

the Courthouse Journal

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Washington Association of County Officials
Washington State Association of Counties

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Governor's Vetoes Provide for Montana Primary and Funding

As the Courthouse Journal went to press, the Governor partially vetoed SB 6453, establishing a new primary to replace the old blanket primary. By his veto, he intends to provide a primary where voters will vote in the primary of one party, but their choice of party ballot will remain secret. This is also known as a Montana primary.

In another action today, he vetoed a \$6 million dollar reduction in the budget of the Secretary of State to make funds available to assist with cost of the new election format. Those dollars were due to be cut because of the elimination of the State's Presidential Primary. WACO and WSAC will work with the Governor and the Secretary of State to ensure that those funds are available on a timely basis for voter education and the cost of running elections. The distribution of the \$6 million will require some creative work by all involved. The funds are appropriated for state fiscal year 2004, which ends on June 30, 2004. The Governor's staff has conveyed his commitment to work with counties on this issue.

The costs of providing for this new primary process come in several forms. In counties throughout the state, there will be costs for printing, mailing, and processing multiple ballots, reprogramming election equipment, training poll workers and providing voters with information and assistance. The Secretary of State and individual County Auditors will need to engage in voter outreach and education. Since many voters now vote by mail, they will not have polling officials to assist them in dealing with the separate ballots for each party

and in some cases a separate ballot for non-partisan offices.

A number of individuals and organizations have threatened to litigate over the primary no matter what action the Governor took today. Litigation may impose additional costs on counties and slow the organization of elections. In addition, a referendum may be proposed to eliminate any form of partisan or qualifying primary this year (except for non-partisan offices). Normally, a referendum would suspend the implementation of a legislative act until the voters could review that act. However, the power of referendum does not extend to the critical functions of government. For example, a referendum cannot be filed to suspend the state budget until the next election. At his press conference today, the Governor argued that there are few state functions more critical than elections. Thus, he argues, the primary election cannot be suspended by referendum.

At the press conference today, the Governor was asked about the role of the Attorney General's Office in this process. He explained that because this issue involved several elected officials, both the Governor and the Secretary of State had been provided with independent counsel. Hugh Spitzer, an expert on Washington's Constitution, served as the Governor's independent counsel.

As we learn more about funding and other issues we will send information to county officials and staff.

Governor Signs County Priority Bills

Governor Locke took action this week signing key legislation of importance to counties including **SSB 6242**, establishing a statewide land acquisition policy and

SB 6118, creating a pilot cougar management program. In **SSB 6118**, the Governor did veto section 2, which would have allowed counties outside of northeast Washington to

request inclusion in the cougar pilot. As signed, **SSB 6118** is close to the legislation initially proposed by WSAC. Governor Locke last week signed **ESHB 2693**, which gradually shifts most of the state timber excise tax revenue from the general fund to counties. **ESHB 2693** also eliminates the property tax on timber harvested from public land.

He also has signed **HB 2485**, lowering tort judgment interest rates and **HB 2615**, allowing group and intergovernmental purchasing agreements.

The Courthouse Journal

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

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Eastern District Looks for a New Secretary-Treasurer

Eastern Washington County Commissioners will be selecting a new secretary-treasurer for the Eastern District when they meet in Chelan next week. Walla Walla County Commissioner Greg Tompkins, elected to that position last fall, has resigned from the secretary-treasurer position due to other priorities he has with his family and as a county commissioner and businessman.

Interested Eastern Washington commissioners should contact Eastern District President Mary Hunt.

Register Now for WSAC Western District Meeting

The WSAC Spring Western District meeting will take place at The Heathman Lodge in Vancouver, WA on April 22 and 23. The deadline for early registration is April 7. If you have not already done so, please fax your registration as soon as possible to the WSAC office.

The program begins with the Western District Business meeting and a Commissioners' Roundtable on Thursday morning followed by an update on growth management

legislation and a discussion of future steps. The afternoon features a workshop from legal experts to advise you on how to build a record and prevail against GMA challenges. John Pennington, Regional Director of the Federal Emergency Management Administration, is our luncheon speaker on Thursday.

Friday's agenda includes a brief Legislative Wrap-Up, an update on Watershed Planning Implementation, and an Emergency Management workshop. You don't want to miss "Are You Prepared? What County Officials Should Know About Emergency Management" -- an introduction to the roles and responsibilities of local elected officials before, during and after an emergency or disasters.

If you have any questions please contact Paul Parker or Ginni Peppert at the WSAC office.

We hope to see you all there.

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

Budget, Finance and Taxes

Governor Pens Assessor Interest Bills

This week Governor Locke signed assessor priority legislation **SB 6216** allowing incidental use under the Open Space Timber Statutes (RCW 4.34.020). This legislation included incidental use language to mirror the incidental use language in the Timber and Forest Lands Statue (RCW84.33.034 (4)). The term includes land used for incidental uses that are compatible with the growing and harvesting of timber, but no more than ten percent of the land may be used for such incidental uses. It also includes the land on which appurtenances necessary for the production, preparation, or sale of the timber products in conjunction with land producing these products.

He also signed **SB 6581** amending the current law surrounding the forest fire protection multi-parcel exemption (RCW79.04.610). The new law would require a person to own six or more forested parcels smaller than 50 acres in

one county in order to be eligible to have their forest fire protection assessments calculated for all parcels, but only billed to one parcel. Owners of fewer than six parcels may not seek a single assessment.

SB 5034, providing property tax relief for senior citizens and persons retired because of physical disability, also was signed. Income for the deferral program is increased to \$40,000. The partial exemptions for senior citizens and persons retired due to disability are increased to:

- A. \$30,001 to \$35,000, all excess levies are exempted
- B. \$25,001 to \$30,000, all excess levies are exempted and regular levies on the greater of \$50,000 or 35% of assessed value (\$70,000 maximum) are exempted.
- C. \$25,000 or less, all excess levies are exempted and regular levies on the greater of \$60,000 or 60% of assessed valuation are exempted.

The income used for determining

eligibility for senior citizens and persons retired due to a disability is reduced by payments for health care insurance.

Courts, Public Safety, Law & Justice

Now the Real Work Begins...

HB 2519, a criminal justice property tax levy, was signed into law by Governor Locke on March 22 signaling yet more work for Pacific County officials. Sheriff John Didion and Commissioner John Kaino were instrumental in convincing their legislators and eventually the entire Legislature that taking a local property tax levy request of up to 50 cents per thousand dollars of assessed valuation to the voters of Pacific County could resolve the problem of increasing criminal justice costs, declining revenues and even put programs in place to curb growing drug problems in the county. **HB 2519**, sponsored by Representative Brian Hatfield, is now Chapter 80 of the laws of 2004 and is effective July 1, 2004. Congratulations to Pacific County and good luck this fall!

Collections Update

The signing of **SB 5168** last week gave county clerks more tools to assist in the collection of the legal financial obligations of offenders but for them also, the work just continues. Last session county clerks statewide agreed to take up the collection of restitution, court costs, penalties and assessments from convicted offenders when the Department of Corrections quit doing so. County clerks received \$1.8 million this biennium to help in the start-up of these programs but the search for funding for next year must also start for the programs to continue. **SB 5168** allows clerks access to employment security records and the ability to adjust monthly payment schedules. Judges are allowed to lower or waive interest on legal financial obligations. All this is geared to make offenders successful in meeting

their obligations, provide restitution to victims of crime and help make the county programs successful as well.

Law Enforcement License Plates a Reality

SB 6148, law enforcement license plates, was signed into law by Governor Gary Locke on Monday. Kitsap County Sheriff Steve Boyer, who represents the county sheriffs on the Board of Directors of the Law Enforcement Memorial, was in town for the signing. The proceeds of the sale of the license plates will fund a memorial to recognize law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty.

Environment, Land Use and Resources

Planners Forums Begin Again in Western Washington

The Planning Association of Washington, the Washington State Chapter of the American Planning Association, and the Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development are jointly sponsoring new quarterly Planners' Forums in Northwest Washington, Southwest Washington, and the Olympic Peninsula, using the Eastern Washington Forum as a model. There is no cost to attend the Forums.

Quarterly Planners' Forums have been held in Eastern Washington at Moses Lake since 1990, and have been highly rated by planners from throughout the region. The Forums are an efficient way to network with colleagues, share local issues and concerns, and hear from federal and state agency representatives on hot topics affecting local planning.

The first three forums will be on the following dates and locations:

The Northwest Washington Planners' Forum on April 16, will be held at the Cottonwood Inn in Mt. Vernon from 1:00 pm- 3:00 pm, immediately following the legal training session sponsored by the Northwest Washington Section of the Washington State Chapter of the American Planning Association.

The Olympic Peninsula Planners' Forum on Wednesday, April 21 from 9:00 am-3:00 pm in Port Orchard at the Givens Community Center.

The Southwest Washington Planners' Forum on Thursday, April 22 9:00 am – 3:00 pm in Vancouver at the Clark County Public Services Center.

If you have questions about the Forums, please contact Ted Gage at CTED, either by phone (360/725-3049) or email: tedg@cted.wa.gov.

The Governor Signs into Law a Suite of Land Use Bills

The Governor signed into law a suite of land use bills. Five of the bills will help counties implement the GMA. The five bills are a result of the GMA Workgroup negotiations over the summer and fall. The Workgroup is going to take some

time off and then meet in a couple of weeks to see if we want to continue meeting. There is an interest by most parties to continue working on legislative and administrative solutions. Counties and cities are going to continue working on definition for best available science and meaningful update schedule that provides relief for slow or non-growth counties.

SSB 6534. The requirements for including master planned locations within industrial land banks and for siting specific development projects are separated so that designation of master planned locations may occur during the comprehensive planning process before a specific development project has been proposed.

Some of the current criteria for designating a master planned location within an industrial land bank may be delayed until the process for siting specific development projects within a land bank occurs. The following requirements must be met during the process for reviewing and approving proposals to authorize siting of specific major industrial development projects within an approved industrial land bank:

- new infrastructure is provided for and/or applicable impact fees are paid;
- transit-oriented site planning and traffic demand management programs are implemented;
- buffers are provided between the adjacent nonurban areas;
- environmental protections have been addressed and provided for;
- provision is made to mitigate adverse impacts on designated agricultural, forest, and mineral resource lands; and
- an interlocal agreement related to infrastructure cost and revenue sharing between the county and interested cities is established.

Designating master planned locations within an industrial land bank is considered an adopted amendment to a comprehensive plan, and approval of a

specific development project does not require any further amendment to a comprehensive plan.

A definition of "industrial land bank" is added, and counties are authorized to designate two land banks within one county.

ESHB 2905. Any development or redevelopment within the first type of limited areas of more intensive rural development (i.e., a type (d)(i) LAMIRDs other than an industrial area or an industrial use within a mixed-use or industrial area, must be principally designed to serve the existing and projected rural population. Any development or redevelopment in terms of building size, scale, use, or intensity must be consistent with the character of the existing areas. Development or redevelopment may include changes in use from vacant land or a previously existing use if the new conforms to specific requirements.

SHB 2781. Counties and cities planning under the Growth Management Act (GMA) may request expedited review for any amendments for permanent changes to a development regulation. The Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development (CTED) may, after receiving a request and consultation with other state agencies, grant expedited review if CTED determines that expedited review does not compromise the state's ability to provide timely comments related to compliance with the goals and requirements of the GMA or on other matters of state interest. Counties and cities may adopt amendments for permanent changes to a development regulation immediately following the granting of the request for expedited review.

SB 6237. Agricultural zoning, which must limit density and restrict nonfarm uses, can allow accessory uses that support, promote, or sustain agricultural operations and production.

Such accessory uses must not interfere

Environment, Land Use and Resources (continued)

with natural resource land uses and must be accessory to the growing of crops or raising of animals. Those of a commercial or retail nature must predominately involve regional agricultural products and products derived from them, experiences related to agriculture, or products produced on site. New or existing buildings together with parking and other supportive uses are allowed for the purpose of operating accessory uses, but they must be consistent with the size and scale of agricultural buildings on the site and must not otherwise convert land to nonagricultural uses.

Accessory uses can include compatible commercial or retail uses, such as storage; production, sales, and marketing of value-added agricultural products; sources of supplemental on-farm income that supports the agricultural use; support services for production, marketing, and distribution of agricultural products; and sales and marketing of regional agricultural products and experiences, locally made art and crafts, and their ancillary retail activities.

SSB 6367. The requirement that cities and counties must include areas and densities sufficient to permit the urban growth projected for the succeeding 20-year period does not apply to those urban growth areas contained totally within a national historical reserve.

When an urban growth area is contained totally within a national historical reserve, the city may restrict densities, intensities, and forms of urban growth as it determines necessary and appropriate to protect the physical, cultural, or historic integrity of the reserve.

SHB 2811. The Legislature declares its intent to reinstate permitting performance reports by certain jurisdictions, in order to foster improved permitting methods and timely permit decisions.

Existing requirements to establish time periods for taking action on project permit applications and to have timely and predictable procedures for evaluating the applications are amended

to emphasize implementation of the established time periods and to clarify that the time periods are established according to types of permits.

The "buildable lands" jurisdictions are also required to identify the number, as well as the types of permits they process. Their performance reporting requirement is reinstated and reduced to an annual basis. Inclusion of mean processing time and number standard deviation from the mean is added. The actual reports must be available on the jurisdiction's website, not just a notice of their availability.

ESSB 6401. Legislative findings are made regarding the importance of the United States military as a vital component of the Washington State economy. A state priority is protection of the land surrounding our military installations from incompatible development.

Comprehensive plans, development regulations, and amendments to either should not allow development in the vicinity of a military installation that is incompatible with the installation's ability to carry out its mission requirements.

A process is established whereby counties and cities with federal military installations employing 100 or more personnel must notify the commander of an affected military installation of their intent to adopt or amend comprehensive plans or development regulations to address lands adjacent to the installation in order to ensure those lands are protected from incompatible development.

The commander must be provided 60 days to submit written recommendations and supporting facts related to the use of land being considered. Failure of a commander to submit a response may be presumed to mean that the proposed plan, regulation, or amendment will not have any adverse effect on the operation of the installation.

This new process will begin as part of each city and county's regularly-scheduled Growth Management Act update, with a one-year extension for those jurisdictions subject to a December 2004 update deadline.

The Role of Counties in the Medicaid Program

The other day, NACo sent out a questionnaire regarding counties' role in the Medicaid program. NACo is particularly interested as federal changes are proposed or implemented in the national Medicaid program which may fundamentally change the way counties do business in this area. For example, the Bush Administration is still actively seeking to block grant Medicaid funds to the states. This is actively opposed by the National Governor's Association and a number of other organizations including NACo. WSAC staff responded with the following information which very briefly summarizes Washington counties' involvement with Medicaid.

NACo asked:

1. Do counties in your state participate in the Medicaid program?

Yes

2. If so, what are the county responsibilities?

a. Administration (eligibility determination, enrollment, etc.)? Do they pay a % of admin costs?

They do outreach and facilitation of eligibility determination which is actually finalized at state Community Service Offices. In public health, they receive administration match dollars from the feds but are not required to pay a specified % of admin costs. The match is a mix of state and local funds. In mental health, DD and aging, they receive administrative match but the state passes through state funds to the counties to pay the other half. In Chemical Dependency, there is a required 10% local match for all state and federal funds including administrative costs.

b. Provide a county financial match. If so, what percent? If so, for which programs or services?

In mental health, the counties (titled regional support networks [(RSN)] in mental health) are now required to contribute local dollars to obtain additional federal match that the state is unwilling to fund. It is not a set

percentage but the amount of local dollars that are available and varies from RSN to RSN. Currently it is \$12 million per year. The funds are available for any covered medicaid service or medicaid client.

See (a) regarding public health.

3. Are your counties Medicaid service providers? If so, what services?

Yes, Washington counties provide mental health, developmental disabilities, chemical dependency, and aging case management services that are Medicaid covered services. These range from any and all inpatient and outpatient mental health services included in the federal medicaid waiver, outpatient services in chemical dependency, case management for aging populations served by the Area Agencies on Aging, 0-3 and day and employment services in developmental disabilities for clients who are served under the federal waivers in DD. Populations served include both youth and adult and specialty populations such as mentally ill offenders in mental health and community protection clients in DD.

In King County only, primary health care services are provided in a number of clinics. King County also owns the only county hospital in the state, Harborview. Pierce County owns and operates the only county-owned psychiatric hospital in the state. Both these institutions are huge recipients of medicaid funds.

4. Other responsibilities?

In many of our human services areas, we are required by contract to collaborate or have signed agreements with a number of medicaid providers such as local hospitals and clinics. In King County, the largest emergency inpatient facility is co-located in Harborview Hospital, a recipient of federal disproportionate share funds as well as regular medicaid dollars and the only level 3 trauma care center in the state. There is a high level of interest among our state's hospitals in working closely with county mental health programs to monitor medicaid expenditures and control inappropriate

emergency room usage for acute mental health care.

In mental health, our funding is directly tied to the number of medicaid eligibles in the state so we have a vested interest in any and all activities concerning the general medicaid program.

This is just a brief summary. If your county does something different or totally excluded from this list, please contact WSAC staff, Jean Wessman and let us know so we can add it.

Boards and Commissions

The following three transportation boards have openings for county positions. Please send a letter of interest to WSAC so recommendations can be made to the appointing authority.

The County Road Administration Board

It is time again to begin the process to fill the positions of three CRABoard members whose terms expire June 30, 2004. In addition to the three expiring terms, County Engineer Tom Ballard will be leaving his position as Pierce County Engineer, therefore his position will need to be filled.

The CRAB was created by the Legislature in 1965 to provide statutory oversight of Washington's thirty-nine county road departments. The agency is governed by a nine member board which meets quarterly and is comprised of six county commissioners/council-members and three county engineers. The Board is appointed by the Board of Directors of the Washington State Association of Counties. The Board establishes and maintains "Standards of Good Practice" to guide and ensure consistency and professional management of county road departments in the state of Washington.

In compliance with state law (RCW 36.78.040), the four positions must be filled using the following populations:

- Commissioner = population between 12,000 and 125,000
- Commissioner = population less than 12,000
- County Engineer = population between 12,000 and 125,000
- County Engineer = population greater than 125,000

The only restriction is that no more than one member of the Board shall be from any single county. The WSAC Board of Directors is free to reappoint present members to the CRABoard or to appoint replacements. There is no statutory limit on the number of terms served.

The Freight Mobility Investment Board

There is an opening for a county commissioner/council member. The

mission of the Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board is to create a comprehensive and coordinated state program to facilitate freight movement between and among local, national and international markets which enhances trade opportunities. The Board also is charged with finding solutions that lessen the impact of the movement of freight on local communities.

The Board proposes policies, projects, corridors and funding to the legislature to promote strategic investments in a statewide freight mobility transportation system. It will also propose projects that soften the impact of freight movement on local communities. The Governor makes the appointment.

The Transportation Investment Board

There is an opening for a county engineer or public works director. The board is composed of six city members, six county, two WSDOT officials, a governor appointee from a state agency, a private sector representative, a member representing special needs transportation, a non-motorized representative, a member representing the ports, and two representatives from transit.

The local agency, private sector, port, non-motorized, special needs, and transit board members are appointed by the WSDOT Secretary to four-year staggered terms. The WSDOT officials are also appointed by the WSDOT Secretary. The County Road Administration Board Director is one of the county members and is an ex-officio member. The governor appointee position also has a four-year term. The Transportation Improvement Board meets monthly at various locations throughout the state. WSAC makes a recommendation to the WSDOT Secretary.

State Parks Seeks Advisory Committee Representation

State Parks currently manages hundreds of miles of trails for hiking, bicycling, cross-country skiing, snowmobiling and other uses. A new task force will begin developing a comprehensive set of

agency trails policies for nonmotorized, motorized, water trail and winter recreation uses in State Parks areas and seeks county representation. The policies will guide the agency in establishing, developing and managing all trails throughout its entire system as well as provide some direction for the agency's newly established Statewide Trails Program. Task force members will meet four times between April and July, and will attend a final meeting in October. Task force members may be reimbursed for travel and other expenses when attending task force meetings.

In addition, the Snowmobile and Winter Recreation Non-Motorized Advisory Committees each meets at least twice per year, once in the winter and once in the summer. Winter meetings are held at the end of January (non-motorized) and beginning of February (snowmobile). These meetings usually involve a Saturday meeting regarding program status followed by a tour of the area on Sunday. The summer meetings are held the end of July and the beginning of August, respectively. These are grant-in-aid funding meetings. Grant applications are reviewed and discussed with the applicants, and the fiscal year budgets are recommended. These are full weekend meetings beginning on Friday night and continuing with all day meetings on Saturday and also Sunday, when necessary.

WSAC appoints the county representatives to both of these committees. Okanogan County Commissioner Dave Shultz, who is retiring at the end of this year, has ably served on both Winter Recreation Committees for several years.

To express your interest in state parks representing counties on any of the three committees, please contact Paul Parker at WSAC.

Training and Upcoming Events

<i>Training or Workshop</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Information</i>
APRIL 2004			
WA Association of Prosecuting Attorneys Spring Training Program	Spokane	April 21-23	(360) 753-2175
MAY 2004			
WA Association of Prosecuting Attorneys Support Staff Training Program	Campbell's Lodge, Lake Chelan	May 12-14	(360) 753-2175
JUNE 2004			
WA Association of Coroners and Medical Examiners' Training	Campbell's Lodge, Lake Chelan	June 22	(360) 427-9670 x 752
JULY 2004			
WA Counties Risk Pool - Risk Managers Training	Shilo Inn, Ocean Shores	July 20	(360) 586-7447
WA Counties Risk Pool - Board of Directors Workshop	Shilo Inn, Ocean Shores	July 21	(360) 586-7447
SEPTEMBER 2004			
WA Association of Prosecuting Attorneys - Juvenile Training Program	Icicle Inn, Leavenworth	September 12-14	(360) 753-2175
WA Association of Prosecuting Attorneys - Drug Training Program	Icicle Inn, Leavenworth	September 15-17	(360) 753-2175

Rural Development Council Meets in June

"Rural Washington - - Next Steps" begins June 8 at 1:30 p.m. and continues until noon June 10. It is the theme for the 3rd annual meeting of the Washington Rural Development Council at Red Lion Hotel Yakima Center in Yakima.

The Council is lining up presenters to address where we go from here - - what's new on the horizon - -and how do we approach the same old problems in a different way.

If you have new innovative approaches you have been using and would like to present or share at the conference, please contact Jim Lowery at the RDC within the next two weeks. He can be reached at www.ruraldevelopmentcouncil.org.

Training and Upcoming Events (continued)

Please also see the Climate Change PDF file attached.

What's Driving Global Warming? Transportation and Climate Change

Tuesday, May 18, 2004

8:30 am to 7:00 pm

Seattle Center, Northwest Rooms

Seattle, Washington

Agenda (Draft)

- 8:00 Registration
- 8:30 Welcome – Conference Hosts
- Making the Connection: Transportation and Climate Change
Denis Hayes (Earth Day, Bullitt Foundation) (confirmed)
- 9:00 Panel: Climate Impacts on Washington Businesses
- Climate Impacts: Prof. Richard Gammon, University of Washington, Climate Impacts Group (confirmed)
Agriculture:
Salmon Industry:
Ski Industry: Stuart Watson, Sustainable Business Manager, Mt. Hood Meadows, Oregon (confirmed)
- 9:45 Break
- 10:00 Plenary Panel: Clean Cars, Less Cars
Introductions: Doug Howell
- Alan Durning, Executive Director, Northwest Environment Watch, *Innovative Pricing Mechanisms* (confirmed)
Grace Crunican, Director, Seattle Department of Transportation, *Impacts from Capital Investments* (confirmed)
Ben Knight, Vice President of Environmental Planning, Honda, *Realistic Technology Paths* (confirmed)
John DeCiccio, Senior Fellow, Automotive Strategies, Environmental Defense, *Realistic Technology Paths* (confirmed)
- 11:00 Break
- 11:15 Concurrent Breakout Session on above topics
- 12:15 Lunch
- 1:00 Introduction of Keynote Speaker
The Honorable Ron Sims (confirmed)
King County Executive

Training and Upcoming Events (continued)

Keynote Address

The Honorable Parris Glendening (confirmed)
Governor of Maryland (1995-2003)
Smart Growth and Transportation

2:00 Plenary Panel: Clean Cars, Less Cars
Introductions: K.C. Golden

Larry Frank, Professor, University of British Columbia, *LUTAQH: Land Use, Transportation, Air Quality, Health. Three Case Studies* (confirmed)
Jacky Grimshaw, Transportation Director, Center for Neighborhood Technology, *Lessons Learned* (confirmed)
Sonia Hamel, Director of Air Quality, Executive Office of Governor Mit Romney, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, *Transportation and Climate Strategies in the Northeast* (confirmed)
Roland Hwang, Transportation Director (California), Natural Resources Defense Council, *Policy Initiatives for Carbon Reductions* (confirmed)

3:00 Break

3:15 Concurrent Breakout Session on above topics

4:15 Break

4:30 Views from Olympia

Sen. Jeanne Kohl-Welles (confirmed)
Rep. Toby Nixon, Republican Caucus Vice Chair (confirmed)
Rep. Ed Murray, Chair, Transportation Committee (confirmed)

5:30 Reception

7:00 Adjourn

Courthouse Ramblings

Elizabeth “Betty” Carlson (71) passed away on Saturday, March 27, 2004 in Pomeroy, WA. Betty was the wife of former Garfield County Auditor John Carlson who retired from office in 1991. Memorials may be sent to the American Cancer Society, Morning Star Boys Ranch or Shriners Hospital for Children.

Calendar of Events

<i>Meeting</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Information</i>
2004			
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
WA State Association of County Auditors' Elections Conference	The Coast Wenatchee Center Hotel, Wenatchee	May 10-12	(360) 336-9420
Association of County Human Services Meetings	Chelan County	May 19 - 21	(360) 753-1886
WA Association of Prosecuting Attorneys/ Support Enforcement Project Annual Training Symposium	Best Western Lakeway Inn, Bellingham	May 3 - 7	(360) 753-3953
WA State Association of Police Chiefs 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
WA State Association of County Assessors Annual Conference	Hallmark Inn, Moses Lake	June 14-16	(360) 753-7319
WA State Association of County Auditors' Annual Conference	Lakeway Inn, Bellingham	June 16 - 18	(360) 753-7319
WA Association of Prosecuting Attorneys 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
WA State Association of Counties 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
Association of County Human Services Meetings	Kittitas County	July 21 - 23	(360) 753-1886
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

Calendar of Events (continued)

Association of County Human Services Meetings	Grays Harbor County	September 15 - 17	(360) 753-1886
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
Washington State Association of County Assessors (WSACA) Fall Conference	Everett, Snohomish County	September 13 - 16	
County & Regional Planning Directors/City Planning Directors Joint Conference	Campbell's Resort, Chelan	September 14 - 17	www.geocities.com/wsacrpdpd
WACO/WSAC 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
Association of County Human Services Meetings	Spokane County	November 17 - 19	(360) 753-1886
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
WA Association of Prosecuting Attorneys Support Staff Training Program	WestCoast Ridpath Hotel, Spokane	May 11-13	(360) 753-2175
WA State Association of Police Chiefs 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
WA Association of Prosecuting Attorneys 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
WACO/WSAC Joint Fall Conference	Ocean Shores	October 3 - 7	(360) 753-7319
2006			
WA State Association of Counties 100 th Annual Summer Convention	Whatcom County, Bellingham	June / TBD	(360) 753-1886
IACREOT 35th Annual Conference	San Francisco, CA	July 2-7	

Calendar of Events (continued)

NACo Annual Conference	Denver, CO	July 21 - 26	www.naco.org
<i>2007</i>			
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	

Attachments

For Immediate Release Kiger Mustangs Among Wild Horses Up For Adoption in Pasco, April 17-18

*(Submitted by Kathy Helm, Bureau of
Land Management, Spokane District)*

Eight Kiger Mustangs will be among the 40 wild horses available for adoption in Pasco on April 17th and 18th, at the Franklin County TRAC (Trade, Recreation, and Agriculture Center). The Wild Horse and Burro Adoption is being sponsored by the Bureau of Land Management. The wild horses are from the Kiger, Hog Creek, Paisley, and Three Fingers Herd Management Areas in eastern Oregon. A few burros from the southwest will also be available for adoption. During the weekend event, the BLM is sponsoring two wild horse gentling demonstrations by popular horse trainer Steve Rother.

Rick McComas, Wild Horse and Burro Specialist in the BLM Spokane office, says, "It's been a few years since we held an adoption in Pasco, so we're excited about returning to the Tri-cities area." Adoption requirements, according to McComas, are simple--a sturdy corral and shelter, along with a willingness to provide good care for the animal. After one year of certified good care, full ownership of the adopted animal is transferred to the adopter.

Interested adopters should submit adoption applications as soon as possible and must also register at the adoption site prior to the adoption to participate in the auction. The minimum bid is \$125 per animal, except for jack burros which start at \$25 bid. Approximately \$20 for a health certification is required for out-of-state adopters.

Potential adopters can view the animals and register to adopt all day Saturday, April 17, from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. The wild horse demonstrations will be Saturday, from 9 a.m. to noon, and from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. On Sunday, April 18, animal viewing and adopter registration will continue starting at 8:00 a.m. until just prior to the adoption.

The adoption will be conducted by oral competitive bid, starting at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, April 18. Remaining

animals after the oral bidding process will be available for adoption until Sunday afternoon.

The BLM Adopt-A-Wild Horse or Burro program locates homes for wild horses removed from public rangelands to maintain an appropriate management level. Gathering of excess animals for adoption helps to maintain balance between wild horses, native wildlife, domestic grazing, and the environment.

For application forms and details on adoption requirements and bidding procedures, contact the Spokane BLM, 1103 N. Fancher, Spokane, WA, at (509) 536-1200, or check their website at www.or.blm.gov/spokane/. For recorded information about the Pasco adoption, call Spokane BLM at 1-800-997-2022. The BLM nationwide toll free number for Wild Horse & Burro information is 1-866-4MUSTANGS.