

# WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION OF SHERIFFS & POLICE CHIEFS

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*Serving the Law Enforcement Community and the Citizens of Washington*

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING  
WASPC OFFICE | 3060 WILLAMETTE DRIVE NE  
LACEY, WA 98516  
MARCH 26, 2019 | 10:00 AM



## CALL TO ORDER

President Ken Thomas called the Board meeting to order at 10:00 AM. 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	Chief Steve Crown, Wenatchee PD
Vice President - Chief Craig Meidl, Spokane PD (by phone)	Sheriff Jim Raymond, Franklin County
Sheriff Brian Burnett, Past President	Marc Lamoreaux, WSP (on behalf of Chief John Batiste)

The following WASPC staff were in attendance:

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

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President Thomas called for a motion to approve the January 15, 2010 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 disbursements #40679 through 40885 totaling \$2,274,468.29 for approval.

**Motion: Sheriff John Snaza moved to approve the checkbook disbursements as submitted. Sheriff Rick Scott seconded. The motion carried.**

WASPC grants committee received requests from Walla Walla County, Yakima County and Wapato Police Department for LEMAP services support. These requests are in line with the committee charter and also the desired direction of the Executive Board and WASPC membership.

The 2019 budget included \$30,000 in available funds. Based on the review of the requests and the available funding, the Grant Committee recommends the requests be funded for up to \$4,000 each.

**Motion: Sheriff John Snaza moved to approve the disbursement of funds for the LEMAPS as presented. Sheriff Brian Burnett seconded. The motion carried.**

No action needed – update, we have received notice that the Liquor and Cannabis Board will not be renewing their office space lease. They are consolidating operations with the headquarters office in downtown Olympia. WASPC will begin looking for a replacement tenant.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Single Point Firearms Background Checks Update – Jamie Weimer and Kim Goodman of WASPC facilitated a meeting of law enforcement records staff along with ATF, DOL and WSP on the changes coming for firearms background checks. There were 50 people in attendance and a number who participated by conference call.

There were a number of takeaways from the meeting, including records staff who would be pleased to give up background checks and only do fingerprinting. But it is also very clear that there are many more questions than answers on what these changes mean, and who will do what. Many of these questions simply don't have answers. WASPC is attempting to find the answers so that we can provide that information to our membership.

Steve Strachan has been in continuing conversations with Chief John Batiste of WSP to ensure that the two organizations are on the same page. The Governor's Office of Financial Management would be tasked with a study in a bill to look at where single point firearms should be managed and does it make sense to keep it with a state agency such as WSP, or move it into a separate entity such as WASPC. The study is underway and won't be completed for a number of months.

Sheriffs Benedict and Snaza are very concerned about the added workload and how flawed this initiative is. Law enforcement is being held accountable without being provided the back stops necessary to ensure public safety and hold harmless LE agencies. Sheriff Benedict believes we need to develop a unified statement that avoids any political pros or cons of the bill, but instead focuses on what the full ramifications are in trying to carry out the requirements of this initiative when no one has a complete picture of what it means. Steve will follow up and report back to the Board.

Steve also advised the Board that WASPC is putting together a panel for the spring conference in May on the topic of I-1639 and will include an I-940 update.

On the topic of I-940, CJTC has scheduled a number of stakeholder meetings as they develop the training required in the legislation. WASPC has committed to have representation at each of those meetings which will include Steve, and/or a member of WASPC's Executive Committee.

The immigration bill is imminent. It has been worked on in committee hearings and with the many stakeholder groups over the course of many months. In light of the many concessions we were able to garner on this bill, WASPC has agreed to remain neutral.

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 solicited interest from Chiefs and Sheriffs at the first of this year asking everyone to provide a brief statement on why they were interested in the position and a bit on their background. We received names from four outstanding candidates. They are:

- Brett Vance, Chief, Montesano PD
- Andy Hamilton, Chief, Kelso PD
- Dan Yourkoski, Chief, Normandy Park PD
- Steven Blumer, Chief, McCleary PD

There was extensive discussion about the difficulty of selecting among qualified candidates.

**Sheriff Jim Raymond moved to nominate Chief Andy Hamilton. It was seconded by Chief Gary Jenkins. Review and discussion ensued. Sheriff Raymond's motion did not pass.**

Everyone agreed that the Board has been presented with four excellent candidates, making the decision a difficult one.

**Sheriff Rick Scott moved to nominate Chief Brett Vance from Montesano PD as the new WASPC Treasurer to fill an unexpired term through May 2020. Chief Steve Crown seconded. The motion to appoint Chief Vance carried.**

#### Accreditation Vacancy & Reappointment

Mike Painter, Director for Professional Services discussed two vacancies on the WASPC Accreditation Commission; one of the vacancies is under the Accreditation Manager category and one of the Police Chief appointments is up for re-appointment. All of the Commission positions serve three year terms. The following criteria was used in making the recommendations for the vacancy and reappointment:

1. Must be from a current WASPC accredited agency
2. Experience and fluency with the accreditation program
3. Demonstrated good judgement

#### 4. Geographical balance with representation from both eastern and western Washington

The accreditation program has experienced significant turnover during the past several years. Many experienced accreditation professionals have either retired or been transferred or promoted with their organization and are no longer associated with WASPC accreditation. This is great for them but challenging when trying to backfill Commission positions and further develop the accreditation program. Mike did not solicit for either of these positions because of limited candidates with accreditation experience in eastern Washington for the Police Chief position and particularly for the accreditation manager position. As indicated above, Mike believes it is important to have geographical balance on the Commission, when possible, so long as the candidates are qualified to best serve as a Commissioner.

##### Accreditation Manager

Captain Rick Campbell from Cheney PD is retiring effective April 1, 2019. He is a long standing Commissioner and has been invaluable to the program and to Mike personally. **Gary Drumheller** from the Gambling Commission (WSGC) is a Regional Manager assigned to Spokane and was a centerpiece for them being accredited in 2014 and re-accredited in 2018. Gary has been assigned to the Spokane office for over 10 years and also serves as an accreditation mentor and assessor for many agencies in the greater Spokane area and eastern Washington region. Gary advises that it is very unlikely he will be transferred out of eastern Washington in the next three years.

##### Police Chief

Mike has asked Chief **Mike Warren (Ephrata PD)** if he would like to continue as an Accreditation Commissioner and he indicates that he would. Chief Warren was appointed in 2015 and his term expired at the end of 2018. He currently serves as the Accreditation Commission Chair. He has been an active supporter and advocate for accreditation across Washington.

##### Recommendation

Mike recommends both Director Drumheller and Chief Warren for appointment to the Accreditation Commission.

**Motion: Sheriff John Snaza moved to approve the appointments as recommended by Mike Painter. Sheriff Jim Raymond seconded. The motion carried.**

##### Retiring Police Chief Recognition

Steve Strachan noted that WASPC has received a number of requests from retiring Chiefs and Sheriffs for some type of recognition like letters and plaques. WSSA does give plaques to retiring Sheriffs, but WASPC hasn't done anything specific for outgoing Chiefs. He asked the Board if we should be doing something similar for Chiefs. It was agreed by the Board that it would be a nice thing to do. Steve will look at costs associated with presenting plaques and also develop some criteria for when a plaque would be presented based on time served in their position and their involvement with WASPC. He will bring a recommendation back to Board at their May meeting.

### Officer Safety & Wellness MOU

Based on discussions with the WA State Chapters of FBINAA and the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE) regarding officer safety and wellness, WASPC has been asked to sign on to a Memorandum of Understanding agreeing that each organization will continue to work together by providing the membership of each organization constituents opportunities for continuing education, training, professional development, peer networking and research in officer safety and wellness, which will promote improved leadership, cooperation, services, efficiencies, and higher standards of professional conduct in all levels of law enforcement through the state.

Chief Thomas noted that this does not obligate WASPC to anything, but confirms our mutual agreement to continue to work together on safety and wellness for our officers. The Board agreed by consensus and approved Chief Thomas signing the agreement on behalf of WASPC.

Related to this topic, the Board also approved a committee on Health and Wellness. They asked Mike Painter to give an update on the status of this issue. Mike has reached out to Chief Scott Behrbaum of Issaquah PD, who made the initial request for the committee. Mike has been unable to get together with the Chief, but will pursue this further in assisting the Chief in developing a charter for the committee. Mike has agreed that he will be the WASPC staff support to this committee. Once a charter has been developed, the Board will determine whether this committee will be a standing or an ad hoc committee.

Sheriff Burnett said another important issue is not only the health and safety of our officers, but their resiliency in the face of stress on the job, and how we help build their resiliency so they can bounce back after tragedies. In developing the Wellness Committee charter, developing and maintaining resiliency will be included.

### WASPC Support for Research Studies

WASPC has received requests from both WSU and UW to support some research they want to do within the law enforcement community. WASPC does not currently have a process for how to handle the many requests for study support that it receives. Steve Strachan suggested that we have the WASPC President be the approval authority based on a recommendation from the Executive Director on whether and when we support such requests. The other alternative would be to establish an ad hoc research committee with several Board members reviewing and making recommendations.

After some discussion, it was agreed that the best, most efficient course of action is to have the WASPC Executive Director review and make recommendations to the President on whether the organization should support a research study or not. The Board agreed by consensus to that approach.

### Executive Board Meetings with Labor Groups

WASPC's Board has met in the past with WACOPS and FOP's Executive Boards relative to our work together on I-940. Both of these groups have expressed an interest in having periodic

meetings with the Board to discuss issues of mutual interest and to continue building on the good relationships we developed during the I-940 process. It was agreed that the relationships are important. If the Board agrees, Steve proposed an informal meeting with WACOPS' Board during the September retreat in Leavenworth, and also the FOP, perhaps at the spring conference. The Board agreed by consensus with a September meeting.

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

#### WAGang Training

Jamie Weimer advised the Board that WASPC would be making an announcement to membership this week that the WAGang training is available on line.

#### Public Trust Committee

The Public Trust Committee has established a small subcommittee who has met once, and will be meeting again early next month.

Steve acknowledged how many LEMAPs Mike Painter is currently involved in along with several recruitments. His plate is full and he's doing a great job, as is our entire staff.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

At the WSSA meeting in Ellensburg earlier this month, WSSA's membership agreed that they will be nominating Sheriff Mitzi Johanknecht to fill the open sheriff-at-large position that will be vacated by Sheriff Rick Scott, who will stand for the Vice President position.

The Law Enforcement Training & Education Committee is chaired by Sheriff Drew Hyer of Garfield County and Chief Rod Covey of the Port of Seattle Police Department. Sheriff Hyer and Chief Covey are developing some great ideas for training that will be discussed at the committee's meeting in May.

Also for the spring conference, Chief Cherie Harris of Kirkland PD will lead a discussion on the incident at a local yogurt shop and the lessons learned from that. That session will occur at the same time as the Executive Board meeting which gives members who don't typically attend the Board another training opportunity.

#### 2019 Executive Board Meeting Schedule Reminder:

- 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 12:22 p.m.