. Must have valid WSDL. Background checks may be conducted prior to employment. Applications and a complete job description may be obtained from Grays Harbor County Management Services, 3rd Floor Admin. Bldg., P.O. Box 790, Montesano, WA 98563, (360) 249-4144 or you may download off our website at www.co.grays-harbor.wa.us. Closing: February 7, 2003 at 5 p.m. **GRAYS HARBOR COUNTY IS N EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.**

KITSAP COUNTY: Personnel Analyst I. Salary: \$20.54 - \$26.22/HR. An employee in this position performs professional and technical personnel work in the areas of employee recruitment and selec-

tion, compensation, labor negotiations, personnel research and analysis, program development and implementation and personnel management information systems. Work is performed under general supervision and employee regularly exercises discretion, independent judgment, and initiative within statutory requirements and established policies, guidelines, and procedures. **Minimum Qualifications:** Bachelor's degree in personnel management, industrial relations, public or business administration, human resources management, psychology, or a related field, and two years of professional/technical personnel experience; or any equivalent combination of experience and education which provides the applicant with the desired skills, knowledge and ability required to perform the work. Experience using Word or Word Perfect software is required; Excel and Access desirable. **Application Requirements:** 1) Kitsap County Application Form; 2) Supplemental Questionnaire. Submit application to Kitsap County Personnel, 614 Division St. MS-23, Port Orchard, WA 98366-4676, fax: (360) 337-7187. Deadline: February 11, 2003. Postmarks accepted. For more information: Lynn Flanig, (360) 337-7185 or www.kitsapgov.com.

KITSAP COUNTY: Utilities Management Technician II – Inspection, Salary: \$17.74 - \$22.65/HR. An employee in this classification performs technical office and fieldwork involving the inspection of County stormwater facilities and the enforcement of the stormwater management ordinance with regard to privately maintained stormwater facilities. Work is assigned with general directions and objectives by a technical supervisor who will provide assistance when difficult or unusual problems are encountered. Work is reviewed by the designated supervisor periodically for conformance to County standards and timeliness of completion through conferences and reports. **Minimum Qualifications:** Two years of progressively responsible technical engineering experience and one year of college level course work in civil engineering; or three years experience in roadway, storm drainage and/or underground utilities construction; or any equivalent combination of experience and education that provides the applicant with the desired skills, knowl-

edge and ability required to perform the work. Previous technical engineering experience in the operation or inspection of stormwater facilities is preferred. In accordance with WAC 296-62-07150 and WAC 296-62-09027, medical evaluations, which may include the ability to use a respirator and audiometric testing, will be conducted on successful applicants prior to employment. Must be able to meet all traveling requirements of the position. A criminal background check through law enforcement agencies will be conducted on all successful applicants prior to their being appointed to this position. **Application Requirements:** 1) Kitsap County Application Form; 2) Supplemental Questionnaire. Submit application to Kitsap County Personnel, 614 Division St. MS-23, Port Orchard, WA 98366-4676, FAX: (360) 337-7187. Deadline: February 10, 2003. For more information: Dan Daling, Tel: (360) 337-7185 or www.kitsapgov.com

LEWIS COUNTY: 911 Shift Supervisor – General Administration. Salary Range: \$33,408 - \$42,684. Closing: February 12, 2003 at 5:00 PM. Supervises the activities of a shift within the Communications Center, including the supervision of telecommunication officers and trainees. Duties include but are not limited to overseeing receipt and prioritization of emergency and non-emergency telephone calls from the public, processing information with the help of a computer-aided dispatch (CAD) system. Dispatching appropriate public safety agencies including police, fire and emergency medical units when needed. Monitoring public safety units in the field. Retrieves and enters computer data for law enforcement personnel within the service area. Provides mentoring and acts as resource for shift personnel. HS Diploma or GED plus four years experience as calltaker/dispatcher or any combination of experience and training which provides the required knowledge, skills, and abilities. See complete job description and application packet at www.co.lewis.wa.us or obtain from Lewis Co. General Administration Department, Historic Courthouse Basement-Room 030, 351 NW North Street, Chehalis, WA 98532 Telephone: (360)740-1408. Lewis Co. Is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

PIERCE COUNTY: Civil Engineer 1,
(Continued on page 14)

Employment Opportunities

(Continued from page 13)

Program Development Division (Job #2610), \$47,424 - \$60,257 Annually (2002 Rates). Closes: January 31, 2003. Public Works & Utilities Department. Perform entry level civil engineering in the areas of program and project development, project scoping, cost estimating, assist with Six-Year Transportation Improvement Plan and Ferry Improvement Program, assist in grant development and administration, support development of a county-wide impact fee system, and perform routine transportation and related public works projects, utilizes computer programs, engineering plans, reports, studies, and related documents. Requires a four year degree with major course work in civil engineering or closely related field or registration as an Engineering-In-Training with the State of Washington or four years of progressive responsible and broad based engineering experience. Must be able to meet the travel requirements. Union membership is required within 30 days of employment. Physical examination may be required prior to appointment. Pierce County Personnel Dept, www.co.pierce.wa.us/jobs, or (253)798-7480 or TDD (253)798-3965. EOE

PIERCE COUNTY: Public Works and Utilities Department/Public Works Project Coordinator, (Job #2612). Salary: \$54,163 - \$69,389 Annually. Closes: February 10, 2003. This is advanced professional work in the field of land acquisition, property management, and complex negotiations as related to the needs of Pierce County. Develops, monitors, and controls a special project budget and establishes financial policies and procedures; oversees construction projects relating to airport and ferry properties; assists and approves right of way information; supervises and monitors the preparation of documents and correspondence related to negotiations and appraisals. Prepares special reports and conducts special meetings and is section representative at department staff meetings. Requires: graduation from a four year college or university with major course work in Public Administration, or related discipline. Four or more years of progressively responsible work in the right of way field with at least one year of experience as a senior level person or supervisor. Additional education/experience may substitute.

A Washington State Real Estate Sales or Broker's license is desired. Possession of, or the ability to obtain, a valid Washington State Driver's License within 30 days of employment. Pierce County Personnel Dept. at www.co.pierce.wa.us/jobs or (253)798-7480 or TDD/ (253)798-3965. EOE.

SKAGIT COUNTY: Director of Planning & Permits Center -- Salary: \$5,753.74 to \$6,163.72 per month. Directs the administration of the Planning & Permit Center (Department) and is accountable for the efficient and effective performance of the Department, as well as the preparation of timely and professional service advice, analyses and reports as a basis for planning, funding and implementation of policy. Requires a B.A. or B.S. degree (Master's degree preferred) in planning, natural resources, engineering, public administration, business, or a related field, **and** six years of progressively responsible related experience **including** three years of management/supervisory experience, **or** an equivalent combination of education, training and experience that provides the required skills, knowledge and abilities. Preference given to those with AICP certification. Prior experience in growth management, planning, and/or in the administration of land use and building codes is required. Must have a driving record that meets County standards and possess a valid driver's license at time of hire and through employment. Submit a letter of interest, resume & completed application to Skagit County Personnel Dept., 700 S. 2nd St., Mt. Vernon, WA 98273. The application form may be obtained at our website www.skagitcounty.net or by calling the Job Line at 1-800-548-7957. Application deadline is 4:30 pm on Friday, January 31, 2003.

STEVENS COUNTY: Planning Director full time position with benefits. Salary Range: \$38,000 to \$48,000/year. Job description and application available from the Stevens County Commissioners' Office, 215 S. Oak, #214, Colville, WA 99114. Phone (509) 684-3751. Position will remain open until filled. Applications are also available at www.co.stevens.wa.us. Stevens County is a Drug Free Workplace and an Equal Opportunity Employer.

WALLA WALLA COUNTY: Department of Human Services County Designated Mental Health Professional (CDMHP, RCW 71.05/71.34). Salary negotiable. Walla Walla County is located in the heart of farm and wine country in the Southeastern corner of the state. Walla Walla, which is the county seat, has a population of approximately 30,000, is home to three colleges, and has been listed as one of the best 100 small towns in which to live. Essential duties include: Being an integral member of the Crisis Response Team; perform and/or coordinate crisis intervention, crisis stabilization, and emergency or intensive case management; perform assessments; provide crisis services; function as a CDMHP in regards to Washington State Involuntary Commitment laws; coordinate treatment process and other tasks as assigned. Minimum requirements: Qualifications normally associated with one who holds a Masters level degree in mental health or related field of study and min. 5 yrs experience in mental health/closely related field. Bilingual Spanish skills preferred. Application: Contact the Personnel Manager at (509) 527-3200. Visit our web site at www.co.walla-walla.wa.us This position is open until filled. AA/EOE

WHATCOM COUNTY: Environmental Health Supervisor. The Whatcom County Health Department is seeking an experienced supervisor for on-site sewage disposal & solid waste management programs. Hiring range: \$21.40-\$23.54/hr., DOQ. Requires a BS in Environmental Health or BS with specific science coursework AND 4 years recent experience as an environmental health specialist including 2 years as a project lead in environmental health areas. Whatcom County offers excellent employer-paid medical, dental & vision benefits for employee and family. Generous vacation & sick leave package, average 12 holidays/yr., and WA State Retirement system (PERS). Optional deferred compensation plans & Flex 125 available. Application deadline: January 29, 2003. 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. EOE.