WSSRA Executive Board Minutes
August 19, 2026: 9:00 am
Hybrid/ WSSRA Lacey Office
4726 Pacific Ave SE
Olympia, WA 98503

Call to Order – President Lora Brabant called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

Pledge of Allegiance

2026-2027 EXECUTIVE BOARD			
√	**President Lora Brabant**	√	**SW-3 District Representative Sandy Grape**
√	**President-elect Kay Bishop**	√	**SW-4 District Representative Ann Chenhall**
√	**Past President Dottie Stevens**	ab	**E-5 District Representative John Osequeda**
√	**Secretary Cathy Stordeur**	√*	**E-6 District Representative Lanita Pomeroy**
√	**Treasurer Eileen Perfrement**	√	**E-7 District Representative Don Kackman**
√	**Executive Director Peter Diedrick**	√	**E-8 District Representative Ardith Eakin**
√*	**NW-1 District Representative Ken Harvey**	√	***Journal* Editor Kristin Murphy**
√	**NW-2 District Representative Robin Stroben**	√	**Historian Karen Keller**
√ in person, √* attended by Zoom, ab absent			
Guests:			
Linda Marler arrived 9:00 am and left at 12:30 pm		Emmett Mills entered at 12:20 pm and left at 1:20 pm	
Alan Burke and Michele Hunter arrived at 10:25 am and left at 10:53 am			

Roll Call of Executive Board: Roll call was conducted by Cathy Stordeur.

Approval of Agenda: Approval of the agenda was on a motion by Ardith Eakin.

Motion –Approval of Agenda: Motion by Ardith Eakin, "I move we accept the August 19, 2026, agenda as corrected. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. **BD20260819-01**

Orientation Webinar Questions:

One question was if the webinar could show the people who are speaking. While this is possible with the software used, for this first attempt it was decided not to have speakers shown since some people are not comfortable with speaking in front of large groups and cameras.

Approval of WSSRA Executive Board Minutes:

Motion –June 8, 2026, Executive Board Meeting Minutes Motion by Don Kackman, "I move we accept the June 8, 2026, minutes as corrected." The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. **BD20260819-02**

Motion –June 10, 2026, Executive Board Meeting Minutes Motion by Sandra Grape, "I move we accept the June 10, 2026, minutes as written." The motion was seconded and passed. **BD20260819-03**

Motion –Convention Proceedings Motion by Kay Bishop, "I move we accept the June 8-10 2026, Convention Proceedings and Delegate Assembly minutes as corrected." The motion was seconded and passed. **BD20260819-04**

Reports

President's Report – Lora Brabant

President Lora Brabant has been busy with Bylaw changes and Policies and Procedure changes for both WSSRA and WSSRF Foundation.
President Lora Brabant's report was placed on file.

President-elect's Report – Kay Bishop

President-elect Kay Bishop is learning as much as she can and plans to attend as many Committee meetings by zoom as she can.
President-elect Kay Bishop's report was placed on file.

Immediate Past State President's Report – Dottie Stevens

Past President Dottie Stevens said she had asked then President elect Lora Brabant to take on the Bylaws and Policies and Procedures. We are in a changing world so we will get new rules and see new ways to function. We will work collaboratively.
Immediate Past President Dottie Steven's report was placed on file.

Secretary's Report –Cathy Stordeur submitted a report:
Secretary Cathy Stordeur's report was placed on file.

Treasurer's Report – Eileen Perfrement reviewed the financial statement and expense budget as of, July 31, 2026.

Financial Statement:

BALANCE SHEET (Cash Basis)		
July 31, 2026		
Total Assets	$	2,938,878.36
Total Liabilities and Equity	$	2,938,878.36

Profit and Loss YTD Comparison				
	July 2026		July 2026	
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Total Income	$	84,327.91	$	84,327.91
Gross Profit	$	84,327.91	$	84,327.91
Total Expense	$	86,715.37	$	86,715.37
Net Ordinary Income	$	-2,387.46	$	-2,387.46
Total Other Expense	$	11,589.57	$	11,589.57
Net Other Income	$	-11,589.57	$	-11,589.57
NET INCOME	$	-13,977.03	$	-13,977.03

Annual Expense Budget 2025-2026						
YTD Spent through July 2026		Total Budgeted		Remaining Budget		Percentage Spent
$	86,715	$	1,421,600	$	1,334,895	6%

Treasurer Eileen Perfrement's report was placed on file.

Executive Director's Report – Peter Diedrick reviewed the Executive Director report that was submitted and presented the yearly goals:

1. Keep Local Units going.
2. Plan 1 COLA
3. Protect Health Benefits
4. Help the Foundation get more money for scholarships.

A big part of his job is managing the office and he stated the staff is basically self-sufficient.
Retirement Planning Webinars will be October 14, 2026, and October 27, 2026
Executive Director Peter Diedrick's report was placed on file.

Historian's Report – Karen Keller submitted a written report.
Historian Karen Keller asked the Board members to encourage units to make a plan for storage of their materials. Don't just discard but save safely.
Historian Karen Keller's report was placed on file.

***Journal* Editor Report Kristin Murphy** provided her *Journal* Editor report orally.
September 5, 2026, is the deadline for the Oct/Nov/Dec *Journal.* This edition will include the candidate endorsement.
Kristin said the quality of the pictures being submitted for possible inclusion in the *Journal* has been improving but gave another hint. Use the preset magnification settings on your phone camera rather than pinch zooming or cropping. Kristin can crop if necessary.
Kristin has a meeting set with a local printer to see if a better cost can be negotiated for the *Journal.* Options include changing the paper type, reducing the number to four editions per year instead of the current five. Once she gets the information from the publisher she will discuss options with the Committee.

WSSRA Foundation President's Report – Linda Marler gave her report orally. She said lots of progress was being made working on the WSSRF Bylaws and Policies and Procedures.
The changes in the financial accounts have made the Foundation lots of money. The Foundation hopes to increase the number and size of the scholarships by increasing the Foundation's assets.
There is another Trustee vacancy which needs to be filled. Linda asked everyone to look for potential trustees in their areas.

District Representative Reports

NW-1 Ken Harvey continues to look for his replacement.
NW-1 District Representative 's Report was placed on file.

NW-2 Robin Stroben added that the Financial Review for Unit 19 is being done. The Unit will be switching banks.
NW-2 District Representative Robin Stroben's report was placed on file.

SW-3 Sandy Grape had nothing to add to her report except she's excited to be here.
SW-3 District Representative Sandy Grape's report was placed on file.

SW-4 Ann Chenhall Ann attended Convention and is working on a proposal from Unit 28. She is also considering Scholarship Readers.
SW-4 District Representative Ann Chenhall's report was placed on file.

E-5 John Osequeda did not submit a report, and he was absent so no oral report.

E-6 Lanita Pomeroy submitted a written report. She has information about a proposal for the WSSRA phone lines which will be discussed later in the agenda.
E-6 District Representative Lanita Pomeroy's report was placed on file.

E-7 Don Kackman Don is beginning to work on Convention.
E-7 District Representative Don Kackman's report was placed on file.

E-8 Ardith Eakin Ardith is moving forward with Convention planning.
E-8 District Representative Ardith Eakin's report was placed on file.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Health Services Committee- Pat McLachlan, Chair; Ardith Eakin, Liaison No written report.

Awards Committee– Karen Jones, Chair; Dottie Stevens, Liaison No meetings held.

Rules and Resolutions Committee– Jim Siscel, Chair, Rules and Resolutions has met several times working on WSSRA Policies and Procedures, WSSRF Bylaws, and WSSRF Policies and Procedures. Report placed on file.

Nominating and Review Committee– Sue Perez, Chair No meetings and no report.

Retirement Planning Committee– Paul Schafer & Victoria Russell Co-chairs, Robin Stroben, Liaison Retirement Planning Committee will meet on September 21, at 10 am by zoom.

Finance Committee – Bruce Boyer, Chair, Meeting held on August 18. WSSRA investments are doing amazing. The Portfolio is up approximately $200,000 from a few months ago. There is no recommendation for moving money at this time.

Scholarship Committee– Sandy Grape, Chair, No meetings yet this year. Tara will provide training on November 17 at 1 pm.

Membership Committee– Alan Burke, Chair, Lanita Pomeroy, Liaison
For the 3rd year in a row our membership numbers are just shy of 17,000. We maxed out for a few years under Ed Ganion and Alan Burke at 18,000 but dropped after Covid. This time each year there is a drop because the cash members who haven't paid are dropped and actives that have changed jobs dues deductions don't follow them to the new district.
50% of recruitment is from AMBA blind mailings and the call centers in Austin, TX and WA state.
AMBA pays ¾ of the cost of two blind mailings per year.
Our current 16,941 doesn't pay for all our expenses.
There are a lot of ways to recruit new members, but it mostly comes down to getting in front of the faculty.
A. Contact new superintendents.
B. Meet with any contact person the superintendent assigns to you.
C. Get mini-grant applications to principals.
D. Set up time and date for presentation of mini-grants.
Membership Chair Alan Burke's report was placed on file.

Break 10:53-11:05

Legislative Committee – Carolyn Stella & Larry Scholl, Co-chairs, Ann Chenhall, Liaison.

Emmett Mills, Legislative Director attended and gave us a legislative update. This will be the worst budget year in many years. What will it take to get another one-time COLA? Emmett is hoping to get a bill out of the Select Committee on Pension Policy (SCPP) that looks a lot like last year's with the cost of the bill moved out to later years. The Senate passed a budget last year that reduced the Public Employees Benefit Board (PEBB) Medicare benefit. We beat it back last year but expect it to come back

again this year. Our legislators don't know what the PEBB benefit is and Emmett would like local units to invite their legislators to local meetings and help educate the legislators about the benefit and how important it is to us.

Emmett reported on the Legislative Committee meeting and presented their recommendations for endorsements in the November election.

Approval of Endorsements: Approval of the Legislative Endorsements was made on a motion by Dottie Stevens.

Motion –Approval of Legislative Endorsement: Motion by Dottie Stevens, "I move that the Legislative Committee Endorsement list be approved as presented. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. **BD20260819-05**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

1. New Business
    a. Phone system research and recommendation. A member wants to replace the current phone system with a real person to answer the phone within 2 rings. Lanita Pomeroy and Debbie Burgess submitted a report outlining the cost of 3 options; 1. Continue with the current system, 2. Upgrade the current system and hire a receptionist dedicated to answering phones, 3. Purchase a new phone system which enables all employees' phones to answer as the receptionist. The report outlining the 3 options was filed.

       The board discussed the current costs versus the cost of a new employee and on a motion by Dottie Stevens voted to stay with the current phone system.

Motion – WSSRA Phone System: Motion by Dottie Stevens, "I move that we stay with current contact system for WSSRA Phone System as proposed." The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. **BD20260819-06**

    b. WSSRA Policies and Procedures vote was postponed to the November meeting.

    c. SW4 motion concerning convention planning committee and convention expenses

Motion –Update Bylaws : Motion by Dottie Stevens, "I move that the Convention Planning Committee be made a WSSRA Working Committee in the Bylaws starting with the 2027-2028 year." The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. **BD20260819-07**

2. Other
    a. Scholarship- District representative responsibilities will be covered at the November 17 Scholarship meeting.

    b. Updated 2026-27 Leadership calendar was presented.

c. Updated 2026-27 Committee appointments was presented.

d. Convention evaluation compilation was discussed.

e. 2030 Convention contract update – Grand Mound wants us to come back. Executive Director Peter Diedrick signed the contract for the 2030 Convention. The facility is writing off parking and tech charges.

f. WSSRF Bylaws and Policies and Procedures timeline. WSSRF Bylaws were approved by the Foundation Board at yesterday's meeting. The WSSRF Policies and Procedures review is about half complete and will be finished during the Foundation Board's next meeting on September 23, 2026. The plan is to present the WSSRF Bylaws to the Delegate Assembly in June 2027.

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g. Committee/Officer Handbooks approval process will be added to the Policies and Procedures that the WSSRA President and/or the WSSRA Executive Director must approve all Handbooks before distribution.

h. WSSRF form to amend Bylaws will be added to the WSSRA website.

i. Laminated safety cards were handed out to each District Representative.

j. Plans for printing Bylaws and Policies and Procedures in the 2027-28 WSSRA Handbook were discussed. On a motion by Dottie Stevens, it was decided to save postage costs and encourage paper conservation the Bylaws and Policies and Procedures would be posted online and printed only upon request.

Motion –Printing of Bylaws and Policies and Procedures: Motion by Dottie Stevens, "I move that paper conservation and postal costs reductions be approved as proposed for WSSRA Bylaws and Policies and Procedures." The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. **BD20260819-08**

k. 501c checklist to create a new nonprofit for units. Debbie Burgess is preparing a 501c (3) checklist to assist units wanting to establish a 501c (3) which will allow the unit to accept information from WSSRA scholarship applicants and distribute scholarship funds.

ADJOURNMENT

The August 19, 2026, Executive Board meeting was adjourned at 1:25 pm.

Next WSSRA Executive Board Meeting
November 18, 2026 – 9:00 am
Hybrid/ WSSRA Lacey Office
4726 Pacific Ave SE
Olympia, WA 98503

Submitted by
Cathy Stordeur

Cathy Stordeur
WSSRA Secretary