

52 concerns and would like to not be blind in program implementations. They keep telling us to
53 document everything. Keep up to date on the guidance from the US Dept of Treasuries. For
54 counties and cities with populations under 50,000 they will receive funds directly from the state
55 as well as an agreement of some sort.

56

57 Mr. Johnson reviewed the expenditure budget of WSAC. Constantly looking at ways to do
58 business in a more effective manner. Dues comprise of about 50% of the revenue and comes
59 from the 39 counties. Other sources of revenue were reviewed which includes funds from
60 conference which none were held in 2020. Contract services are provided to several groups
61 providing virtual training to others. They also help with legal defense issues by providing
62 consultation. Communication to counties using media, marketing and brand awareness, and
63 social media information. The policy direction WSAC takes is from county elected officials and
64 make sure those executing the elected's direction is executed properly.

65

66 State gas tax is used to provide transportation studies with county engineers. Fish passage barrier
67 removal study of the 10,000 barriers in place around the state among other road revenues.

68

69 Legislative Steering committee positions were discussed and how WSAC works hard for
70 consensus on legislative agendas. Mr. Johnson said WSAC is preparing for 2022 legislative
71 session. Virtual sessions were interesting with some critical legislation impacting counties. WSAC
72 is looking at local controls after the pandemic and the legislative priorities and responding to
73 COVID crisis, combatting climate change and protecting our environment, and ending racial
74 disparities and social inequities, making long term investments and securing long term solvency.

75

76 Federal priorities dialogue started a few years ago to advocate on the various issues. PILT and
77 SRS is important to some counties and make up a significant portion of Okanogan County's
78 budget. WSAC works hard to ensure counties receive compensation for federal lands within their
79 boundaries. Forest health, Fish passage removals, Columbia River Treaty, Broadband Access,
80 SRS, PILT, Medicaid inmate exclusion, funding public health, and pandemic relief assistance
81 support, water restoration and salmon recovery funding are federal priorities WSAC is engaged
82 on.

83

84 Current litigation activities were discussed and what issues WSAC is working on for counties.

85

86 Amicus Briefs were discussed as to the process and forms used to relay the case information on
87 an issue that has a broad affect to all 39 counties. Commissioners discussed water issues
88 currently at the superior court level. Mr. Johnson said usually WSAC doesn't provide a brief at the
89 superior court level, but does at a higher-level court. The issue of water is complex and the issues
90 carry over even when county commissioners are not reelected.

91

92 The County Leaders Conference is November 16-18 in person at the Davenport Grand in
93 Spokane this year.

94

95 Commissioner Hover discussed utilization of fish habitat. Commissioner Largent stated in
96 Whitman County he sees physical water availability issues with water table levels. Salmon habitat
97 is huge for them and culvert transportation is an issue.

98

99 Lastly, the group the discussed Sheriff enforcement of issues and the executive structure of
100 counties. Elected officials do not report to the county commissioners as the officials are
101 independently elected. Sheriff Hawley said there are lots of nuisances that emerge and trying to
102 figure out how to work within those with the least impact to officer's safety. Well fare checks were

103 discussed and how those can affect appearance of intention and the perceived implications that
104 can cause problems. A lot of time the Sheriff is a mediator between parties, but with so much
105 going on it can turn into something else. Recruitments were discussed.

106
107 Commissioner Hover discussed land use issues in his district and how it is perceived by those
108 moving here. The group thanked each other for the time to meet today.

109
110 Commissioners asked for executive session with David Gecas to discuss legal matters.

111
112 **Motion Executive Session RCW 42.30.110(1)(i)**

113 Commissioner Hover moved to go into executive session at 10:55 a.m. for 20 minutes inviting
114 Chief Civil Deputy David Gecas to discuss RCW 42.30.110 (1)(i). Motion was seconded, all were
115 in favor, motion carried.

116
117 Executive session was extended at 11:15 a.m. for another 35 more minutes.

118
119 Executive session ended at 11:50 a.m. no decisions were made.

120
121 The board adjourned at 11:52 a.m.

122