

the Courthouse Journal

W A C O U N T I E S . O R G

*Washington Association of County Officials
Washington State Association of Counties*

June 19, 2009

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Courthouse Journal*

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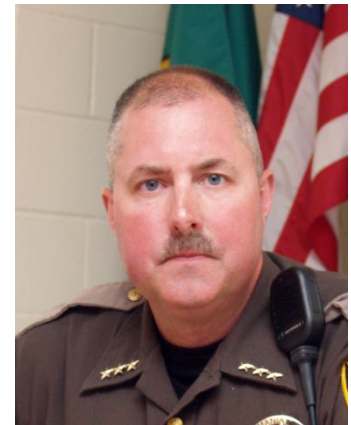
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Skamania County Sheriff is Honored

Skamania County Sheriff Dave Brown was named "Western States Sheriff of the Year" recently by the Western States Sheriffs Association (WSSA). Sheriff Brown is the first to receive this award.

Sheriff Brown (pictured at right) has been active in WSSA since 1999 and has worked to complete a comprehensive reorganization of WSSA and has served on committee to resolve issues involved with Search and Rescue on National Forest and wilderness areas and to develop a funding distribution formula for U.S. Forest Service Cooperative Law Enforcement dollars. In 2008, he was elected President of the organization. Sheriff Brown took office as Skamania County Sheriff in 2003.



WACO congratulates Sheriff Dave Brown!

WSAC Joint District Meeting Recap

The 2009 Washington State Association of Counties Joint District Meeting was well

attended by more than 125 members, affiliate members, partners and guests last week in Benton County, Washington. Camaraderie, professional development and networking were in full swing throughout the four day event.



The weather was as host Commissioner Leo Bowman had promised: sunny, warm and inviting.

A tour group hikes the road at the Nine Canyon Wind Project outside of Kennewick

Job announcements & links to County Employment pages at:

<http://wacounties.org/>

the Courthouse Journal

Published weekly (during Legislative Session) and Bi-weekly (other than Session) by the

Washington Association of County Officials

(WACO) wacounties.org/waco

and the **Washington State Association of Counties**

(WSAC) wacounties.org/wsac

We welcome your suggestions and contributions. The weekly / bi-weekly deadline is noon Wednesdays. Direct inquiries and correspondence to - *The Courthouse Journal*, 206 Tenth Av SE, Olympia, WA 98501

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Highlights include:

- District Roundtable Discussions and a joint session led by Eastern District President Paul Pearce, Skamania County, and Western District President Josh Brown, Kitsap County
- Immersion in Adaptive Leadership Development with Jeffrey Lawrence, Cambridge Leadership Associates
- An entertaining economic keynote by Dr. Arun Raha, State Economic Forecast Council
- Transportation insight provided by Senator Mary Margaret Haugen, Representative Judy Clibborn and others
- Red Mountain Barbeque



Keynote presenter Jeffrey Lawrence leads participants through an Adaptive Leadership workshop

The Association would like to thank the following people and organizations for their support of the event:

Washington Counties Insurance Fund, event sponsor

Benton County

Commissioner Leo Bowman, Benton County

Washington Associations of County Engineers, Planners and Administrators

Glenn Olson, Clark County

County Training Institute

Ed & Eve Shaw

Tri-Cities Convention and Visitors Bureau

Franklin County Courthouse

Energy Northwest

LIGO

Congratulations to Benton, Garfield and King Counties for receiving 2009 Governor's Smart Communities Awards!

Legislative Committee Schedules and Agendas:

<http://www.leg.wa.gov/wsladm/calendar.cfm>

Bill Information: www.leg.wa.gov

Budget, Finance & Taxes

Assessors Meet in Tri-Cities for June Meeting

The Washington State Association of County Assessors met at the Shilo Inn in Richland, Washington on June 8th thru June 10th, with a full slate of Committee meetings.

Monday, June 8 kicked off with golf at the Columbia Point Golf Course. A good time was had by those participating on the challenging course. Tuesday through Thursday was packed with committee meetings covering a wide range of topics and interest. Two excellent presentations were made by both Dan Blasdel, Franklin County Coroner, and Lynette Patterson, State Auditor's Office. Dan has won acclaim for his "Beat the Reaper" interactive video that he has diligently worked to produce over a period of years. A lot of hard work, dedication, time and no small amount of money have gone into the production of this video. Hats off to Dan for his dedication and concern to care enough to bring this project to fruition!

Lynette Patterson of the State Auditor's Office took the group through the many steps and the "how and the why" of State Audits of County Offices. Lynette covered the instances of why an audit may focus on areas that were not covered in prior audits. It could be due to a periodic review - meaning that due diligence dictates that an area be looked at, or constituent concerns that have been reported, or potential risk areas that have occurred in other counties. It is all part of the process.

The Assessors were tasked with deciding the course of legislation they may wish to pursue next year in the 2010 Legislative Session. It was decided in the Leg committee meeting that two bills be brought forth for 2010. Successive to this discussion, the full body on Thursday decided that the Ballot Title Information Bill should be a priority, as should a late entry which would categorize and prioritize Assessor Office functions though some type of legislative relief. All 39 county Assessor Offices are being hit with cut backs and staff reductions, and it is going to become untenable to try and maintain a "business as usual" mentality when faced with the harsh reality of increasing workload with decreasing staff. A third bill of interest, but not one to be presented as a WACO priority request will be Senator Parlette's Current Use Interest Rate Reduction Bill.

And a note in passing... since this meeting has over the years become known as the "Sheep Meeting," you will get bonus points if you know which WACO Staff person showed up without his requisite sheep and was besieged by email messages and pictures via cell phone from WACO co-workers. Word has it the pictures were of his "forgotten at home sheep" pictured cavorting about the South Sound Region wearing a cowboy hat and looking quite forlorn. Now who could that be? (Clue: see page 3 of *the Courthouse Journal* Issue No. 12 dated April 3, 2009.)

Many thanks to Hosts Barbara Wagoner, Benton County Assessor, and Steve Marks, Franklin County Assessor for such a successful conference!

Third Quarter Payment Sales Tax Streamlined Mitigation Calculated

Background

With the passage of Substitute Senate Bill 5089 (Streamlined Sales Tax) in 2007, Washington changed from an origin-based system for local retail sales tax to a destination-based system effective July 1, 2008. This legislation provided funding for the mitigation of local jurisdictions that experience reduced revenues due to the new sourcing provisions. The Department of Revenue determines the amount of mitigation money that will be distributed to local jurisdictions each quarter. The Department provides the information to the State Treasurer who then distributes the money from the mitigation account to each local jurisdiction along with the normal monthly local tax distributions.

The third payment has been calculated

The third Streamlined Sales Tax Mitigation payment will be transmitted on June 30, 2009. It covers taxable retail sales made during the first quarter of Calendar Year 2009. This corresponds to local tax distributions made in March through

May 2009.

The total size of the payment will be \$6,510,628.28, which is down from \$6,861,660.24 last quarter. There are 77 jurisdictions which will receive payments, out of 352 which potentially could. This is down from last quarter, when 86 jurisdictions received payments. The attached payment file outlines the payments to be made:

http://dor.wa.gov/docs/reports/Mitigation/Mitigation_Payments_Q12009.xls

The Department, at the advice of the Mitigation Advisory Committee, is implementing a \$25 threshold on mitigation payments. Any jurisdiction with a net loss less than \$25 will not receive a payment. There are two jurisdictions to which this applied this quarter: Colton and Waitsburg. They would have received \$1.38 and \$4.05, respectively.

For additional information about mitigation for local governments, jurisdictions that were positively impacted by the change to destination-based sales tax, and the impacts to Regional Centers, please click on the following link:

<http://dor.wa.gov/Content/AboutUs/StatisticsAndReports/Mitigation/Default.aspx>

The next mitigation payment will be made on September 30, 2009. The Department is giving local jurisdictions until July 31, 2009, to suggest changes to the data.

Revenue Forecast Council Meeting

The Revenue Forecast Council met on June 18, 2009, to adopt the latest forecast. There is good news and bad news with this forecast. The free fall in the economy seems to have slowed or stopped. However, the 2009-11 biennium is predicted to be short \$685 million at the end of it. The Caseload Forecast Council will meet in July and it is expected that caseloads will increase, so the shortfall will increase. As a result, the Governor Gregoire has directed the cabinet agencies to reduce expenditures by another 2% and has encouraged the non-cabinet agencies to do the same. The Governor has asked them to focus on equipment, out-of-state travel, personnel service contracts and hiring. It is unclear if the Legislature will need a special session to adjust the budget. The complete forecast can be found at <http://www.erfc.wa.gov/pubs/rev0609.pdf>.

WACO Spotlight

Today's Spotlight is on Benton County Clerk Josie Delvin

Hello, I am **Josie Delvin**, Benton County Clerk. I was appointed in January 2006 and ran for election that same year. I had opposition in my first election, but with expert advice from my husband, who is a State Senator and my campaign committee, I was successful in my bid to retain this position. This year I have 20 years with Benton County, having spent almost 17 years with the District Court. I have lived in Washington for 23 years and consider this my permanent home.

I have 31 full-time employees and 4 part-time temporary students that we hire through a work-study program at the local high schools. We handle lower court appeals, criminal felonies, juvenile dependency, juvenile offender, civil (including protection orders), domestic, probate, guardianship, adoption, paternity and mental commitment cases. We also summons and administer all jurors for Benton County and are an official passport processing agent. Our county seat is in Prosser where I maintain an office with 1 full-time staff person. The majority of our business is conducted at the Justice Center in Kennewick.

The first year that I took over this office we processed clerk's dismissals on about 1500 civil cases. We also are in the process of scanning approximately 5 million historical documents. We received a State grant last year that assisted us with this project. We also receive much support from our local Auditor, Bobbie Gagner. Bobbie's assistance through the Auditor's O&M funds has been invaluable.

On May 4th of this year we “went live” with a new jury program. The new program, from Courthouse Technologies, has been somewhat of a challenge to implement. Change can be difficult. As of this date, 6 weeks into the new program, we definitely see a benefit to the new web based system. Just one of the major changes is that when I have a juror contact me directly, I now have the ability to view their history and answer questions.

I have worked on so many projects that there is simply not enough space to put them all down. I have unfinished business here and will continue to run for re-election until I have attained my goals.

Benton County is located in the heart of wine country and has an abundance of outdoor activities, if you so choose. We are a growing community, even in light of the economic hardships experienced by the Country.

Environment, Land Use & Resources

PILT Payments Issued

The Department of the Interior (DOI) has announced the issuance of 2009 payments to counties for the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program. Specifically, Washington counties will receive \$10.7 million for Fiscal Year 2009. This payment was authorized by the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 (PL 110-343) in which PILT received full funding through FY 2012.

Individual letters to Washington’s counties explaining their 2009 payment disbursement are being prepared. Click the link below for the press release from the Department of the Interior. <http://www.doi.gov/news.html>

For additional information about the FY 2009 payment, please visit www.doi.gov/pilt.

DOE Initiates Low Impact Development Technical Standards Process

The Department of Ecology is initiating a process to develop recommendations on technical standards and definitions for low impact development (LID) as well as approaches to implementation. Ecology will then incorporate requirements on LID into the Phase I municipal stormwater permit. In future permit cycles Ecology will also develop permit requirements on LID for cities and counties covered by the Phase II Western Washington municipal stormwater permit.

Ecology is planning an eight-to-ten month process with two stakeholder advisory groups: a technical advisory group and an implementation advisory group. Permittees and interested parties are encouraged to begin working together to identify qualified individuals to represent them on advisory committees that will be formed in the process. A nominations packet will be posted on the Ecology website in late June. For more information on the process please see Ecology’s website at <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/stormwater/municipal/LIDstandards.html>

Ecology Modifies Municipal Stormwater Permits

The Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) announced on Wednesday that it would modify municipal stormwater requirements in order to help cash-strapped local governments comply with the permits. The changes apply to both the state’s largest municipalities, covered under the state’s Phase 1 municipal stormwater permit, and the next-largest municipalities, covered under Phase 2 permits.

“We modified these permits because of dramatic budget cutbacks we’ve seen in local governments that undermine the success of these permits,” said Ecology Director Jay Manning. “These modifications strike a balance by providing flexibility and reducing costs for municipalities. The modifications do not reduce our focus on clean water and water quality standards.”

The modifications provide requirements for low-impact development for all Phase 1 municipalities, and for Phase 2 municipalities in Western Washington, in keeping with two state Pollution Board rulings. Low-impact development includes use of vegetation, porous pavement and rain gardens to collect rainwater and reduce uncontrolled runoff.

In addition, Ecology modified the Phase 1 permit, and the Western Washington Phase 2 permit, to allow a gradual ramping up of inspection requirements over several years.

Phase 2 municipalities in Western Washington are provided a six-month extension in their due date to complete their ordinances, from August 2009 to February 2010.

Eastern Washington Phase 2 communities are provided an extension of an additional year, until Feb. 2011, to put their codes into effect and to upgrade their maintenance and operations plans.

View the permit modifications at: www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/stormwater/municipal/permitMOD.html and a summary focus sheet at: www.ecy.wa.gov/pubs/0910050.pdf

General Government Issues

Energy Management Systems

You might think that incorporating energy efficiency into the daily operations of our organizations is a relatively easy task. The experience of many organizations has proven otherwise. Becoming proactive in energy efficiency requires a new column on the organization chart, an understanding of technologies that managers may not be familiar with, and use of precious time to understand and plan for change.

To establish a road map to energy efficiency, organizations are turning to Energy Management Systems (EMS). An EMS walks an organization through the process of making a commitment to energy efficiency, establishing a team of employees to advance the cause, benchmarking of energy use, evaluating and implementing energy efficiency technologies, and making efficiency considerations a continuous part of operations.

Three guides to establishing and using an EMS have recently been published.

The Georgia Institute of technology created "A Management System for Energy (MSE) 2000". Search for "MSE 2000: 200x" for a draft copy. This document is being used as a base by the International Standards Organization to create a new standard, ISO 50001. ISO 50001 will be an Energy Management System standard. It is expected to be finalized by the end of 2010.

The U.S. EPA has posted an EMS guide called "Guidelines for Energy Management Overview", available at: http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=guidelines.download_guidelines.

The U.S. EPA has also produced an Energy Management System dedicated to wastewater treatment plants, titled "Ensuring a Sustainable Future: An Energy Management Guidebook for Wastewater and Water Utilities". It is available at: http://www.epa.gov/waterinfrastructure/pdfs/guidebook_si_energymangement.pdf

Many organizations find the structure of an EMS useful. All of these documents are similar in scope and objective and will assist you to get organized and start making progress at reigning in energy costs, lowering your greenhouse gas emissions and improving the working environment in our buildings.

James Borthen, P.E, Energy Star Coordinator, U.S. EPA, Region 10, Seattle, Washington, 206-553-1485

Training & Upcoming Events

Washington Counties – [wacounties.org/Calendar of Events](http://wacounties.org/Calendar%20of%20Events)

County Training Institute – www.countytraininginstitute.org

Association News

Jefferson Sheriff, Prosecutor Move Closer in New Joint Effort

by Erik Hidle, Peninsula Daily News, 6/14/2009

Jefferson County's Sheriff's Office and Prosecuting Attorney's office have begun working a bit closer together in a new joint community policing effort.

Deputy Prosecuting Attorney Ted DeBray was transferred last week from the Jefferson County Courthouse in Port Townsend to the sheriff's headquarters in Port Hadlock.

DeBray, an attorney since 1994, has spent the last 2 ½ years overseeing controlled substance prosecutions for the felony division of the Jefferson County Prosecuting Attorney's Office.

Prosecuting Attorney Juelie Dalzell said the move is intended to help both agencies focus on methamphetamine trafficking investigations, neighborhood conflict resolution, and interagency cooperation.

"In this new role, Mr. DeBray will be directing time and energy toward assisting sheriff's office detectives in their investigations through the provision of on-site legal advice and by acting as an important nexus for interdepartmental coordination," Dalzell said.

"This will allow both the Sheriff's Office and the Prosecuting Attorney's Office superior access to the resources of each agency.

"Working together, both the Sheriff's Office and Prosecuting Attorney's Office expect to experience meaningful contributions to the ability of the law enforcement community to preserve public safety in Jefferson County and to improve the quality of life of local residents."

Jefferson County Sheriff Tony Hernandez said the move will bolster his department's efficiency and effectiveness in the investigative and prosecution aspects of the local criminal justice system.

"It's a typical model of having an embedded deputy prosecuting attorney to help with the 'legal-eze' we deal with on a daily basis," Hernandez said.

"Ted can help us with everything from obtain search warrants to legal advisement on cases we are working."

DeBray moved into his new office on Friday. "I'm excited to be here," he said. "Being on site means I'm readily available to look at cases and have that legal input."

The new role as a liaison to the Sheriff's Office will be in addition to his role as a deputy prosecutor. DeBray will continue

to work in the court room for the prosecution side on his typical case load.

"The difference is my office will be here and I'll be able to help a lot more," he said.

WA Seat Move Closer to Vote

from Seattle Post Intelligencer, 6/13/2009

A ruling has been made that puts Benton County voters closer to deciding whether to move the county seat.

On Friday, Superior Court Judge John Lohrmann ruled in favor of a petition from former Superior Court judge Fred Staples. Staples has been working for years to move the county seat to Kennewick from Prosser.

The ruling means Staples won't have to collect as many signatures from valid registered voters as he would have under a previous interpretation of the law from the state Attorney General's Office.

Staples challenged the attorney general's opinion in a lawsuit.

Friday's hearing was held in Benton County Superior Court in Prosser, where Staples was a judge for decades.

The attorney general's opinion said Staples would have to use the number of voters who turned out during last year's high-turnout general election to determine how many signatures he needed.

But Staples said he should be able to use the turnout of this year's general election instead. The off-year election is expected to have a much smaller turnout than the 2008 presidential election.

Staples told the Tri-City Herald he now has about 15,500 legitimate signatures. Although he believes those should be sufficient, he said he plans to continue gathering signatures as he seeks to put the issue before voters in 2010.

Staples said he plans to present his petitions to Benton County commissioners next year to get the county seat change referendum on the 2010 general election ballot.

The last time the issue was voted on, in 1984, it was defeated after failing to reach 60 percent approval.

Staples called Lohrmann's ruling a "blessing." Deputy Prosecutor Ryan Brown said he wasn't sure if the county would appeal the ruling. Lohrmann is a judge in Walla Walla County.

The argument revolved around an 1890 statute that said petitions to put a measure on a ballot must contain signatures equivalent to at least a third of the number of voters who participated in the last general election. In 1890, general elections were held every two years. Now they're held every year.

County Engineers Install New Officers

The Washington State Association of County Engineers (WSACE) installed new officers for 2009-2010 with Pierce County Engineer, Brian Stacy, taking the helm. Stacy has previously served as Western District Secretary, WSACE Secretary/Treasurer, and President-elect. Stacy also serves as a member of the County Road Administration Board (CRAB) representing counties with a population greater than 125,000.

In addition to Stacy, Mark Storey, Whitman County Public Works Director/County Engineer was elected to the position of President-elect and Joe Rutan, Whatcom County Engineer was elected Secretary/Treasurer.



Brian Stacy

County Engineers Ink Agreement with WDFW

The Washington State Association of County Engineers (WSACE) last week signed an agreement with the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) at their annual convention in Kennewick, Washington. The “framework agreement” is a result of several months of meetings between WSACE and WDFW and lays the e groundwork for a continuing cooperative relationship.

After hearing concerns about the hydraulic permitting process, WSACE Managing Director Gary Rowe, and WSAC Executive Director Eric Johnson, met with former WDFW Director Jeff Koenings, and Deputy Assistant Director for the Habitat Program Peter Birch, to explore ways to improve the permitting process. WSACE and WDFW established a working group led by Doug D’Hondt, Kittitas County Engineer, and Monte Reinders, Jefferson County Engineer, to identify technical and procedural issues together with training and technical guidance.

The agreement establishes a framework for continued discussion which is expected to lead to a more formal agreement at a later date.

Courthouse Ramblings

Changes to 2009 Directory of Washington County Officials

Page 14, Garfield County, (top of page) physical address of courthouse should be 789 Main Street followed by the PO box. Page 62, Washington Counties Insurance Fund, PO Box is 7786.

Musician Ends Run for County Clerk

Former Nirvana bassist Krist Novoselic says his protest candidacy for Wahkiakum County clerk against incumbent Kay Holland is over.

He says he was just trying to make a point and has officially withdrawn from the race.

Earlier this month, he started his campaign to protest Washington State’s system of letting candidates pick their own party affiliation.

Novoselic, who lives in tiny Deep River, is the head of his local chapter of the Grange, a civic organization. His election paperwork declared that he was running under the “Grange Party” banner, even though the Grange isn’t a political party.

Garfield County Treasurer Retires

Garfield County Treasurer **Cathy Summers** has announced she will leave office on June 30, pack her motor home and enjoy some summer traveling. Cathy has earned the well-deserved break after serving 18 years as Treasurer and the 12 years before that as a deputy. WACO wishes Cathy a long, happy, healthy retirement. Garfield County is hosting an open house on June 29 from 3-5:00 p.m. in Cathy’s honor.

Successor Named

Best wishes to Garfield County Chief Deputy Treasurer **Karen Roosevelt** who has been named by County Commissioners to take office on July 1 as the new county treasurer. She succeeds Cathy Summers.

Good Things

Coroner Wins NACo Award

WACO's congratulations go to Franklin County Coroner Dan Blasdel. He was recently notified that he was selected as the rural county winner of the National Association of Counties (NACo) 2009 County Courthouse Award. The award will be presented at the NACo Annual Conference next month in Nashville, Tennessee. The honor comes with a \$5,000 college scholarship to award to a graduating high school senior in Franklin County and a plaque.

The honor comes as a result of an interactive CD Rom Blasdel was instrumental in creating. "Beat the Reaper" is targeted at reducing the number of youth and families affected by alcohol and other drug use by allowing young audiences to make choices in various real-life situations in the virtual world and then see the consequences. The video deals with drinking, driving, and even teenage pregnancy. Over 95,000 hours of volunteer time and both local and state donations have made the nearly 10 year project a reality.

The video has been given great reviews when the WACO Board of Trustees previewed "The Reaper" over the winter and again last week when Blasdel presented the project to the Washington State Association of County Assessors (WSACA) during their annual conference. There are a limited number of copies available at WACO or you may contact Blasdel at dblasdel@co.franklin.wa.us.

Josh Weiss Named Chair of Washington Biodiversity Council

This quarter, the [homepage of the Washington Biodiversity website](#) focuses on working lands. You'll find links to a number of recent resources as well as a profile of a Northwest Certified Forestry member.

You'll also find

- Updates on the Biodiversity Council's early action projects
- News about fishers in Olympic National Park and blue whale migration off the coast
- Information on how organic farming standards are strengthening biodiversity conservation.

New Council chair **Josh Weiss** celebrates past accomplishments and looks ahead in a letter [From the Chair](#).

And—although June is speeding by—the [calendar](#) offers a mix of events and opportunities for the rest of the month.

[Comments](#) on these pages or any part of the website are most welcome. And please send along suggestions for quarterly topics, news items, resources, and events relating to Washington's biodiversity and its conservation.

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### Engineer of the Year

Island County Engineer Bill Oaks has been honored as the 2008 County Engineer of the Year by the Washington State Association of County Engineers (WSACE). The award was presented by Walt Olsen, Deputy Director of County Road Administration Board, on June 10<sup>th</sup> in Kennewick at the Annual Convention of the Washington State Association of Counties.

County Engineers are nominated by their respective Councils and Boards of Commissioners for the award. A statewide peer review committee makes the final selection. Candidates for the award must have demonstrated outstanding skill in areas of leadership, management, public relations, engineering, public works, and community activities, both within their counties and on behalf of the WSACE.

Island County Commissioners noted that:

“Our County Engineer, Bill Oakes, is an outstanding manager in many areas. Bill manages a department that includes Roads, ER&R, Solid Waste, Parks, Paths & Trails, Drainage, and all Capital projects. Bill’s management style of leading by example with his high ethical standards strengthens and solidifies the management team.”

“Bill is a mentor to many employees in the Public Works department, as he never passes up a teaching moment, from teaching engineering theories to the non-engineering groups, to teaching wind and tide patterns to assist in possibly predicting if a high tide will wash out one of the many beach communities in Island County. Bill believes that we are all life-long learners. He has taught many strong leadership values and shown the importance of them such as: Praise in public and criticize in private; there are always two sides of a story and the truth usually lies somewhere in-between; the best thing a manager can do is listen; and we are a Public Works family. The motto hanging over Bill’s desk reads, “Goal: Best Public Works Department Ever”. Ever mindful of the team he manages, Bill is quick to thank his office staff and road maintenance crews for bringing success to his office, when praised in public for his good deeds and actions.”

“Bill has an extensive background in Engineering. He graduated from Penn State with a BS Civil Engineering. He went through extensive nuclear power training and then served in the United States Navy as a Nuclear Power Submarine Officer, for eight years. Following his Naval Service, Bill worked for private firms and then as Engineering Services manager for King County for nine years before coming to Island County in 2001 as the Public Works Director and County Engineer.”

Congratulations Bill!

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## Attachments

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### Welcome to the U.S. Communities Purchasing & Finance Agency

#### (U.S. Communities) website <http://www.uscommunities.org/>

The Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO), the National Association of Counties (NACo), the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing (NIGP), the National League of Cities (NLC), and the United States Conference of Mayors (USCM), jointly sponsor the

#### U.S. Communities Government Purchasing Alliance (U.S. Communities)

Designed in cooperation with an Advisory Board of local government purchasing officials, U.S. Communities pools the purchasing power of public agencies, achieves bulk volume discounts on behalf of public agencies, competitively solicits quality products through a lead public agency and provides a purchasing forum for public agencies nationwide.

You can obtain information on how to contact all U.S. Communities suppliers by telephoning (866) 472-7467 or by sending an email to [info@uscommunities.org](mailto:info@uscommunities.org)

U.S. Communities | 2175 North California Blvd., Suite 550, Walnut Creek, CA 94596

(866) 472-7467 | [info@uscommunities.org](mailto:info@uscommunities.org)

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"Results from our internal customer satisfaction survey show that our customers want two things from Purchasing. First save us time in the procurement process and second save us money. When Kansas City, Missouri uses a U.S. Communities contract we save both time and money for our customers."

**Ray Burnett,**  
**Commissioner of Purchases and Supplies**  
**Kansas Citv. MO.**