

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

## BOARD MEETING

03.15.2013

12:00 – 1:00 P.M.

### Attendees

Christmas Covell, Brian Judd, Marshall Kirkpatrick, Michael O'Connell, Linda Paxton, Myrna Pinedo, Maureen Saylor, Paul Spizman, Jennifer Wheeler, Daniel Yanisch (guest Dan Knoepfler)

### Absent

Gerry Hover

### Agenda

- Committee Reports
  - Program Committee
  - Membership Committee
  - Policy Committee
  - Budget Committee
- Other issues

### Business Items

**Program Committee** (JW, MS, MO, BJ, LP) – Last month's conference and venue were very well reviewed. The total cost for the speakers and conference was \$23, 282. The lodge at Suncadia cost \$500 more than Semiahmoo, but was deemed well worth the difference. The facility was very helpful and forgave some room non-sales. Overall the expenses takes \$521 out of the General budget, so it was pretty much "a wash." This was a smaller conference than some we have had in the past, with approximately 75 registrants, and 3 walk ins. It does not seem that there was a big difference in drawing from Eastern WA contingent just yet, but it is anticipated that this will grow. All in all the conference is viewed as a success.

Overall the State funded 3 people from DDD and 4 people from DOC. In the past there were quite a lot more SOTP, SCC, and CCO staff, but that has dropped off considerably since of budget cuts. It appears that no prosecutors were present, and only 2 defense attorneys attended. Marketing ideas were discussed as to how to attract Federal prosecutors, federal defenders, and federal probation officers who will all need the type of info that Cantor and Seto will be talking about next year.

#### ***Future WATSA Meetings:***

**Friday, April 19, 2013**, and will be held at the Dockside Bistro (501 Columbia Street NW) in Olympia, WA, 98501. Following a general discussion of current happenings in

WA dealing with sex offender treatment and legislation, there will be a presentation by Brian Judd, Ph.D., discussing “When is a sex offender no longer a sex offender?”

**May 20, 2013:** “Behavioral interventions with arousal conditioning” by Michael O’Connell, Ed.D. To be held at Northwest Treatment Associates in Seattle.

**June 21, 2013:** Panel discussion about how to evaluate when a client is “done with treatment.” This will be moderated by Marshall Kirkpatrick, and held in Wenatchee, same location as the previous two years.

**Membership Committee** (CC, KR, JH, PS, JW) – is there outreach to universities in the state with information as to how to get into working with this field? How do we promote to them so they even know it is there? Grad schools, private practice mentoring, can we send routine notices, or is a stronger outreach effort necessary.

**Sex Offender Policy / Media Committee** (MO, MS, KR, DY, JH) – A subcommittee of the SOPB has been commissioned to look at the effectiveness of SSOSA and whether judges are consistently taking into consideration the wishes of the victim in granting SSOSA dispositions. Different surveys addressing this will be sent to judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, and treatment providers. Looking to gather information before the next meeting in April.

**Budget Committee** (BO, MS, MK, PS) – After the conference we still have approximately 19K in the bank. Currently the only active debit card is held by Dan K. To change this certain Board members need to go to Capitol Hill Branch of Key Bank to complete the transition paperwork. As President, J. Wheeler needs to go in first, and then L. Paxton and M. Saylor. Then they will be the only approved signers, and D. Knoepfler and B. J. Oneal will be removed.

**Other Issues** – Despite our written response to the Washington Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs last month, they want us to say even more about the topic of insurance companies in the future insurance exchanges to provide funding for treatment of paraphilias and other conditions. Discussion included:

- It is up to the state as to what they will cover for insurance. We do know that traditionally they won’t cover sexual abuse of a child.
- If we respond too strongly, does it give the impression that we are trying to ‘line our own pockets?’
- If we don’t respond, it is a prevention opportunity that is lost. To this point, insurance companies have not been very interested in preventive care.
- Is there another Axis I or II diagnosis that could cover it? We have to be cautious about the language that is used
- DSM 5 will have more disorders with (with sexual behavior problems) as qualifiers, that may or not be covered. These are real disorders that wreak havoc, and there are known interventions that can impact and reduce harm. Now alcohol and drug disorders are state mandated, unless they are court ordered. Insurance plans vary significantly. There are societal costs and you can pay now or pay later.

- Jennifer will respond to this letter with more elaboration, and send it to Board members for comment.

Finally, as discussed in a previous meeting, Dan Knoepfler is seeking WATSA sponsorship for the following training:

May 1-3, 2013: Training on the Static-99, Stable 2007, and Acute 2007 will be held at the Spring Hill Suites in Seattle. The presenter is Anton Schweighoffer, Ph.D., from British Columbia, who is an approved trainer. Please note this is a detailed 3 day training, with a substantial (600 page) manual. Cost is \$330. WATSA will support 18 CEUs for the 3 days. Roughly half of the 30 available seats are sold.

Next year we will do a suicide training that is mandated. Dan Knoepfler has specific background in the area and wants to spearhead doing training for this. There will be specific requirements from the state that need to be met.

### **Agenda items for future meetings**

- No discussion due to time running out.