

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

BOARD MEETING: STEILACOOM TOWN HALL

10.18.2019

10:00 A.M. –12:00 P.M.

Attendees

L. Trifiletti (by phone); M. O'Connell; J. Williamson; M. Saylor (by phone); H. Coryell; D. Yanisch; M. Kokko; C. McNally

Absent

R. Beattey; P. Hannon; P. Grant

Agenda

1. The SOTIPS training will be rescheduled for next year. We are talking with Bob McGrath regarding his availability and attempting to coordinate the training with other times he may be traveling to this area to cut down on cost. Scholarships awarded will be honored. Refunds were issued for all registrants.
2. We will be organizing a 2-day Static-99R and STABLE 2007 training with Jeff Landon early next year. The location and date of the training is TBD.
3. Elections are coming up in January 2020. The offices that will be on the ballot are president, two general board positions, and Eastern Washington representative. We will also be seeking an additional general board member. It might be helpful to have a person who works with juveniles represented on the board. A suggestion was made to develop criteria for individuals to qualify for board membership (ex: length of time as a WATSA member, etc.).
4. We renewed our contract with GoDaddy for an additional two years.
5. M. O'Connell followed up with Donta Harper and Mac Pevey regarding the DOC Information Sharing Guidelines with no response yet. On 8/16/19 L. Trifiletti made a public records request for a DOC client being evaluated and received the information on 10/18/19. M. Kokko to reach out to the records chair of the Administrative Services Division. A practice alert is forthcoming.
6. Andrea Piper-Wentland attended the Board meeting to discuss her lobbying efforts and to see if WATSA can utilize her services to impact legislative change. Andrea was awarded the 2018 Irwin S. Dreiblatt award for career excellence. The Board presented her with her plaque and thanked her for her contributions to the field.

Andrea has been working in victim services for more than 20 years, including at the state and national-level and for the Washington Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs. She has worked diligently to support system coordination of sexual assault programs and views sex offender management as part of that system. She has served as the Chair and Vice Chair of the Sex Offender Policy Board for many years. Her efforts also include building services for survivors who are incarcerated. Andrea served as a National Technical Assistance Provider with the Department of Justice- Office of Violence Against Women under the Obama administration. She has worked with WATSA over twelve years to increase policy presence. Andrea started her business as a lobbyist with Rebecca Johnson in January 2019. They currently serve a number of agencies related to victim advocacy and community protection.

Andrea was proud to report the passing of the statute of limitations bill in 2018. It took five years to pass this bill. As part of that process, the question arose regarding what happens to adults who committed their only sexual offense when they were juveniles. There is talk of creating special provisions for these individuals with lesser sanctions.

SOTPs may be a useful addition to this conversation to educate the legislature on risk. There is a delicate balance of the needs of victims and needs of the offender with emphasis on the seriousness of these crimes and potential long-term impact on victims.

The Sex Offender Policy Board is inactive now, however they made a number of recommendations when they were in session that could be useful now. Representative Noel Frame is interested in juvenile justice reform and may provide a listening ear for changing laws related to juvenile sexual offenders and reinstatement of the SOPB. Ten years ago there was an oversight committee for qualification and oversight related to sex offender treatment and it may be useful to restart this. As rape kit reform is being adopted in this state, the 10,000 untested kits will be processed and this may create an increased demand for treatment. There are 120 bills per year on average related to this field. It would be useful to have a designated person tracking these bills/ blocking when problematic and keeping the WATSA membership informed.

The Board inquired about cost of lobbying services and potential conflicts of interest. Andrea suggested the Board create a list of aspirational goals that will be prioritized to determine how best to utilize Andrea's services. Contracts can be tailored to the organization's needs and budget, but Andrea requested the contract be for one year duration, at least. The Board views policy change and advocacy as an important part of WATSA's mission. Andrea indicated if a conflict of interest arises, she and her partner plan to be transparent with the organizations and split their workload accordingly.

DOC Update: We discussed some frustration on the part of providers when collaborating with DOC Community Corrections Officers regarding clients and treatment issues. It was noted that many CCOs are extremely collaborative and this creates a mutually beneficial relationship. C. McNally and M. Kokko indicated they have been pushing to discuss treatment in the CCO training academies and were recently approved to do so.

Eastern Washington Update: None.

Meetings

November – ATSA Conference, Atlanta, Georgia

December – No meeting

January – ATSA recap; Location TBD

Business Items

Program Committee– Michael Caldwell provided his bio and information for the conference brochure. Kevin Creeden is out of office until 10/21. M. Saylor to follow up. We are aiming to have the conference brochure complete by the end of the month and begin advertising. M. Saylor has been in contact with Cynay Smith and Debbie Losse (the conference coordinator) at Suncadia regarding the food options. We need to determine a location for the 2021 conference. M. Saylor requested Suncadia put together a proposal for 2021 as a point of comparison.

We are in need of a conference committee. An email will go out to membership seeking volunteers to help.

Additional upcoming training opportunities: The SOTIPS/ ROSAC/ VASOR-2 training will be rescheduled for next year.

Eastern WA chapter issues: N/A

Membership Committee – N/A

Sex Offender Policy / Media Committee – Ann Snyder, the Public Affairs Coordinator at ATSA provided a list of legislative bills ATSA is tracking nationally. Please click the following link: [LEGISLATION PASSED DURING 2019_ATSA](#)

Financial Update –

The current balance is \$39,769.80. \$4620.00 was returned to people for the cancelled SOTIPS training. The WATSA website is paid up for the next year and the WATSA domain name paid up for the next two years.

Other Issues: N/A

Agenda items for future meetings

1. Brainstorming ideas for lobbyist
2. RSO study provided by Brad Meryhew
3. Chaperone training