

**WASHINGTON STATE CHAPTER OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR
THE TREATMENT OF SEXUAL ABUSERS**

BOARD MEETING: VIRTUAL MEETING VIA GOTOMEETING PLATFORM

9.17.2021

10:30 A.M. –12:00 P.M.

Attendees

H. Coryell; L. Trifiletti; M. O’Connell; P. Grant; J. Pelander; R. Beattey; P. Hannon

Absent

C. McNally; D. Winter; D. Yanisch; M. Reese

Agenda

1. M. Reese has volunteered to update the WATSA website. A suggestion was made to include a resource page.
2. The Board discussed M. Kokko’s recent resignation as DOC liaison. She wrote a letter addressing the Board and this was read and discussed.
3. The idea of forming an outreach subcommittee was discussed in an effort to recruit new SOTPs to the field.

DOC Update (M. Reese; C. McNally; D. Winter): SOTAP was planning on returning to in-person groups but were told to keep things virtual until mid-November. They plan to stay virtual until 1/1/22 to minimize disruption to clients. Most SOTAP staff is vaccinated at this time. There has been some resistance among custody staff to provide proof of vaccination. DOC administration is planning for a potentially large staff turnover. Staff must be vaccinated by 10/16 and are given a 45-day grace period if they are in the process of getting an exemption.

SCC Update (H. Coryell; D. Yanisch): The SCC is continuing to carefully comply with COVID regulations. They are developing a plan in the event of critical staffing levels. As with DOC, there is concern about staff turnover related to the vaccination requirement.

Juvenile Rehabilitation Update (J. Pelander): There is also concern about staff turnover. A sex offender treatment coordinator was hired in Spokane. JR is looking for additional providers in Eastern Washington to refer clients to for community treatment.

DOH Advisory Committee Update: The committee convened and reviewed the WACs to start considering updates. One question being discussed is if affiliates need to be fully licensed in their underlying credential or if they can work toward their license and SOTP at the same time. People are encouraged to attend when they hold public comment meetings.

Eastern Washington Update (P. Hannon): No updates.

Membership Update (M. Reese): No update.

Meetings

October – ATSA recap

November – Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) representative from Seattle Police Department discussing trends in child sexual abuse images (CSAI)

December – No meeting

January – Psychosexual evaluations in the context of child custody by Jennifer Wheeler

Business Items

Program Committee– The committee will begin discussion of the 2022 conference (virtual), 2022 retreat (hopefully in-person in Fall), and possible trainings.

Additional upcoming training opportunities: The SOTIPS/ ROSAC/ VASOR-2 training will be rescheduled, date TBD.

Sex Offender Policy Board – A new coordinator was hired, Whitney Hunt. The SOPB is quickly approaching the deadline to submit their recommendations. One area being addressed is the “automatic decline” that can occur when 16- or 17-year-old defendants are declined by the juvenile court and sent to adult court when they commit certain offenses. The SOPB recommendation would be for this process to not be automatic. There is also talk about renaming offenses committed by juveniles. The Registration subcommittee has one more meeting and they are finding some difficulty coming to a consensus on recommendations. The Treatment subcommittee has formulated 22 recommendations and has one more meeting to finalize the language. One recommendation is to reform the SAY program by making it a stand-alone program and involving insurance.

P. Hannon reported on the 5163 updates taking place. She indicated the SCC is considering outsourcing treatment to providers in other states because there are not enough providers in Washington willing to work with LRA clients. The pay rate is one reason for this.

Treasurer Report –The balance is \$44,120.39. Expenditures include insurance and domain name.

Legislative Updates – None.

Agenda items for future meetings

1. Update chapter bylaws
 - a. Training for new board members
2. Resource list on website for families of youth with sexual behavior problems
3. RSO study provided by Brad Meryhew
4. Chaperone training
5. Board member qualifications and expectations/ clarify when election should be sent out