

the Courthouse Journal

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Washington Association of County Officials
Washington State Association of Counties

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**WSAC
2004 LEG
RALLY**

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Senate Ways and Means Moves Tax Increment Finance

The Senate Ways and Means Committee has reported from Committee **3SSB 5364**, expanding Washington's current tax increment finance authority. It allows counties, cities and ports that levy 60 % or more of the regular property taxes within the TIF area to create tax increment districts. As in current law, it would redirect 75 % of the new construction revenue to the tax increment district, but only that revenue from construction directly resulting from the TIF infrastructure – not from related valuation increases.

Senator Zarelli (R-Clark County), the prime sponsor of **3SSB 5364**, included several amendments addressing concerns raised by WSAC and WACO but would not agree to ensure that a county has the ability to choose

whether to "opt-in" to TIF creation. WSAC and WACO consider "opt-in" is essential to any expanded TIF program because with 60% levy requirement cities, in most cases, would have the unprecedented ability to redirect future revenues from the unincorporated area to fund TIF improvements within a city.

Current law allows counties, cities and ports that in the aggregate levy 75% of the regular property taxes on property within the area, to create a Tax Increment Finance (TIF) district. Then, future property tax revenue would be redirected to repay debt used to build new infrastructure. Because of the possible revenue impacts to fire districts, the legislature has allowed them to opt-out of TIF district creation and subsequent revenue diversion.

Washington State Association of County Auditors' Legislative Mini-Conference

The county auditors held their annual Legislative Mini Conference on January 20 and 21 in Olympia. The conference kicked off on Wednesday morning with introductions from WSACA President Suzanne Sinclair and a legislative overview and discussion period led by WSACA Legislative Chairs, Pat McCarthy and Kim Wyman. The morning continued with guest speakers, Marty Brown, Director of the Office of Financial Management; Secretary of State Sam Reed; Doug Ellis, Director of Public Outreach; Public Disclosure Commission; and CTED Fiscal Note Analyst Sara Battin. Luncheon speaker Dean Logan spoke of his travel back to Washington D.C. where he was invited to meet with the appointees to the Federal Elections Assistance Commission and discuss

the Help America Vote Act. Also speaking during the lunch hour were several representatives of the Washington State Grange. After lunch the auditors headed to the Capitol to meet with their legislators and testify on **HB 2695**, enacting a modified blanket primary and **HB 2687**, creating an open primary.

On Wednesday morning the auditors hosted about 22 legislators at breakfast in Olympia. It was a great forum for auditors to talk about their priority bills with legislators and for the legislators to share their issues in return.

After breakfast, the auditors resumed their meeting to hear reports about meetings with legislators, followed by a discussion led by Licensing Committee Chair Thad Duvall.

WACO Executive Director Debbie Wilke met with the group to review the status of WACO Legislative Priorities, and the auditors were also joined by WACO President Mary Dodge. Soon joining the group was Department of Licensing Lobbyist Pat Halstead to continue the discussion of communication between the county auditors and the Department of Licensing on legislative issues. At lunch the county auditors were joined by Senator Jim Kastama and were treated to a great roundtable discussion on Washington's primary and other legislative issues. The

auditors then adjourned to head up to the hill again to testify on **SB 6226**, providing an alternative primary system, as well as the Open Primary private choice and the modified blanket primary "Top 2."

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

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Eyman Continues to be Challenged

Seattle, WA – 1000 Friends of Washington, a smart-growth advocacy group, filed a ballot title challenge today against anti-tax zealot Tim Eyman's initiative 860. Initiative 860 would cut important basic services in counties and cities such as hospitals, libraries, police protection, and parks by cutting property tax revenues by twenty-five percent.

"Initiative 860 would force local governments to close parks, lay off police officers and firefighters and cut basic services," said Aaron Ostrom, Executive Director for 1000 Friends of Washington. "King County alone anticipates losing an estimated \$777 million over ten years. Local governments are already strapped by passage of earlier initiatives limiting their ability to collect essential revenue. This is just another poorly thought out

initiative that will continue the decline in services and the quality of our communities."

The ballot title for Initiative 860 misleads the voters and fails to convey all essential information in the measure. The ballot title leads voters to believe that "voter approved" tax hikes will not be affected by Initiative 860, but this is untrue as many voter approved property tax levies will be cut by 25%.

"Once again, Tim Eyman is hiding the true impact of another irresponsible initiative," said John Zilavy, Legal Director for 1000 Friends of Washington. "1000 Friends of Washington supports the initiative process, but we feel that voters deserve to understand the full extent of damage this initiative will cause if passed."

It's Time to Rally...

Time is getting short to reserve your space at the **2004 WSAC Legislative Rally**, February 5, 2004 at the Ramada Inn – Governors' House, 621 Capitol Way S, Olympia. The luncheon is scheduled for 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. Our guest speakers are Senator Bill Finkbeiner, Senate Majority Leader and Representative Frank Chopp, Speaker of the House (Invited).

You can all gather again that same day back to the Ramada Inn at 5:30 pm for a no-host bar reception. This is a great time to talk over the days events and compare notes with your comrades. We look forward to seeing you there.

If you would like to register please call Barbara at (360) 753-1886.

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

Budget, Finance and Taxes

Assessor Incidental Use Bill SB 6216 has Senate Hearing

The Assessor's priority legislation dealing with the Open space Timber Land Statute 84.34.020 RCW had a hearing this week. The Senate Committee Natural Resources, Energy & Water Committee heard SB 6216 on Wednesday, January 21. Patricia Costello, Thurston County Assessor testified on behalf of WSACA and did an excellent job of explaining the legislation.

The open space land definition of "timber land" would be modified to include land used for incidental uses that are compatible with the growing and harvesting of timber, but no more than 10% of the land may be used for the incidental purpose. Incidental uses must be directly related to timber production and would not include residences or other types of commercial buildings.

The bill is expected to be moved out of Natural Resources next week in executive session.

Unfunded Mandates are Back!

After the Legislature's stellar, responsible performance last year, lawmakers seem to be in real danger of falling off the wagon. From pension give aways to tax cuts, legislators are considering proposals to help their friends with dwindling county dollars. With great sadness, we find we must re-activate the mandate watchlist. We hope to have it out to county officials some time next week. In the mean time, if you are talking to legislators remind them that its not nice to spend on other folks credit card.

Hearings Next Week of Interest to Assessors

In the Senate, Ways & Means will hear: **SB 6141** which clarifies the property taxation of vehicles carrying exempt licenses. This corrects a loophole left over from I-747 that would exempt disabled veteran and medal of honor licensed vehicles from property tax; **SB 6205** which authorizes voter approved property tax levies for criminal

justice purposes; **SB 6369** that would extend the residential property tax exemption to certain persons unable to live at their place of residence. The Senate Education Committee will hear **SB6211** which changes the school district levy base calculation.

In the House, Trade & Economic Development will hold a public hearing on **HB 2783** that would provide a property tax exemption for nonprofits that assist small businesses. House Agriculture & Natural Resources will hear the Assessors' priority legislation **HB 2684** which defines timber land to include certain incidental uses. And finally House Finance which will hear **HB 2762** that would provide mandatory accountability for tax preferences. This is the bill a bill that would require accountability for tax exemptions. On Friday, January 30 Finance will hold a marathon hearing on senior relief bills including:

HB 1029 - Providing property tax relief for senior citizens and persons retired because of physical disability.

HB 1044 - Providing tax relief for senior citizens and persons retired because of physical disability.

HB 1071 - Providing property tax relief for senior citizens and persons retired due to physical disability.

HB 1116 - Providing property tax relief for senior citizens and persons retired because of physical disability.

HB 1343 - Providing property tax relief for senior citizens or persons retired due to physical disability.

HB 1549 - Modifying senior citizen property tax provisions.

HB 1708 - Providing property tax exemptions for severely disabled veterans.

HB 1976 - Providing a property tax exemption to widows or widowers of Honorably discharged veterans.

HB 2135 - Modifying property tax exemptions for persons confined in adult family home and certain boarding homes.

HB 2435 - Excluding certain veteran benefits from the income calculation for the retired person property tax relief program.

HB2436 - Increasing the combined disposable income eligibility threshold for the retired persons property tax relief program.

HB 2665 - Authorizing domestic partner eligibility under the senior citizen property tax exemption program.

HB 2713 - Providing tax relief for senior citizens and persons retired because of physical disability.

Senator Sheldon Hears from Counties: Don't Limit County Use of Rural Sales and Use Tax Credit

Three county commissioners blasted **SB 6113** at its public hearing last Friday before the Senate Economic Development Committee. The bill, introduced by Committee Chair Senator Tim Sheldon (D-Mason County) requires that the .08 sales and use tax credit for rural economic development must be used only for financing public facilities for economic development that generates or retains private sector jobs. Funds would be withheld from counties that do not use the money consistent with legislative intent and redistributed to be used by the Community Economic Revitalization Board on public infrastructure projects within the county.

San Juan County Commissioner Darcie Nielsen, Cowlitz County Commissioner George Raiter and Grays Harbor County Commissioner Bob Beerbower all told the Committee that counties need to retain maximum flexibility in the use of this revenue. Industrial needs are very different from those of tourism-based economies. And, both Nielsen and Beerbower pointed out, new government jobs are good jobs, too.

Senator Sheldon is working with WSAC staff to try to develop an alternative acceptable to counties.

Comment on Washington's Water Quality Assessment

The Department of Ecology (Ecology) has prepared a preliminary assessment of water quality in Washington. Assessed waters include all the rivers, lakes, and marine waters in the state where data were available. The

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assessed waters are listed in five categories that describe the status of water quality. Category 5, the polluted waters category, is also known as the "303(d) list."

Information, including comprehensive listings and an interactive map that shows all waters in the state for which data exist, is available at <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/303d/2002/2002-index.html>.

Ecology encourages you to review waters with which you are familiar and provide comments where you see problems or disagree with the assessment results. If you disagree with the assessment results, please explain why and submit additional data, if available.

During this review, Ecology will also accept new data that were not submitted during the 2002 call for data. This information will be reviewed and incorporated into the final assessment as appropriate. See the webpage for details on how to submit data.

To learn more about the preliminary assessment of Washington's waters, attend one of the five informational workshops scheduled in February 2004:

- * Feb. 3 in Spokane, 6:30 to 9 p.m.: Spokane Falls Community College, Student Union Bldg. Conference Room, 3419 W. Fort George Wright Drive.
- * Feb. 4 in Yakima, 6:30 to 9 p.m.: Yakima Arboretum, 1401 Arboretum Drive.
- * Feb. 10 in Everett, 6:30 to 9 p.m.: Walter E. Hall Golf Course, 1226 W. Casino Drive.
- * Feb. 11 in Longview, 6:30 to 9 p.m.: Cowlitz PUD, 961 12th Ave.
- * Feb. 12 in Lacey, 1:30 to 4 p.m.: Ecology Headquarters Auditorium, 300 Desmond Drive.

The comment period ends March 15, 2004. For more information, please contact: 303d@ecy.wa.gov
Mail: Ken Koch, Department of Ecology, PO Box 47600, Olympia, WA 98504-7600 Phone: 360-407-6782.

County Treasurers' Legislative Meeting and Hearings

The County Treasurers' Association is holding its annual legislative meeting at the Washington Counties Building, on January 26 and 27. They will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Monday. Luncheon guest will be Senator Joe Zarelli, chair of the Senate Ways and Means Committee.

The afternoon is reserved for meetings with legislators. On Tuesday, the group will begin at 8:00 a.m. with breakfast. Speakers will be in attendance from the State Treasurer's office and the Department of Revenue.

During the conference, Legislative Chair Rose Bowman, Lewis County, and Judi Morris, Jefferson County, will give a final report as to whether a bill will be introduced this session increasing the Real Estate Excise Tax (REET) on non-taxable events from two to five dollars, and adding a new fee of five dollars to be collected on all REET transactions earmarked for implementing electronic REET processes statewide. The fee would be reduced to two dollars after five years for ongoing maintenance of the technology. Rose, Judi, and Doug Lasher, Clark County, met with Department of Revenue representatives who will be developing uniform specifications for county systems, and Rose has also met with other stakeholders, including the realtors the title companies and the State Treasurer for their input.

The County Treasurers' cleanup bill (also a part of the WACO Legislative package) will be heard in both the House and the Senate next week. **HB 2878** will be heard by the House Local Government Committee on Wednesday, January 28, at 8:00 a.m. (The bill was originally introduced as **HB 2579**, but another bill was introduced in its place with a new title more reflective of the intent of the bill.) That same afternoon, at 1:30 p.m., the Senate Government Operations Committee has scheduled a hearing on the Senate version of the bill, **SB 6296**. Two of the sponsors of the bill are working on the language in Section 1 concerning the property of the deceased

and Treasurers' Legislative chair Rose Bowman is continuing to work with them, as well as with the coroners and treasurers on acceptable language. They want to ensure that no property is disposed of if it has any intrinsic value at all – essentially, "one man's junk is another man's treasure."

Timber Tax Proposal

HB 2693, modifying the taxation of timber on publicly owned land, will be heard by the House Finance Committee on Tuesday, January 27, at 1:30 p.m.

Courts, Public Safety, Law & Justice

State Homeland Security Plan Now Available

Earlier this month, Governor Gary Locke introduced the Washington Statewide Homeland Security Strategic Plan. "The new Washington Statewide Homeland Security Strategic Plan is another major step in the state's continuing effort to prevent, prepare and respond to the threat of terrorism," Locke said.

The Washington Military Department prepared the plan during the past six months with the extensive involvement of citizens, businesses, non-profit organizations, tribal nations and local, state and federal government agencies. The plan is now available on the Washington Military Department Emergency Management Division website at www.emd.wa.gov. Click on the red Homeland Security button.

Bills Would Expand Eligibility for Extraordinary Criminal Justice Assistance

SB 6300 and **HB 2584**, scheduled for public hearing next week, would revise standards for reimbursement of extraordinary criminal justice costs. Under current law counties become eligible for such assistance only in aggravated murder cases. These bills would expand the definition to include costs associated with homicide cases. Other eligibility criteria and procedures would remain the same, including the requirement that costs pose a disproportionate fiscal impact relative to the county budget.

Pacific County likely would become eligible for reimbursement in the Knotek cases under the provisions of these bills. The county anticipates more than \$561,000 in costs associated with two defendants accused of torturing, killing, and illegally disposing of the remains of two persons. The FY2004 costs alone represent 6.8% of the county's total criminal justice budget.

SB 6300, sponsored by Senator Mark Doumit, is scheduled for hearing in the Senate Judiciary Committee at 8 a.m., Thursday, January 29. **HB 2584**, sponsored by Representative Brian

Hatfield, is scheduled for hearing in the House Appropriations Committee at 3:30 p.m. the same day.

WSACA Fee Bill

HB 2580, county clerks' fees, a priority bill of both the Washington State Association of County Clerks (WSACA) and WACO, will be heard in the House Local Government Committee on Wednesday, January 28, at 8:00 a.m.

HB 2580 does not include filing fees and actually reduces or eliminates some minor fees. It also clarifies that a change of venue may not occur after trial or judgment. County clerks are urged to contact their legislators on the Local Government Committee to urge their support and swift passage out of committee.

More for county clerks...

HB 2629, release of court hearing information, will be heard in the House Juvenile Justice and Family Law Committee on Tuesday, January 27, at 8:00 a.m. The bill is intended to "clear the fog" on what happens to hearing information when dependency hearings are now open and the records remain confidential.

SB 6384, domestic violence fees, will be heard in Senate Judiciary on Tuesday, at 8:00 a.m. **SB 6384** imposes a fine of \$100 for anyone convicted of a domestic violence related offense. The money is not subject to split with the state and is to be used solely to fund local domestic violence advocacy and prevention programs.

Jury bills

HB 6261, simply changes the word "compensation" to "expense payments", and does not change the minimum of \$10.00 and the maximum payment of \$25.00 to jurors for each day's attendance. It will be heard in Senate Judiciary on Tuesday, January 28, at 8:00 a.m. At the same time, the committee will also hear **SB 6399**, modifying provisions concerning guardianship fees and compensation in superior courts.

Courts

SB 6316, in Senate Judiciary on Friday, January 30 at 8:00 a.m., would allow superior courts with more than one facility and a separate case assignment area for each court facility, to divide the jury source list into case assignment areas that consist of potential jurors who reside in that area. The bill is intended to relieve jurors of driving excessively long distances to attend court proceedings.

HB 2840, qualification of expert witnesses, is up in House Judiciary on Tuesday at 1:30 p.m.

House Judiciary will hold "DUI Night" at 8:00 p.m. on Thursday.

HB 2627, changing the method of estimating the need for additional judicial positions by using an "objective workload analysis," will be heard on Friday at 1:30 p.m. in House Judiciary Committee, House Hearing Room B.

Of interest to sheriffs:

Please take a look at the following bills. They will be heard next week:

SB 6370, early release time in jails (allows 50% goodtime), Senate Judiciary, Friday at 8:00 a.m. In the same hearing, **SB 6257**, protecting personal and identifying information, will be heard.

HB 2428, dealing with disabled members of LEOFF II, **HB 2429**, LEOFF II members killed during employment, and **HB 2537**, establishing a public safety retirement plan 2, will all be heard in House Appropriations on Tuesday, January 28, at 3:30 p.m.

HB 2601, unlawful discharge of reserve officers, will be heard in House Commerce and Labor on Wednesday, January 28, at 8:00 a.m.

House Criminal Justice and Corrections Schedule Packed

The upcoming week in the House Criminal Justice and Corrections Committee is loaded with bills of interest to law enforcement and prosecutors:

Tuesday, January 27, at 10:00 a.m.
HB 2427, correctional industries

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provisions.

HB 2492, recalculating sentences for felony drug offenders.

HB 2524, select committee on supervision of offenders in the community.

HB 2578, vulnerable victims with no fixed address and exceptional sentences.

HB 2790, changing provisions relating to drug offenses.

HB 2718, preventing crimes of fraud against the elderly.

HB 2844, increasing regulation of ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, and phenylpropanolamine sales.

Wednesday, January 28, at 1:30 p.m.

HB 2645, state indecent exposure determination.

HB 2651, increasing penalties against private communications in executive sessions.

HB 2652, felony hit and run convictions ineligible for 50% early release

HB 2661, creating a website for information on fugitives.

HB 2716, increasing penalties for eluding a police vehicle.

HB 2771, prohibiting cyberstalking.

Friday, January 30, at 8:00 a.m.

HB 2503, limiting the imposition of booking fees.

HB 2556, studying criminal background check processes.

HB 2557, collecting offender palm prints.

HB 2559, authorizing the certification of corrections officers.

HB 2583, authorizing issuance of infractions and citations by electronic devices.

HB 2723, prohibiting unauthorized recording of motion pictures.

HB 2754, preventing sexual abuse of children by custodians.

WACO Board Votes Support of Criminal Justice Bills

On Thursday, the Board of Trustees of the Washington Association of County Officials (WACO) voted unanimous support of several bills to fund criminal justice activities in counties including:

SB 6205 and **HB 2529**, allowing voter approved property tax levies; and, **SB 6300** and **HB 2584**, revising the requirements for reimbursement of criminal justice costs. Senator Mark Doumit and Representative Brian Hatfield are prime sponsors. The bills are set for hearing in the coming week. Please refer to other articles in this section for details. **SB 6205 will be heard in Senate Ways and Means on Tuesday at 3:30 p.m.**

The week in review

Today, Friday, January 23, at 1:30 p.m., the House Judiciary is hearing several bills regarding plea agreements in capital murder cases. They are **HB 2311**, victims' rights; **HB 2312**, victims' rights; **HB 2315**, prohibiting plea agreements in multiple murder cases; and **HB 2389**, concerning aggravated multiple murder cases.

SB 6136, search warrants for electronic tracking devices, a priority of both the Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys (WAPA) and WACO, moved out of Senate Judiciary to the Senate Rules Committee this week. From Rules, it will move to a vote of the full Senate on the floor and on to the House.

The House Criminal Justice and Corrections Committee heard **HB 2322**, prehire screening of law enforcement applicants, this week. Cost to local governments was a primary concern and options are being discussed. It was also clarified that the bill would apply to commissioned officers and not volunteers. Chelan County Clerk Siri Woods testified on WACO support of **HB 2379**, training for peace officers to reduce deaths. The bill is in response to the tragic death of Chelan County Deputy Saul Gallegos in the line of duty.

Elections, Licensing and Recording

Increasing Marriage Licenses for Domestic Violence Funding

HB 2481, increasing marriage license fees by \$10 to fund community-based domestic violence programs was heard in House Juvenile Justice & Family Law committee on Wednesday, January 21 at 6 p.m.

Licensing & Recording Hearings Next Week for County Auditors

HB 2694, revising distribution of funds for operating and maintenance of very low-income housing projects will be heard in House Local Government Committee on Wednesday, January 28 at 8:00 a.m. in House Hearing Room E.

HB 2941, requiring vehicle registration at the residence address will be heard in House Transportation Committee on Tuesday, January 27 at 3:30 p.m. in House Hearing Room B.

WACO Priority Bill

SSB 5478 increasing the surcharge for the preservation of historical documents is a WACO priority bill and is currently in the Senate Rules Committee. The bill was passed out of the Senate Government Operations Committee with an increase from \$2 to \$3. In the original bill the increase was from \$2 to \$5. Please contact your Senators and ask them to vote "yes" on **SSB 5478**, but stress the importance of passing the bill at \$5, this will require a floor amendment.

The reason for this bill is the current surcharge of \$2 on all recorded documents does not generate sufficient revenue to meet the needs of all county offices and their records.

This money is needed to preserve and restore books with historical records such as deeds, marriage licenses, court files, assessor's field books and other important documents. This money is also needed for optical imaging technology that stores the records so the documents are better protected and accessible to the public. The need to continuously image documents and

thereby preserve and provide access will never go away, and in a time when county current expense budgets are feeling more and more strain every year this money becomes even more important. That is why we are asking for an increase in the fee from \$2 per recorded document to \$5 per recorded document.

If you need any help, or would like information on how to contact your Senators please call Brenda Bamford at 360-586-4219 Ext. 124 or email at bbamford@wacounties.org

Blanket Primary Replacement

County Auditors had a very busy week with not only their legislative conference and visits with legislators, but with hearings in both the House and the Senate concerning the creation of a new primary system. The State Government Committee heard **HB 2687**, creating an "open primary private choice", as well as **HB 2695**, the Secretary of State's proposal for a "modified blanket primary." **SB 6453**, the Senate companion bill to **HB 2695**, was heard by the Senate Government Operations and Elections Committee, on Wednesday, as was **SB 6452**, another "open primary private choice" proposal. Auditors' Association President Suzanne Sinclair, Island County; Legislative Co-Chair Pat McCarthy, Pierce County; and David Bowen, Kittitas County testified.

Secretary Reed's bills are similar to what is called the "Louisiana" or "Cajun" primary, the system closest to the blanket primary of this state. Voters would be able to vote for any candidate they choose and the top two vote-getters, regardless of party, would advance to the general election. The "open primary private choice" bills are similar to the "Montana-style primary" where voters do not register by party, but must affiliate with a party at least for the day. For partisan offices appearing on the ballot, voters may only vote for candidates of that party, and may not cross over to candidates of any other party.

During the auditors' meeting, the

group discussed the issues thoroughly and decided that they would not take a position on any particular form of the new primary system, but would focus on providing as much information to legislators as possible to assist them in making a decision. They made that known to Senators and Representatives this week during hearings and made a commitment to provide both information about administration of elections and estimated costs of the two major primary proposals and what the impact may be to county budgets.

As you can imagine, many interested organizations and individuals have been testifying at these hearings, in addition to the Secretary of State and the County Auditors. Weighing in with their opinions are representatives from the State Grange, the Governor's office, the Attorney General's office, the Democratic and Republican parties, the Libertarian Party, the Green Party, the Instant Runoff Vote Coalition, the League of Women Voters and even private citizens.

Of interest is that Sam Reed has been notified by the Clerk of the U.S. Supreme Court that it is highly probable that the Court will decide *if* it will even hear the blanket primary case (Democratic Party et al vs. Sam Reed), by February 23. In addition, Reed announced that the Omnibus Appropriations Act passed the U. S. Senate which contains \$1.5 billion in HAVA funding. That means, combined with the \$830 million previously appropriated but not yet distributed to the states, that we now have \$2.3 billion in funding for the states.

Other Election Bills

Today (Friday), the House State Government Committee will take up **HB 2420**, revising provisions for counting votes on ballots for write-in candidates; **HB 2433**, changing provisions relating to a candidate appearing on a ballot for two offices; and three Secretary of State request bills: **HB 2742**, incorporating the 2003 changes into Title 29A RCW; **HB 2743**, consolidating and clarifying election-related crimes; and **HB 2744**,

Elections, Licensing and Recording (continued)

implementing the Help America Vote Act. Dean Logan, Director of King County Records, Elections and Licensing, will weigh in for the auditors.

Election Hearings Next Week

On Monday, January 26, the House Local Government Committee will be holding a public hearing on **HB 2669**, establishing a pilot project for Instant Runoff Voting (IRV) for nonpartisan offices, and **HB 2438**, revising

provisions for elections for changing a municipal plan of government, at 1:30 p.m.

On Tuesday, January 27, at 10:00 a.m., the House Technology, Telecommunications and Energy Committee, will hear **HB 2745**, enhancing the integrity of voting systems. At 1:30 p.m., the House State Government Committee will hear **HB 2725**, replacing the blanket primary with party caucuses, and **HB 2767**,

establishing a closed primary. At 1:30 p.m., the Senate Government Operations and Elections Committee will hear **SB 6417**, incorporating 2003 changes into Title 29A RCW.

Then on Friday, January 30, at 1:30 p.m., the Senate Government Operations and Elections Committee will take public testimony on **SB 6419**, the Help America Vote Act, and **SB 6418**, election-related crimes.

Boards and Commissions

Appointment Available to Jail Industries Board

A county commissioner or councilmember interested in representing WSAC on the Jail Industries Board should contact WSAC staff Sophia Byrd by February 1, 2004. The three-year appointment will be made by the WSAC board of directors at its February meeting. WSAC's current representative, Commissioner Bill Lehning, is eligible and has submitted his name for reappointment.

The Jail Industries Board (JIB) shapes policies regarding inmate work programs in jails across the state. The JIB manages issues of private sector business involvement, encourages the growth of enterprises owned and operated by local jurisdictions, and seeks to broaden the dialogue about appropriate uses of inmate labor.

The JIB conducts its work during one-day meetings held quarterly at various locations around the state.

More information about the JIB is available from WSAC staff Sophia Byrd at sbyrd@wacounties.org.

Environment, Land Use and Resources

GMA Workgroup

The GMA Workgroup continues to negotiate on final bill language. We have reached consensus on best available science; flexibility for agricultural lands and very close on LAMIRD language. We aren't able to reach an agreement with 1000 Friends of Washington on a timelines bill. We agree there needs to be a basic update for counties and cities that are not growing. We can't agree on a population cutoff for the counties. They also want the ability to appeal plans or components of plan they missed the first go around. A bill will be introduced in the Senate this week in order for the negotiations continue.

GMA Workgroup Bills

HB 2514/SB 6335 provides the new definition for best available science; innovative and experimental approaches; and allows a local government to choose within a range of options.

HB 2563/6237 provides limited commercial and retail uses that support and sustain agricultural operations on designated lands.

HB 2905/SB 6238 provides development and redevelopment flexibility in LAMIRDS.

SB 6534/HB 2960 clarifies the planning and development sequencing for industrial land banks.

Other Key Land Use Bills Introduced this week

HB 2805 -- creates a blue ribbon commission on land use and local government finance. The commission's goal is to understand the revenue sources for local governments, how the sources have changed over time and the financing structures affect land use decisions.

SB 6264 -- would allow cities and counties to issue general permits for any category of activities that require a substantial development permit under the Shoreline Management Act.

HB 2829 -- creates new annexation methods that involve the boundary

review boards, interlocal agreements and elections.

HB 2591 -- designates Ecology as the principal state agency for administering the federal coastal zone management program. Requires Ecology to review all state and local policies in the state's approved CZM program.

HB 2811 -- requires the buildable land jurisdictions to post on the city or counties website their annual permit performance report.

SB 6460 -- provides a procedure for removal of the agricultural resource land designation if certain criteria are met.

SB 6477 -- provides that manufactured housing communities are defined as attached multi-family housing units for the purpose of imposing impact fees.

SB 6488 -- directs CTED to provide a report to the Senate Land Use committee regarding agricultural land designations in Chelan, King and Yakima counties.

Hearings next week

1/26/04 House Local Government 1:30 pm

HB 2593 -- this is the cities request bill to create a new annexation method based on interlocal agreements. The current version is biased towards cities. Please take a look at this bill and provide comments to the committee or WSAC staff.

HJR 4215 -- Authorizing consolidation or merging of statutory and constitutional county functions and structures.

1/29/04 House Local Government 1:30 pm

HB 2514 -- The GMA workgroups Best Available Science bill

HB 2563 -- Providing limited commercial and retail use on agricultural lands of long term commercial significance.

HB 2905 -- provides development flexibility within LAMIRDS

1/26/04 Senate Land Use 3:30 pm

SB 6488 -- Ordering a study of the designation of agricultural lands in three

counties.

SB 6460 -- Providing a procedure for removal of the agricultural resource land designation.

SB 6237 -- Providing nonagricultural commercial and retail uses that support and sustain agricultural operations on designated agricultural lands of long-term significance.

SB 6265 -- Improving the efficiency of the permitting process when multiple agencies are involved.

SB 6348 -- Including water-sewer districts as appropriate providers under the growth management act.

1/29/04 Senate Land Use 1:30 pm

SB 6196 -- Allowing single-family residential development outside urban growth areas in areas where housing is not affordable for first-time buyers.

SB 6199 -- Eliminating impact fees in areas where housing is not affordable for first time home buyers.

SB 6413 -- Modifying impact fee provisions.

SB 6421 -- Providing for maintaining buildable acreage in urban growth areas.

SB 6401 -- Protecting military installations from encroachment of incompatible land uses.

SB 6367 -- Protecting the integrity of national historical reserves in the urban growth area planning process.

Water Legislation Still a Possibility

The two bills developed by Jim Waldo, the Governor's Water Advisor, remain in flux. One bill revises the "use it or lose it" doctrine and is still looking for a sponsor; the other -- ensuring instream flows -- is scheduled for hearing in the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee at 10:00 a.m., Tuesday January 27.

Senators Consider Expanding North Central Washington Cougar Management Pilot to Other Areas

SB 6118, creating a pilot program for cougar management in Ferry, Stevens

Environment, Land Use and Resources (continued)

and Okanogan Counties, received a positive reception in Senate Parks, Fish and Wildlife Committee this week. Okanogan County Commissioner Mary Lou Peterson brought forth evidence that the cougar population is aggressive and plentiful. Senators were skeptical that the Department of Fish and Wildlife is talking adequate action to protect human health and property.

Questions from senators and public testimony suggested that the county management concept suggested by North Central Washington might be expanded to include more areas of the state. Sponsored by Senator Bob Morton (R-Ferry County) at the request of WSAC,

the bill allows for expanded hunting of cougars in those three counties over a three year period, with a report to the Legislature by Washington State University.

Senate Ponders Agency Land Acquisition

The Senate Natural Resources, Energy and Water Committee this week considered three bills addressing state agency land acquisition. **SB 6242**, by Senator Linda Parlette (R-Chelan County), directs the Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation to develop a recommended statewide strategy for land acquisition and

disposal, consistent with priorities and need for recreational land and habitat. **SB 6134** requires specific analysis by the Fish and Wildlife Commission for habitat acquisitions and **SB 6128** prohibits the Fish and Wildlife Commission and the Salmon Recovery Funding Board from including land donations for the purpose of meeting a required local match.

WSAC testified in support of **SB 6242** and **SB 6134**. Senator Parlette told the Committee that **SB 6242** is her most important prime-sponsored bill in 2004.

General Government Issues

Constitutional amendment proposed to merge county functions (HJR 4215)

HJR 4215 would amend the state Constitution authorizing consolidation or merging of statutory and constitutional county functions and structures. Since the Legislature passed I-695 resulting in efforts by counties to seek replacement revenues several members of the Legislature have suggested that counties may want to seek constitutional authority to change their structure. While there been several proposals to consolidate counties there have not been any proposals to merge some functions between counties. WSAC is opposed to legislation that will consolidate or create new counties. However they have not taken a position on merging functions within counties.

HJR 4215 is sponsored by Representative Helen Sommers, Chair of House Appropriations. The Legislative Steering Committee will consider taking a position on the bill today. There will be a hearing in House Local Government on

Monday, January 26 at 1:30 p.m. in House Hearing Room E.

WACO Board opposes HJR 4215

The Board of Trustees of the Washington Association of County Officials (WACO) met on Thursday of this week and voted to oppose House Joint Resolution **4215**, which would put a constitutional amendment on the ballot to allow two or more counties to consolidate or merge any statutory or constitutional offices or functions for purposes of efficiency, cost savings, or improved services. The Board collectively expressed the concern that there was simply too little information to allow broad sweeping changes to the structure of county government.

The Pumphandle

By Carolyn Edmonds

With legislative session underway, I once more find myself spending a lot of time in Olympia. As a member of the State Board of Health and chair of the Metropolitan King County Board of Health, I draw on my own experience as a legislator to champion the cause of public health. My lead priority for this session is the same as it was for last session—ensuring stable and secure funding for the public health infrastructure. This has been and remains a top priority for the Washington State Association of Counties, as well. That particular struggle, unfortunately, is likely to continue into the 2005 session, but we have an unusual opportunity this year to win a major victory on another front—and potentially save thousands of lives a year in Washington State.

Several bills before the Legislature would protect—or allow local jurisdictions to protect—all workers from exposure to the deadly toxins in secondhand tobacco smoke. Approximately 53,000 nonsmokers die prematurely in this country each year due to complications or disease directly linked to secondhand smoke exposure. Hospitality workers are particularly vulnerable. Their shifts can last for hours while they inhale the smoke from hundreds of cigarettes. During an eight-hour shift, workers inhale the equivalent chemicals as if they smoked a pack of cigarettes. Washington State's Clean Indoor Air Act bans smoking in enclosed public places, but exempts restaurants, bars, bowling alleys, and skating rinks. The bills, including two being heard today, either eliminate the statewide exemption or provide explicit authority for cities, counties, and towns to pass regulations that are more stringent than the states.

The King County Board of Health has supported a ban on smoking in public places for more than five years. It considered passing bans on smoking in all workplaces, but did not due to concerns about legal challenge claiming that state law preempts local control. The Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department recently decided that state

law does not preempt more stringent local restrictions and banned smoking in all public places. Several boards of health, including King County, are seriously weighing similar action.

The proposals before the Legislature are not new. But the push by cities and counties, combined with changing public attitudes, is making their passage more likely. And it is about time. The department of Labor and Industries protects most workers from the devastating effects of secondhand smoke. It is time that we look to the health of all workers and treat them equally. Smoking in confined public places has never been a question of individuals exercising their choice of behaviors. Polling information shows that the public supports the concept that an individual's right to breathe supercedes a smoker's desire to smoke. Because complete bans make all competitors smoke free, smoking bans do not negatively affect business. All studies that were not conducted or funded by the tobacco industry show that restaurant business either increases or stays the same after the implementation of a smoking ban.

State Council on Aging Needs County Representative

The Washington State Council on Aging needs a new county representative. King County Councilwoman Carolyn Edmonds had volunteered to serve as the WSAC representative but her many other responsibilities have made it impossible for her to continue in that role. It is with regret that she must step down. This is a gubernatorial appointment. Applications may be obtained from WSAC staff.

The State Council on Aging is an advisory council to the Governor, the Department of Social and Health Services, and the Aging and Disabilities Services Administration. As an advisory body, they review and help formulate policies that affect older persons. They have defined statutory duties in RCW 43.20A.680. In addition to serving as an advisory body, they function to create

awareness of the special needs and potentialities of older persons; and to provide for self-advocacy by older citizens of the state through sponsorship of training, legislative and other conferences, workshops, and such other methods as may be deemed appropriate.

The regular meetings are scheduled for the fourth Tuesday of each month but generally occur about eight times each year in the Sea-Tac area. Expenses are reimbursed.

Please contact WSAC staff, Jean Wessman if you are interested in this position or know of a retired Commissioner or council member who may be interested.

Transportation and Public Works

The Senate Highways Committee holds a hearing on RTID light

The Committee held a hearing this week on **SB 5585**. It creates the opportunity for counties, cities and port districts to create new transportation benefit districts. These new districts follow the model of the central Puget Sound's regional transportation investment district. This bill provides greater flexibility in what the money can be invested in and where it can be invested.

Key Transportation Bills Introduced this week

HB 2376 -- streamlines transportation governance. Provides for the gubernatorial appointment of secretary of transportation. Transfers certain powers of the commission to the department. Requires the commission to collaborate with state and local transportation related agencies, boards, commissions to develop or refine performance goals for the multi-modal transportation system.

Key Transportation Hearings next week

House Transportation

House Hearing Rm B 1/26/04 3:30 pm

1. **HB 2808** - Authorizing a pilot project for high-occupancy toll lanes.
2. Value pricing for highway limited access highway lanes.
3. **HB 2476** - Facilitating vehicle toll collection.
4. **HB 2475** - Facilitating enforcement of toll violations.

House Hearing Rm B 1/27/04 3:30 pm

1. Registration of vehicles based on residency.
2. **HB 2527** - Authorizing toll-free operation of the Puget Island ferry during emergency bridge closures.

House Hearing Rm B 1/28/04 3:30 pm

1. **HB 2470** - Clarifying damages recoverable in highway accidents.
2. **HB 2511** - Clarifying seat belt requirements.
3. **HB 2532** - Modifying commercial

driver's license provisions.

4. **HB 1681** - Allowing alternative means of renewing driver's licenses.

Highways and Transportation

Senate Hearing Rm 1 1/28/04 3:30 pm

1. **SB 5391** - Eliminating the handling loss deduction for the motor vehicle fuel tax.
2. **SB 5295** - Imposing a fee on studded tires.
3. **SB 6320** - Outlawing studded tires.
4. **SB 6437** - Designating highways of statewide significance.
5. **SB 6327** - Authorizing a fee for the review of driving records.

Work Session: Commute Trip Reduction report.

Senate Hearing Rm 1 1/29/04 3:30 pm
TVW

1. **SB 6151** - Requiring headlights when wipers are used.
2. **SB 6175** - Forfeiting lead agency status for nonperformance.
3. **SB 6178** - Prohibiting traffic control signal preemption devices.
4. **SB 6312** - Clarifying seat belt requirements.
5. **SB 5032** - Exempting commercial delivery drivers from seat belt requirements.

Training and Upcoming Events

THE CASCADE CENTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP *at the Daniel J. Evans School of Public Affairs at the University of Washington*

Greetings from the Cascade Center! We want to remind you that the **last day to register** for 2004 Management Series Courses at the **early registration rate** is **January 31, 2004**. 2004 courses are being offered in **Everett, Olympia, Seattle, and Tri-Cities**. **Register early to save up to \$200 per course**. If you have already registered for 2004, we thank you and look forward to seeing you soon!

Register online at <http://www.cascadecourses.org> or call 206.685.0523.

In addition to our popular management series courses, we are pleased to be offering **seven new two-day** courses this year. Course descriptions and learning objectives may be viewed online at: <http://www.cascadecourses.org/courses/Series-Schedule.html>. We encourage you to spread the word about our courses.

If you are a member of any of the following associations, **special tuition assistance funds** may be available to you; check with your association contact person for more information:

- *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*

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 in our 2004 courses!

Washington Economic Development Association to Hold Economic Development Leadership Training

The Washington Economic Development Association (WEDA) will hold a one-day economic development leadership training as part of its two-day Winter Conference at the Red Lion Hotel in Olympia on February 11, 2004. The training is designed for newly elected officials, board members and new staff in economic development.

Confirmed speakers at the forum include Maury Forman, Education Director of the Washington State Department of Community, Trade & Economic Development, Gary Smith, Economist for Washington State University. Our luncheon speaker will be Jim Sorenson, a corporate facilitator and consultant, who will speak about Leadership in Economic Development. Jim was the highest rated presenter at Washington's Economic Development Games in 2003. Also on the agenda are economic development practitioners throughout the State of Washington discussing "Best Practices in Economic Development". Register on-line at: http://www.wedaonline.org/weda/winter_legislative_conference.htm.

The training will provide an overview of economic development including a look at the myths of the Washington economy, what it takes to be a leader in economic development and the different types of economic development with case examples. These will provide attendees with skills that they can use in their communities.

Registration is \$70 for members and \$95 for non-members. Registration includes: Learning to Lead: A Primer on Economic Development Strategies a general overview of the major issues related to economic development. The intent of the book is to help decision-makers make informed choices regarding their community strategies. And, The Ten Commandments of Economic Development, a small 10-page book that gives a community words to live by if they want to be successful in their economic development program. Both books are co-authored by Maury Forman, one of our guest speakers.

Training and Upcoming Events (continued)

<i>Training or Workshop</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Information</i>
<i>FEBRUARY 2004</i>			
CPO Training - "There Ought to be a Law" - Understanding the Legislative Process	Ramada Inn - Governor's House	February 5	(360) 753-1886
CPO Training - Emergency Management 101	Water Resources Education Center, Vancouver	February 19	(360) 753-1886
CPO Training - Emergency Management 101	Community Education Training Center, Colfax	February 25	(360) 753-1886
CPO Training - Emergency Management 101	Ellensburg Inn, Ellensburg	February 26	(360) 753-1886
<i>APRIL 2004</i>			
WA Association of Prosecuting Attorneys Spring Training Program	Spokane	April 21-23	(360) 753-2175
<i>May 2004</i>			
WA Association of Prosecuting Attorneys Support Staff Training Program	Campbell's Lodge, Lake Chelan	May 12-14	(360) 753-2175
<i>JUNE 2004</i>			
WA Association of Coroners and Medical Examiners' Training	Lake Chelan	June 21	(360) 427-9670 x 752
<i>JULY 2004</i>			

Certified Public Officials Training

2004 CPO ELECTIVE COURSES -- REGISTER NOW

There ought to be a Law -- Understanding the Legislative Process and Your Roles and Influence in the Outcome”

- How ideas become laws in the legislative process?
- How well do you communicate with the legislature?
- What works – letters, calls, or personal one-on-one visits?
- What is your role, or the role of your Association?

Location: February 5, Olympia

“Are you Prepared - Emergency Management for Local Officials”

- What are your roles and responsibilities in an Emergency?
- What is your role in public information?
- What is the role of State Agencies – what is their authority?
- What are the functions of an Incident Command System?
- The latest information on Homeland Security and impacts in Washington State

Locations: February 19, Vancouver

February 25, Colfax

February 26, Ellensburg

“Minimizing Risk: When Employer/Employee Actions make Front Page News”

- What actions by public employers or employees become front page news?
- How can you reduce your chances of being the Lead Story on the 6 O'clock News?
- What policies and procedures should be in place to reduce your liability?
- What do you provide and say to the media when they ask?

Locations: March 3, Yakima

March 4, Mount Vernon

March 10, Cheney

March 11, Lacey

More Info/Registration: <http://www.wacounties.org/CPO/CPO.htm>

King County Teams up with WSAC Associate for Records Storage

King County has awarded USArchive & Imaging Services a multi-agency contract for off-site records storage.

USArchive & Imaging Services is a WSAC Associate Member that provides a variety of document services to government and the private sector. Services include pickup, delivery and off-site storage of paper records, scanning of documents including maps and drawings to digital images, conversion of microfilm and microfiche to digital images, laser printing, mailing services, and web hosting.

The King County contract is for off-site records storage for boxes, file folders and media and can include oversize boxes, maps, drawings and other non-flammable materials.

Other counties with similar needs may access the King County contract awards information at http://www.metrokc.gov/finance/procurement/rfp_rfq_itb/award_goods.asp, and the USArchive & Imaging Services web page at usaimaging.com.

Calendar of Events

Meeting	Location	Date	Information
2004			
WA State Association of County Treasurers' Legislative Meeting	Olympia	January 26-27	(360) 753-7319
WA State Association of County Assessors	Olympia	February 3 - 5	(360) 753-7319
WA State Association of Counties Legislative Rally	Ramada Inn - Governor's House, Olympia	February 5	(360) 753-1886
NACo Legislative Conference	Hilton Washington & Towers, Washington, DC	February 27 - March 2	www.naco.org
WA State Association of County Auditors Recording Conference	Sun Mountain	March 16 - 18	(360) 753-7319
WA Counties Insurance Pool Board Meeting	Red Lion Yakima Gateway, Yakima	March 18	(360) 586-0466
WA Counties Insurance Fund Board Meeting	Red Lion Yakima Gateway, Yakima	March 18	(360) 586-0466
Insurance Advisory Committee Full Membership Meeting	Red Lion Yakima Gateway, Yakima	March 18	(360) 586-0466
WA State Property Records Education Partners (PREP) Meeting	Sun Mountain Lodge, Winthrop	March 19	(360) 753-7319
WA State Association of Counties - Eastern District Meeting	Campbell's Resort, Chelan	April 8 - 9	(360) 753-1886
ACE Committee (Payroll & HR)	Yakima Convention Center	April 14	(360) 586-0466
WA Counties Risk Pool Risk Managers Roundtable	Icicle Inn, Leavenworth	April 14	(360) 586-7447
WA Counties Risk Pool Spring Board Meeting	Icicle Inn, Leavenworth	April 15	(360) 586-7447
WA Association of Prosecuting Attorneys Spring Training Program	WestCoast Ridpath Hotel, Spokane	April 21-23	(360) 753-2175
WA State Association of Counties Western District Meeting	Heathman Lodge, Vancouver	April 22 - 23	(360) 753-1886
WASPC Spring Conference	Yakima Convention Center, Yakima	May 24 - 27	(360) 486-2380
WA Association of Prosecuting Attorneys District Court Training Program	Icicle Inn, Leavenworth	June 3-4	(360) 753-2175
Washington State Association of County Assessors (WSACA) Annual Conference	Hallmark Inn, Moses Lake	June 14-16	(360) 753-7319
Washington State Association of County Auditors' Annual Conference	Lakeway Inn, Bellingham	June 16 - 18	(360) 753-7319
Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys (WAPA) Summer Training Program	Campbell's Lodge, Lake Chelan	June 23-25	(360) 753-2175
National Sheriffs' Association	Seattle	June 26 - 30	www.sheriffs.org
County Clerk's Association 2004 Summer Conference	North Bonneville Hot Springs Resort, Skamania	June 22 - 25	(360) 753-7319
County Treasurer's Association 2004 Summer Conference	Heathman Lodge, Vancouver	June 22 - 25	(360) 753-7319

Calendar of Events (continued)

WSAC 98 th Annual Summer Convention	Pierce County, Sheraton, Tacoma	June 22 - 25	(360) 753-1886
IACREOT 33 rd Annual Conference	San Antonio, TX	July 15-24	
NACo Annual Conference	Maricopa County, Phoenix, AZ	July 16 - 20	www.naco.org
WA Counties Risk Pool Annual Board Meeting	Shilo Inn, Ocean Shores	July 22	(360) 586-7447
WA Counties Risk Pool Summer Conference	Shilo Inn, Ocean Shores	July 20 - 22	(360) 586-7447
WA Counties Insurance Pool Rate Setting Meeting	Wyndham Gardens, Seatac	August 19	(360) 586-0466
WA Counties Insurance Pool Board Meeting	Radisson Hotel, Seatac	September 16	(360) 586-0466
WA Counties Insurance Fund	Radisson Hotel, Seatac	September 16	(360) 586-0466
Insurance Advisory Committee	Radisson Hotel, Seatac	September 16	(360) 586-0466
County & Regional Planning Directors/City Planning Directors Joint Conference	Campbell's Resort, Chelan	September 14 - 17	www.geocities.com/wsacrpdpd
WACO/WSAC/WAPA Joint Fall Conference	Spokane	October 4 - 8	(360) 753-7319
ACE Committee (Payroll & HR)	Yakima Convention Center	October 13	(360) 586-0466
WA Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs Fall Conference	Shilo Inn, Ocean Shores	November 15 - 18	(360) 486-2380
WA Counties Insurance Fund 2005 Budget Meeting	Red Lion at Columbia Center, Kennewick	November 18	(360) 586-0466
WA Association of Prosecuting Attorneys Winter Meeting & Banquet	Crowne Plaza Hotel, Seattle	December 9-10	(360) 753-2175
2005			
NACo Legislative Conference	Marriot Wardman Park Hotel, Washington, DC	March 3 - 4	www.naco.org
Washington Association of Prosecuting Attorneys (WAPA) Support Staff Training Program	WestCoast Ridpath Hotel, Spokane	May 11-13	(360) 753-2175
WASPC Spring Conference	WestCoast Wenatchee Center Hotel, Wenatchee	May 23 - 26	(360) 486-2380
WSAC 99 th Annual Summer Convention	WestCoast Hotel at Columbia Center, Kennewick	June 13 - 16	(360) 753-1886
WAPA Summer Conference & Training Program	Campbell's Lodge, Lake Chelan	June 22 - 24	(360) 753-2175
IACREOT 34th Annual Conference	New York, NY	June 28 - July 8	
NACo Annual Conference (City & County of Hawaii)	Honolulu, HI	July 15 - 19	www.naco.org
County & Regional Planning Directors/City Planning Directors Joint Conference	Campbell's Resort, Chelan	September 13 - 16	www.geocities.com/wsacrpdpd

Calendar of Events (continued)

WACO/WSAC Joint Fall Conference	Ocean Shores	October 3 - 7	(360) 753-7319
2006			
WSAC 100 th Annual Summer Convention	Whatcom County, Bellingham	June / TBD	(360) 753-1886
IACREOT 35th Annual Conference	San Francisco, CA	July 2-7	
NACo Annual Conference	Denver, CO	July 21 - 26	www.naco.org
2007			
NACo Annual Conference (Sponsored by the counties in the Metropolitan Richmond Area)	Richmond, VA	TBD	www.naco.org
IACREOT 36th Annual Conference	Charlotte, NC	July 14-22	