



WASHINGTON STATE
ASSOCIATION OF
COUNTY TREASURERS

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WSACT NEWS

WASHINGTON STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY TREASURERS



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE SHAWN MYERS

HB 1798 Eliminating the collection of anticipated taxes and assessments. This is one of our priority bills that will eliminate the requirement for advance tax for real property segregations. This bill has moved along well. There is no companion bill to this. We have written to the House Rules Committee, asking for support of the bill.

HB 1799/SB 5768 Concerning County electronic public auctions.

This is our other priority bill. The HB is stuck but, the SB is moving along. Thanks to everyone for contacting your legislators about it.

HB 1333/SB 5439 Eliminating penalties on delinquent property taxes. We provided fiscal note data upon request. The HB is not moving but, the SB is. Upon it being approved and moved out of rules to the floor, Senator Roach mentioned it would most likely get an amendment on the floor due to some legislators didn't want the penalty to be eliminated entirely. I expect to see the 3% and 8% reduced to something less.

HB 1815 Revising local government treasury practices and procedures. This one has a substitution, I believe removing the "State" from the language. It essentially removes the requirement to pass the fees for any processing costs for electronic payments to the payor. (ie; credit cards, debit cards, charge cards, smart cards, stored value cards, federal wires, and ACH). This is optional. It also removes the requirement that a duplicate warrant must bear the same serial number as the original. This one has a chance of passing.

SB 5853 Modifying the authority and duties of county treasurers. This one failed to get through Gov Ops Comm.

SB 5654 Concerning partial payment of current and delinquent taxes to the county treasurer. This would allow any payment, anytime for current or delinquent by any method the treasurer authorizes. This one is sitting in Rules.

SB 5677 Allowing county treasurers to retain a portion to defray the costs of collection. This one is sponsored by two former and one current county commissioner. They get it. This one is going nowhere so don't get excited.

SB 5276 Concerning refunds of property taxes paid as a result of manifest errors in descriptions of property. This would give the Commissioners the authority to grant refunds and go back more than three years. Although we have concerns about this, the taxes can be recovered in the next year's levy. This one seems to be moving along.

HB 1539 Concerning hardship property tax waivers for interest and penalty. This one might be tricky. The taxpayer may request a waiver due to hardship within 60 days of one tax due date as long as they pay it within 35 days of the new tax due notice postmarked or "message submission time stamp." What is that and why 35 days?

HB 1133 Authorizing counties to impose a public utility tax. This one would be a great revenue source to solve problems in many counties. Unfortunately, it isn't getting any attention.

HB 1462/SB 5390 This is the state treasurer's pooling legislation which Treasurer McIntyre has killed on his end.

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BEST PRACTICES BRETT WACHSMITH

Every County Treasurer desires establishing and maintaining a good working relationship with our taxing districts and local governments; we are their Treasurer after all! Apparently this concept is fully understood by Brett Wachsmith. In his short time in office Brett has made it a priority to reach-out and making contact with all his districts. As time permits Brett has been meeting with business managers and other key personnel from the special purpose districts of Kittitas County as reported recently in the Ellensburg Daily Record, [click here](#) to read more.



CONFERENCE UPDATE NONA HABERMAN

Check in time begins Sunday June 22nd. As of today a rough count of 80 have booked rooms.

To allow for travel time for those with a busy Father's Day on Sunday Monday will be a "Pre Conference" training day. Monday morning will be available for "user groups" while the afternoon time will be training on Investment. More info on next month's update.

Tuesday morning the speaker scheduled is Mike Meines, theme is customer service with morsels of wisdom in how to deal with employees. Mike is a dynamic speaker and has a good message.

Wednesday morning our speaker is Commissioner Todd Mielke from Spokane who will speak about being a Public Servant. Commissioner Mielke spoke briefly at the Newly Elected conference and was quite inspirational.

President's Reception will be at the Enzian and the President's Banquet will be held at the Leavenworth Golf Course with a menu all will enjoy. If you are considering guest for either dinners please contact me by June 10th either by e-mail nhaberman@co.douglas.wa.us or phone 509-745-8525 ext 6429. Thank you, Nona



TREASURER MEMORIAL LANDY BOWEN

C. Landrum (Landy) Bowen, former Whatcom County Treasurer passed away on February 16, 2015. He was 92 years old. Landy was born in Delight, AR on August 3, 1922 to John and Irene Bowen. He grew up in Arkansas and served our country in the US Navy. After his time in the armed services he met his wife Lois and they were married in 1945. They made their home in Bellingham. Landy was Treasurer after Hugh Cory and immediately before Barbara Cory. "He was a remarkable gardener and his yard was like a Park" Barb shared

for this article. The following was posted on his tribute page:

On behalf of the Washington State Association of County Treasurers, representing the 39 counties of this State, I would like to present our most heartfelt condolences to Lois for the passing of Landrum. We remember and appreciate his service to the citizens of Whatcom County as the Whatcom County Treasurer and additionally his service to his country in the US Navy. . Duane A Davidson, President

Comments:

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Upcoming Meetings

Investment Pooling
Legislative Workshop
March 19, 2015
Kittitas Valley Event Center
Western Town Hall
Meeting Room.
1010 West 8th Avenue,
Ellensburg, WA 98926.

NE District, Davenport
May 13, 2015, 9:30 a.m.
Lincoln County Courthouse
450 Logan, Davenport, WA

SE District
May 13, 2015, 10 a.m.
Dayton Library, Delany Room
111 S 3rd. St., Dayton, WA

NW District
May 14, 2015, 11 a.m.,
Crane Room, 1800 Continental
Mount Vernon, WA

SW District
May 27, 2015, 9:30 a.m.
929 Lakeridge Dr SW, Room
101
Olympia, WA

WSACT Annual Conference
June 22-25, 2015
Enzian Inn
Leavenworth, WA

WSACT Legislative
Conference
July 27-28, 2015
Whitman University
Walla Walla, WA



TREASURER PROFILES ROCHELLE RODAK FERRY COUNTY TREASURER

My Hometown:
Republic, WA

The hardest thing I've ever done:

The hardest thing I've done, and I'm still doing is being a single parent to my 9 year old daughter, Tatten and 7 year old son, Tristin. Although challenging, it's definitely the most rewarding as well.

Three people (living or dead) I'd invite to dinner:

My grandfather, Frank Rochelle, who passed before I got to know him very well. Steven King because his mind fascinates me, and George Washington to learn more about the true sentiments behind the beginning of this great nation.

A dream I have is to:

Travel the world –starting in Ireland.

You'd be surprised to learn that I:

For a hobby I decorate and sell wedding cakes.

The most adventurous thing I've ever done is:

By far, the most adventurous thing I've done so far is run for office.

My favorite way to relax is:

Sit back with the Mariners on my television and my latest crochet project in my lap.

I'm most proud of:

My awesome children!

My favorite meal is:

I don't have a "favorite" Anything that I can recreate in my kitchen is fun!

My pet peeve is:

Bullying

My motto is:

You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction your choose. Dr. Suess

The last book I read was:

Old Man and the Sea, Ernest Hemingway

My favorite movie is:

Seven

My favorite music is:

90's Alternative

My Hero-or-Role Model is:

As cliché is it might be, my Mom is my role model. She set a work ethic for me at a young age, and it was her guidance that made me consider running for office.