

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

BOARD MEETING  
02.20.2015  
11:30 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

## Attendees

H. Coryell; M. Kirkpatrick; D. Knoepfler; M. O’Connell; L. Paxton; K. Rongen; M. Saylor; P. Spizman; L. Trifiletti

## Absent

B. Judd; J. Landon; M. Pinedo; J. Wheeler

## Agenda

1. Eastern Washington Representative
  - There has been a misunderstanding regarding Marshall’s plan to continue on the board until his move to Oregon in May/ June. Marshall has recommended John Colson replace him as the Eastern WA representative because John has been most instrumental in keeping the meetings going on the East-side.
  - Major concerns about the Eastern WA representative: Can they attend board meetings on the West-side? Is it reasonable to ask someone to drive to the West-side for monthly board meetings? Will the representative be diligent in keeping East-side meetings going?
  - Suggestion to split WATSA in two parts.
  - Suggestion to appoint Tim Bernhardt as representative
2. Protocol for legislative input in the future and the review process for sending out letters/ material on the behalf of WATSA (i.e. if a letter needs to be sent out from WATSA- will the letter be made available for review by all board members? If there is a conflict of opinion, how will it be settled?)
  - There was a discussion of creating a subgroup
  - Do we just refer legislative matters to the SOPB?
  - The Donna Zink situation was raised in relation to this issue
3. Memorandum of Understanding for KCSARC
4. Malcolm Ross to attend April board meeting? Should we begin the meeting earlier?

## Business Items

1. Eastern Washington Representative- Marshall plans to continue in his role until he moves to Oregon in May/ June timeframe. The board decided John Colson will be his replacement until the position expires in January 2016. Marshall will help to transition John into the position by providing him with materials. John plans to be at the conference and the retreat and this will be a good opportunity to transition him. The board feels it would be helpful for John to attend board meetings between now and when Marshall leaves.

Many board members feel it is important to have the Eastern WA representative physically present at board meetings at least a few times per year. There is a possibility they can Skype in some of the time. There was discussion of how to keep a unified WATSA and all board members agreed it is important to have a cohesive WATSA across the state. The discussion also included how to raise interest among Eastern WA members. Marshall mentioned “tenacity” has been the most important part of keeping

Eastern WA connected. Discussion of getting Airway Heights more involved by talking with Renee Schuiteman (clinical director).

2. Protocol for legislative input- the concern here is if WATSA can take a position on a matter when there is dissent among board members. Bill 1059 brought this issue to the forefront when a letter was sent out on 1/16/15 on behalf of WATSA. In this particular case some found the language in the letter to be critical of the SCC clinical process. Although there was agreement there is room for improvement in the SCC process, taking a formal position without board consensus is problematic. In regard to legislative matters, there is often very little time for the board to respond to requests. The board agreed in the future any issue that needs to be decided on will be discussed over email. An email will be generated and board members will have 24 hours to respond. If there is consensus, WATSA will offer a position on behalf of the board. If there is dissent, WATSA will not offer a position, but individual members are welcome to advocate on their own behalf. Similarly, if you are to testify, you will be representing yourself and not WATSA. It seems unlikely many of these types of situations will arise. The board agreed it is important to have a diverse board of individuals and made a commitment to be sensitive to people's situations.
3. Memorandum of Understanding for KCSARC- KSARC staff spoke to the board about a recently submitted federal grant proposal to the Office of Violence Against Women. WATSA decided to sign the MOU in support of having two WATSA members be a part of a panel to review and analyze offender chronologies to identify gaps and shortcomings in our system. For a copy of the MOU please contact me via email ([Trifiletti.lisa@gmail.com](mailto:Trifiletti.lisa@gmail.com)).

KCSARC will be notified in 9/2015 if they received the grant and the program will begin 10/2015. The task force will meet eight times, each meeting lasting two-three hours. The first four meetings will be dedicated to one chronology and the second four meetings to a separate chronology. Panel members will be compensated \$80/ hour and mileage costs. The duration of the grant will be three years.

This grant was born out of the Court Watch Program which started five years ago. The program was motivated by the large numbers of repeat offenders that seemed to be cycling through the system. Volunteers attend sexual abuse court and collect data and observations. The overall goal is to better the system as a whole. They created two offender chronologies which outline every police contact, court appearance, protection orders, etc. and autobiographical information. For more information see <http://www.kcsarc.org/courtwatch>.

4. Malcolm Ross to attend April board meeting- Malcolm Ross, AG of Washington, will be invited to the April board meeting. Kecia offered to invite him on 4/17/15 at noon.

#### **Program Committee–**

- 81 people are registered for the conference and it seems we will at least break even on the cost. The minimum number of room reservations has also been met. Maureen plans to send conference handouts to registrants by email.
- April meeting- Travis Osborn on anxiety and sexual acting out @ NW Treatment
- May meeting- Christmas Covell on Static 99 @ Brian Judd's restaurant in Olympia
- June- retreat

- September meeting- Jeff Landon on the interface between DOC and WATSA/ treatment providers @ Jimmy Evans Performance Center in Monroe
- October- no meeting, ATSA conference
- November meeting- ATSA conference recap
- December- no meeting

*Additional upcoming training opportunities: N/A*

*Eastern WA chapter issues: See above.*

**Membership Committee –**

- 60 active members
- Paul plans to encourage membership at the conference

**Sex Offender Policy / Media Committee – None.**

**Budget Committee –**

- \$46,840.56 in account. Conference is likely to cost \$25-28,000.

*Other Issues:* Dan is encouraging people to donate to KCSARC's upcoming breakfast/ fundraiser. In the future he suggested we have a WATSA table with board representation to foster a good relationship between ourselves and victim advocacy agencies.

**Agenda items for future meetings**

Website management