

WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION OF SHERIFFS & POLICE CHIEFS

3060 Willamette Drive NE Lacey, WA 98516 ~ Phone: (360) 486-2380 ~ Fax: (360) 486-2381 ~ Website: www.waspc.org

Serving the Law Enforcement Community and the Citizens of Washington

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
WASPC OFFICE | 3060 WILLAMETTE DRIVE NE
LACEY, WA 98516
JANUARY 15, 2019 | 12:00 PM



CALL TO ORDER

President Ken Thomas called the Board meeting to order at 12:06 PM. There was a quorum present with the following Board members in attendance:

President - Chief Ken Thomas, Des Moines PD	Chief Gary Jenkins, Pullman PD (by phone)
President-Elect - Sheriff John Snaza, Thurston County	Sheriff Bill Benedict, Clallam County
Sheriff Rick Scott, Grays Harbor County	Director Mark Couey, OIC, Criminal Investigations Unit
Vice President - Chief Craig Meidl, Spokane PD	Sheriff Jim Raymond, Franklin County (by phone)
Special Agent in Charge Ray Duda, FBI	

The following guests were in attendance:

- Casey Salisbury, Sheriff, Mason County
- Russ Brown, Executive Secretary, WA Association of Prosecuting Attorneys

The following WASPC staff were in attendance:

- Steve Strachan
- Kim Goodman
- James McMahan
- Deb Gregory
- Jamie Weimer
- Raeanne Myers
- Joan Smith

President Thomas called for a motion to approve the November 13, 2018 Executive Board meeting minutes.

Motion: Sheriff John Snaza moved to approve the minutes as written. Sheriff Rick Scott seconded. The motion carried.

REPORTS

Finance & Personnel Committee

WASPC Chief of Staff Kim Goodman presented checkbook register report for the period of November 6, 2018 to 1/7/2019 for checks 40484 through 40677 for a total of \$3,130,831.59.

Motion: Sheriff John Snaza moved to approve the checkbook register report as submitted. Director Mark Couey seconded. The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Board Treasurer Vacancy – With the retirement of Sheriff Brian Winter of Yakima County at the end of 2018, it created a vacancy for WASPC Treasurer to fill an unexpired term. WASPC is currently soliciting interest from Chiefs and Sheriffs who might be interested in filling this position. Interested candidates have until January 24, 2019 to submit their name and information on why they are interested in the position. Candidate names will be submitted to the E-Board for consideration and selection at the March 26, 2019 meeting.

WASPC Committees – Steve Strachan noted the number of WASPC committees, with several not being very active. Steve suggested that those committees be converted into ad hoc committees instead of standing committees. Steve recommended that unless the Board feels a need to specifically eliminate or add more committees, or if there is difficulty in filling a chair or co-chair vacancy that the Board look at converting those into ad hoc committees. The Board agreed with this recommendation. There will be a broader discussion of WASPC's committee structure at the September retreat in Leavenworth.

He also noted that Mike Painter is working with Chief Scott Behrbaum of Issaquah in a draft charter for the newly approved Health & Wellness Standing Committee. Mike is also working with Chief Ed Holmes of Mercer Island on this effort.

At the November conference in Chelan, the Public Trust Committee moved to create a small working group to hone in on some specific issues. The small work group's first meeting is February 6 beginning at 10:00 AM at the WASPC Office in Lacey.

Single Point Firearms Background Checks – Steve Strachan provided the Board with an overview of the background check system as it is structured today, the changing environment law enforcement finds itself in with NICS no longer doing courtesy checks as of June 2019, the passage of I-1639 which requires local background checks for semi-automatic assault rifles and annual verification that persons who acquired pistols or semi-automatic assaults rifles remain eligible to possess a firearm, and the current political environment.

The options include continue with the status quo with a combination of local, federal and state agencies involved in the process. Law enforcement can react and try to respond to legislative and initiative changes with the legislature potentially assigning the single point background check system to a state agency such as WSP or DOL with no local input. Steve presented a third option: for WASPC to have some connection or oversight for single point firearms background

checks. It could be structured under a WATPA-type entity housed within WASPC. It would provide oversight and “arms length” from state government. It would have a database separate from state government and have some oversight and input from Sheriffs and Chiefs along with additional board members. This would ensure balance with 2nd amendment rights and public safety.

After a lot of discussion, the Board agreed that this option is worth consideration and WASPC would prefer input on any single point firearm system.

Motion: Sheriff Rick Scott moved that the Executive Board support WASPC in moving forward with discussions with the Legislature on developing a proposed organizational structure under the auspices of WASPC to be associated with the single point of contact for firearms background checks to include staffing and budget. Sheriff John Snaza seconded. The motion carried.

Legislative Update – Sheriff Scott asked what the status was of the legislation to amend I-940. James McMahan responded that hearings have been going extremely well. There is an emergency clause contained in the legislation that will make it law as soon as Governor Inslee signs the bill. WASPC is hopeful the bill has been signed into law not later than February 1, 2019.

WASPC believes there is a sufficient number of places where people can obtain alcoholic beverages. WASPC has opposed every bill that allows liquor sales in non-traditional locations. James asked the Board if they still hold that position on liquor expansion as there will be more bills introduced this session. The Board agreed by consensus that WASPC should continue to oppose expansion of alcohol availability.

There is movement on the part of the Health Care Authority to mandate medically assisted treatment (MAT) in all jails. WASPC has provided feedback to them that while this is a good idea philosophically, the state’s smaller jails simply do not have the resources to participate. WASPC is recommending that instead of mandating this, that it be packaged as a grant program so that small agencies can apply for assistance. James will continue to monitor this.

WASPC Policy Statements on Community Trust

Steve Strachan has been working with James and many others to develop a set of WASPC policy statements on issues of importance to law enforcement. He will be seeking the Board’s input and approval today, but will not release the statements until final action has been taken on the amendments to I-940.

After discussion on each statement, the Board recommended removing an item on immigration because it may be duplicative.

Motion: Sheriff Bill Benedict moved to approve the policy statements as amended. Sheriff John Snaza seconded. The motion to approve the policy statements as amended carried.

Approval of Membership

WASPC's Membership Committee submitted the latest list of membership applications for the Board's review and approval. All member applications have been endorsed by their sponsors.

Motion: Sheriff Bill Benedict moved to approve the membership applications as submitted. Sheriff John Snaza seconded. The motion to approve carried.

Steve Strachan announced to the Board that WASPC's new Jail Services Liaison will be John McGrath, currently Director of Spokane County Detention Services. John begins his new assignment with WASPC on February 16, 2019. John will be working from Spokane primarily except when conducting training, attending conferences or other meetings requested by WASPC.

2019 Executive Board Meeting Schedule Reminder:

- March 26, 2019 – WASPC Office, Lacey
- May 21, 2019 – Spokane Convention Center – Spokane, WA (Spring conference)
- September 12-13, 2019 – Retreat/Board Meeting – Leavenworth, WA
- November 19, 2019 – Campbell's Resort – Chelan, WA (Fall Conference)

With there being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 1:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Gregory
Executive Assistant, WASPC