



Washington Association of
**SHERIFFS &
POLICE CHIEFS**

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President
Sheriff John Nowels
Spokane County

President-Elect
Chief Rafael Padilla
City of Kent

Vice President
Sheriff Joe Kriete
Grant County

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City of Redmond

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Executive Board

Chief Cole Langdon
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Chief Rebecca Mertzig
City of Bellingham

Sheriff Clay Myers
Kittitas County

Chief Rick Johnson
East Wenatchee Police
Department

Sheriff Summer Scheyer
Skamania County

Sheriff Mike Morrison
Chelan County

Chief Sam White
Lower Elwha Klallam
Police Department

Chief John Batiste
Washington State Patrol

Mike Herrington, SAC
FBI—Seattle

Steven D. Strachan
Executive Director

Executive Board Meeting Minutes
March 18, 2026 | 10:00AM
Virtual

CALL TO ORDER:

President John Nowels called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

Executive Board Members Present (Virtually):

- Sheriff John Nowels, President
- Chief Rafael Padilla, President Elect
- Sheriff Joe Kriete, Vice President
- Chief Darrell Lowe, Past President
- Chief Damon Simmons, Treasurer
- Chief Cole Langdon
- Chief Rebecca Mertzig
- Sheriff Clay Myers
- Chief Rick Johnson
- Sheriff Mike Morrison
- Chief Sam White
- Chief John Batiste, WA State Patrol
- Mike Herrington, Special Agent in Charge - FBI – Seattle

Staff Present (Virtually):

- Steven D. Strachan, Executive Director
- Jamie Weimer, Chief of Staff
- Rachelle Harwood, Executive Assistant
- James McMahan, Policy Director
- Kim Goodman, Finance Director
- David Doll, Professional Services Director

A quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes for 2/4/2026: **Motion made to approve minutes by Chief Padilla. Second by Sheriff Morrison. Motion passed unanimously.**

REPORTS:

Finance Committee Report:

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements are a draft year-end view. We still have adjusting entries to complete as well as any remaining 2025 expenses that may come through for grants.

Leading collaboration among law enforcement professionals to enhance public safety.

The audit field work will begin in early April. Nothing significant to note in regards to the statements.

SAO ACCOUNTABILITY AUDIT

The State Auditor's office has completed their accountability audit. No findings were reported.

DISBURSEMENTS

Disbursements for the period 1/31/2026 - 3/10/2026 are presented for approval in the packet. Check 48202 through 48295 totaling \$6,714,340.10

Need motion to APPROVE the disbursements. Motion made to approve disbursements by Chief Mertzig. Second by Chief Johnson. Motion passed unanimously.

GRANT REQUEST

One request received from East Wenatchee PD for AEDs in patrol vehicles. Request is for \$5,646.69.

Need motion to APPROVE the Grant Request. Motion made to approve disbursements by Chief Mertzig. Second by Sheriff Morrison. Motion passed unanimously.

Executive Director Update:

Executive Director Steven D. Strachan provided an update on current organizational and external matters. He shared feedback regarding the current legislative environment, noting the veto letters sent to the Governors office on SB 5974 and the draft column he authored sent to the Seattle Times.

Director Strachan informed the Board the new sheriff school is planned for the end of this year as we are expecting multiple new Sheriffs across WA State.

Finally, Director Strachan discussed WASPC's new shared IT agreement for a more robust and secure infrastructure and conference updates on the agenda for the Spring conference coming in May.

OLD BUSINESS:

Consideration of Disciplinary Proceedings:

The Board considered matters related to a complaint against Sheriff Keith Swank. Sheriff Swank was provided notice and did not respond. Discussion occurred.

Motion made to issue a written reprimand to Sheriff Swank. The reprimand shall include the following elements, is to be approved by the officers of the Association, and will be sent by the Executive Director on behalf of the Board:

- **The reprimand is specific to Sheriff Swank's rejection of the rule of law and constitutional framework within which all law enforcement agencies operate.**
- **The reprimand is not based on political views or policy positions. The reprimand does not impact the Pierce County Sheriff's Office, the services it receives, or Sheriff Swank's elected position.**
- **The reprimand will clarify that Sheriff Swank is expected to exhibit conduct consistent with the Association's Constitution and By-Laws. Future conduct inconsistent with those standards may result in further review and additional action.**

Motion by Chief Padilla. Second by Chief Mertzig. Motion passed with nine yes, two nay, and two abstentions.

SAC Herrington and Chief Batiste abstained from this vote.

NEW BUSINESS:

New Sheriff Appointment to WASPC Board:

Subject to Board approval, President Nowels has appointed Sheriff Summer Scheyer from Skamania County to fill the vacant Sheriff board position, this positions term ends in 2027. **Motion made to approve Sheriff Scheyer’s appointment by Sheriff Kriete. Second by Chief Mertzig. Motion passed unanimously.**

Proposed changes to Accreditation Standards:

David Doll brought forward changes to the Accreditation Standards that will be reviewed by the Professional Services Committee at the Spring conference and, if approved, will be brought to the executive board for review and approval.

JBRS Update:

Jamie Weimer outlined changes to the Jail Booking and Reporting System (JBRS) Access Policy for consideration by the Board. **Motion made to approve the changes to JBRS by Sheriff Morrison. Second by Chief Lowe. Motion passed unanimously.**

Future Conference Locations:

The Board was presented with options for future conference locations in Spokane, Kennewick, and Wenatchee. After discussion it was decided WASPC staff would provide more detailed proposal at the May 2026 board meeting.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Approval of Membership Applications:

The following membership applications were presented for consideration.

[Contact Name]	[Organization]	Job Title	Sponsor
ACTIVE APPLICATIONS			
Robin Souvenir	Shoalwater Bay Police Department	Chief of Police	Lucas Stigall
Daniel Soto	Mabton Police Department	Chief of Police	Rob Layman
Ronald Phillips	Westport Police Department	Chief of Police	Neccie Logan
Jay Martin	Lummi Indian Tibe PD	Chief of Police	Sheriff Tanksley
John Markus	Prosser Police Department	Chief of Police	Robert Layman
ASSOCIATE APPLICATIONS			

Daniel McDonald	Washington State Patrol	Lieutenant	John Batiste
Kathryn Garden	Washington State Patrol	Lieutenant	John Batiste
Garique Clifford	Bingen White Salmon Police Department	Sergeant	Michael Hepner
Eric Lund	Tukwila Police Department	Deputy Chief	Eric Drever
Michael Hingtgen	Lake Stevens Police Department	Commander	Jeffrey Beazizo
Daniel White	South Correctional Entity (SCORE)	Jail Services Chief	Devon Schrum
Harry Smith	WSU Police Department	Assistant Chief of Police	Dawn Daniels
Daniel Nevares	Lummi Nation Police Department	Lieutenant	Sheriff Tankley
Tim Morgan	Everett Police Department	Police Lieutenant	Robert Goetz
Jonathan Karr	Everett Police Department	Lieutenant	Robert Goetz
Doug Jackson	Everett Police Department	Lieutenant	Robert Goetz
Paul Stewart	Everett	Lieutenant	Robert Goetz
Yuliya Wold	Everett Police Department	Police Lieutenant	Robert Goetz
Caridad Vesco	Ocean Shores Police Department	Deputy Chief of Police	Neccie Logan
Scott Orate	Prosser Police Department	Sergeant	Robert Layman
Jerry Striek	Everett Police Department	Captain	Robert Goetz
AFFILIATE APPLICATIONS			
Kathy Armstrong	Spokane Police Department	Program Professional	Kevin Hall
Abrielle Sheets	Thurston County Sheriff's Office	Executive Aide	Derek Sanders
Debbie Wharton	Ferndale Police Department	Police Administrative Manager	Matt Huffman
Kimberly Cox	Tacoma Police Department	Deputy City Attorney/Legal Advisor	Patti Jackson
William Washburn	UW Police Department	Accreditation Manager	Craig L. Wilson
John Unfred	Tacoma Police Department	Business Services Analyst	Patti Jackson
MEMBERSHIP TRANSFERS			
Tyler Caille	Douglas County Sheriff's Office	Associate to Active	
Quiles	Tumwater Police Department	Associate to Active	
Mark Lewis	Moxee Police Department	Associate to Active	
Gary Horejsi	Snoqualmie Police Department	Associate to Active	
Tracy Gay	Elma PD from Grays Harbor SO	Associate to Active	

**Motion made to approve the membership applications by Chief Lowe. Second by Sheriff Myers.
Motion passed unanimously.**

2026 Executive Board Meeting Schedule:

The following meeting dates were reviewed:

- May 13, 2026 | Spokane Convention Center
- September 22–24, 2026 | Retreat
- November 11, 2026 | Three Rivers Convention Center

Adjourn:

Motion made to adjourn the meeting by Chief Padilla. Second by Sheriff Myers. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.