

WACO Board of Trustees Regular Meeting
October 5, 2021
The Hotel Murano
1320 Broadway
Tacoma, WA 98402

Final Minutes

Tuesday, October 5, 2021

Board Members Present:

Greg Zempel	President	Kittitas	Prosecutor
Stacie Prada	Vice-President	Jefferson	Treasurer
Jeff Gadman	2 nd Vice-President	Thurston	Treasurer
Adam Kick	Secretary/Treasurer	Skamania	Prosecutor
Jerry Pettit	Immediate Past-President	Kittitas	Auditor
Dianne Dorey	Past-President	Lewis	Assessor
Mike Lonergan	Assessors Trustee	Pierce	Assessor / Treasurer
Milene Henley	Auditors Trustee	San Juan	Auditor
Melissa Beaton	Clerks Trustee	Skagit	Clerk
Jon Tunheim	Prosecutors Trustee	Thurston	Prosecutor
Josie Koelzer	Treasurers Trustee	Franklin	Treasurer
Eddie Cantu	Trustee at Large Position 1	King	Licensing Manager
Linda Hjelle	Trustee at Large Position 2	Snohomish	Assessor
Brenda Chilton	Trustee at Large Position 3	Benton	Auditor
Lisa Frazier	Trustee at Large Position 4	Mason	Treasurer
Ruth Gordon	Trustee at Large Position 5	Jefferson	Clerk
Grace Cross	Trustee at Large Position 6	Skamania	Clerk

Staff Present:

Jennifer Wallace	Executive Director
Timothy Grisham	Deputy Director
Lisa Gancel	Finance and Administration Manager
Melanie Terry	Member Services Manager

Guests:

Tim Fitzgerald	Spokane County Clerk
Shoona Riggs	Clallam County Auditor
Dave Thomas	Skagit County Assessor
Hayley Thompson	Skagit County Coroner

1) Call to Order, Roll Call, Approval of Minutes

Greg Zempel, President called the meeting to order at 8:10 am.

Roll call noted Tim Davidson, Coroners Trustee, Rob Snaza, Sheriffs Trustee as absent.

Hayley Thompson, Skagit County Coroner serving as proxy for Timothy Davidson.

Dianne Dorey, Past-President **MOVED** to approve the October 5, 2021 agenda. Lisa Frazier, Trustee at Large Position 4 **SECONDED**. The **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously.

Jerry Pettit, Immediate Past-President **MOVED** to approve the July 7, 2021 minutes. Trustee at Large Frazier **SECONDED**. The **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously

2) New Business

a. WACO Priority Legislative Proposals

Jennifer Wallace, Executive Director introduced guest speakers to present the legislative proposals

Dave Thomas, Skagit County Assessor presented the Assessors' proposal for an aerial imagery study bill.

Brenda Chilton, Trustee at Large Position 3 presented the Auditors' proposal for eliminating the torrens system in Washington. Only five counties currently utilize the system.

Milene Henley, Auditors Trustee presented the Auditors' proposal regarding voting pamphlets. The proposal seeks consistency in what the state and local pamphlets contain.

Ruth Gordon, Clerks Trustee presented the Clerks' legislative proposals. The Clerks' are seeking legislation that would permit counties, if they choose, to raise the Ex-Parte fee to \$50 from the current level of \$30. Additionally, they are asking the state to take over dependency case publications. Currently the state handles all other aspects of the dependency process.

Hayley Thompson, Skagit County Coroner presented the Coroners' proposal for a bill to study the statewide shortage of forensic pathologists that would lead to policy recommendations for the state to consider.

Immediate Past-President Dorey **MOVED** to recommend the proposals for consideration as WACO priority bills to the membership. Trustee at Large Chilton **SECONDED**. The **MOTION CARRIED** unanimously

Jon Tunheim, Prosecutors Trustee discussed the Prosecutors focus areas including: State v. Blake response funding, the new state mandated law enforcement diversion program, sentencing grid changes and retroactivity, reviewing officer involved deadly force, and victim advocacy funding.

Jeff Gadman, 2nd Vice-President discussed policy and position statement development over the interim to create a long-term legislative platform.

3) Old Business

a. Updates to WACO Policy Manual

Executive Director Wallace presented potential changes to the WACO Policy Manual.

Discussed whether conference alternate could be from any WACO affiliated office.

Discussed either adding one holiday for June 19 (Juneteenth) or add the holiday and remove a floating holiday.

Trustee Henley **MOVED** to adopt recommended changes with the change to the Annual Conference Policy to clarify that any person from a WACO affiliate office within the county can be utilized as an alternate conference registration, and that June 19 would be added as a holiday with the reduction of one floating holiday. Immediate Past-President Pettit **SECONDED**

Discussion: 2nd Vice President Gadman asked for an **AMENDMENT** to the motion to original motion to not reduce the floating holiday. Adam Kick, Secretary/Treasurer **SECONDED**.

Discussion: Past-President Pettit clarified what holidays are not covered by WACO and spoke against the amendment. 2nd Vice-President Gadman spoke in favor to the amendment. Trustee Henley spoke in favor of the amendment.

The **MOTION ON AMENDMENT CARRIED** 17 aye, 1 nay. The **MOTION AS AMENDED CARRIED** unanimously.

*The Board went on **BREAK** at 9:17 am. **RECONVENED** at 9:35 am.*

4) Committee Reports

a. Conference Committee

President Zempel thanked WACO staff for suggesting a permanent committee for conference planning. Melanie Terry, Member Services Manager present the Conference Committee report.

b. Nominating Committee

Executive Director Wallace presented the Nominating Committee report and endorsement of the 2021/22 Board of Trustees nominees to move forward.

Mike Lonergan, Assessors Trustee **MOVED** to move the 2021/22 nominees forward to the general membership. 2nd Vice President Gadman **SECONDED**. The **MOTION AS AMENDED CARRIED** unanimously.

c. Audit Committee

Secretary/Treasurer Kick presented the Audit Committee report.

Secretary/Treasurer Kick **MOVED** to accept the Audit Committee Report. Trustee at Large Frazier **SECONDED**. The **MOTION AS AMENDED CARRIED** unanimously.

d. Legislative Committee

Stacie Prada, Vice-President presented the Legislative Committee report.

2nd Vice-President Gadman **MOVED** to accept the Legislative Committee Report. Past-President Dorey **SECONDED**. The **MOTION AS AMENDED CARRIED** unanimously.

e. Education Committee

2nd Vice-President Gadman presented the Education Committee report.

Immediate Past-President Pettit **MOVED** to accept the Education Committee Report. Vice-President Prada **SECONDED**. The **MOTION AS AMENDED CARRIED** unanimously.

5) Other Business

a. Affiliate Updates

Trustee Lonergan provided the Assessors' update on membership changes and legislative priorities.

Trustee Henley provided the Auditors' update discussing elections changes, State v. Blake response, and RFP for affiliate response.

Melissa Beaton, Clerks Trustee provided the Clerks' update discussing the legislative priorities and membership changes due to retirement and other issues.

Hayley Thompson provided the Coroners' update discussing the challenges Coroners have faced during the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic.

Trustee Tunheim provided the Prosecutors' update discussing the challenges prosecutors face in regard to workload impacts and backlogs due to Covid-19.

Josie Koelzer, Treasurers Trustee presented the Treasurers' update discussing legislative planning and implementation of recently passed legislation and rules.

b. Trustee at Large Updates

Eddie Cantu, Trustee at Large Position 1 presented the county category 1 update discussing issues King County are facing including travel restrictions implemented during the Delta Variant surge.

Trustee at Large Hjelle presented the county category 2 update discussing engaging counties as a group rather than affiliates.

Trustee at Large Chilton presented the county category 3 update discussed challenges to engage with the counties in category 3 while still navigating the challenges regarding the ongoing pandemic.

Trustee at Large Frazier presented the county category 4 update discussing opportunities to on-board new members, as well as excitement for the packed lunch series.

Trustee at Large Gordon presented the county category 5 update discussing issues regarding “the retirement wave” and Covid-19 impacts on staffing that have created a number of issues of rebuilding a knowledgeable workforce as people exit.

Grace Cross, Trustee at Large Position 6 presented the county category 6 update discussing the packed lunch series.

6) Staff Reports

a. Executive Director

Executive Director Wallace presented the Executive Director report discussing the Newly Elected Officials core curriculum hosted on the WACO website and progress in regard to alignment with the WACO Strategic Plan.

b. Deputy Director

Timothy Grisham, WACO Deputy Director presented the Deputy Director report discussing changes in communications methods as we face an increasingly remote workforce.

c. Member Services

Melanie Terry presented the Member Services report discussing the packed lunch series.

d. Finance

Lisa Gancel, Finance and Administrative Manager presented the Financial report.

Immediate Past-President Pettit **MOVED** to accept the Financial Report. 2nd Vice-President Gadman **SECONDED**. The **MOTION AS AMENDED CARRIED** unanimously.

The meeting ADJOURNED at 10:55 am.