

WSAC Courthouse Briefing
November 10, 2020
2:00 p.m.

Present: Commissioner Fund, Commissioner Jackson (left at 2:50p.m.), Washington State Association of Counties (WSAC) Executive Director Eric Johnson, Becky Butler, Erik Martin, WSAC First Vice-President Rob Gelder, Rieva Lester and Commissioner Stamper (joined at 2:18 p.m.)

Guest: Sean Swope

Recorder: Tammy Martin

WSAC Update:

COVID-19 Coordination/Communication –There has been an amazing change of events for 2020 and WSAC Director Eric Johnson is impressed with all the counties on their communication. Even though everything has been virtual, there has been great interaction with all WSAC members. One of the largest challenges faced was the funding not being delivered all at once.

Financial health of the organization has affected contracts, education services, and conferences. Missing out on the conferences this year has reduced funding for other events.

The Live Healthy Prescription program is getting a reboot.

Legislative Activities – WSAC feels the state needs to step up with adequate funding for fish passage removal. This needs to be a bigger focus to avoid litigation actions. The state is funding replacements of culverts in sections as opposed to a bundle. Involuntary Treatment Act, unfunded mandates, funding for public defense are the other areas WSAC is focusing on. Spokane County lost a case due to interpretation. The Legislature can re-classify county commissions based on its size. WSAC expects to reach out to the county auditors to submit claims for drop boxes.

Commissioner Fund reminded everyone of the Legislative Roundtable on December 11, 2020.

Adjourned 3:06 p.m.