

WSSRA HYBRID EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES

FEBRUARY 10-11

Tuesday, February 10 at 2:00 pm and Wednesday, February 11, at 9:00 am

WSSRA Office
PO Box 5127 – 4726 Pacific Avenue
Lacey, Washington 98509

Call to Order – Dottie Stevens

Pledge of Allegiance – Dottie Stevens

President Dottie Stevens called the WSSRA Executive Board meeting to order at 2:00 pm and led members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call of Executive Board

Secretary Eileen Wascisin called the roll, showing the following were present:

2025-2026 EXECUTIVE BOARD

Members Present:

President Dottie Stevens

President-elect Lora Brabant

Past President Rita Figlenski

Secretary Eileen Wascisin

Treasurer Eileen Perfrement

NW-1 District Representative Ken Harvey

NW-2 District Representative Robin Stroben

SW-3 District Representative Cathy Stordeur

SW-4 District Representative Ann Chenhall

*E-5 District Representative Shirlee Jellum

*E-6 District Representative Lanita Pomeroy

*E-7 District Representative Don Kackman

E-8 District Representative Ardith Eakin

Executive Director Peter Diedrick

**Journal* Editor Kristin Murphy

Historian Karen Keller

Guests: Emmett Mills

*Attended via Zoom

Approval of Agenda – Dottie Stevens

Approval of the agenda was by unanimous consent.

Approval of WSSRA Executive Board Minutes

Approval of November 19, 2025, Board Meeting Minutes

BD 20260210-01

On a motion by Ardith Eakin, it was **VOTED** to **APPROVE** the November 19, 2025, Executive Board Meeting Minutes as presented with correction.

BD 20260210-01

The Board meeting minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

President's Report – Dottie Stevens gave the following report:

- Attended/Participated with the following committees:
 - Convention Planning for June 2026; Scholarship Committee updates for applications and judges' guidelines for 2026-2027; WSSR Foundation Committee to review update investments as strategies change; WSSRA Finance Committee to review and update investments; WSSRA Membership Committee to better understand focus and results of ongoing work; WSSRA Legislative Committee to prepare for legislative meetings; Rules and Resolutions Committee to prepare updates to Bylaws (to be presented at the June Convention 2026; and the WSSRA Health and Retirement Committee where there is a renewed interest in the Health Committee involvement at the Convention.
 - Convention Workshops. There will be three sessions on Monday. Each will be an hour, with a break between sessions. Workshops tentatively planned include AI, Elder Law, Senior Issues, Legislative, Decluttering, Chat GPT, and Cybersecurity.
 - Continue to have weekly meetings with Executive Director Peter Diedrick and staff as needed.
- Other:
 - Focus on the leadership training online seminar to better understand Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, for leadership roles in WSSRA.
 - E-8 Coordinating Council meetings and meetings for Unit 29 Benton/Franklin, where she serves as Immediate Past President, on the Scholarship Committee, and as lead for Mini-Grants.

President Dottie Stevens' report was placed on file.

President-elect's Report – Lora Brabant gave the following report:

- Attended/Participated in the following via ZOOM or in person:
 - Executive Board meetings and Coordinating Council.
 - WSSRA - Lacey
 - Coordinating Council – NW 1, NW 2, E 8
 - Unit meetings with: Pierce County Executive Board; Mason County, Clallam County
- Committee meetings with: Health, Rules and Resolutions, WSSR Foundation, Legislative, Finance, Membership, and Scholarship.
- Researched information on: Artificial Intelligence and WSSR Foundation clarifications.
- Attended the Health Insurance Webinar
- Other types of meetings and communication with:
 - Conferred via phone/email with Shirlee Jellum.
 - Phone calls, emails, texts, and miscellaneous paperwork.

President-elect Lora Brabant's report continued

- PAC activities, which included a *Journal* article, emails, phone calls, a meeting with the new PAC Treasurer, PAC work, including closing out 2025 books, a meeting with the bank to transfer PAC financial documents to new treasurer, and PAC website activity situation
- Worked on centerpieces for the State Convention in June.
- Emailed legislators for appointments.
- Delivered Clallam County Mini Grant information.
- Appointment with Senator Chapman via ZOOM.

President-elect Lora Brabant's report was placed on file.

Immediate Past State President's Report – Rita Figlenski gave the following report:

- Correspondence with: Okanogan County Unit members regarding the need to update the Unit's Bylaws and Policies and Procedures for submission to the WSSRA office; Sue Kane, Sharon Salley, Marie Buckner, Rosmond Dibble, and Nancy Valeson, from Chelan/Douglas, Ruth Parman, Spokane Unit.
- Phone calls with: Marie Buckner, Nancy Valeson from Chelan/Douglas Unit; phone discussion with an OCSRA member living in Tri Cities with a problem securing final insurance okay for spouse's cochlear implant.
- Attended meetings, exchanged emails with Okanogan Unit 15 Program Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, President, as well as its Luncheon Chef.
- Submitted materials for Unit 15 newsletter; alerted Unit 15 members about the USPS change in postmarking mail, which could affect applications for its Mini Grants and Scholarship, raised the possible need for an extended February WSSRA Board Meeting to allow for adequate discussion time on updated Bylaws being presented by the Rules and Resolutions Committee; emailed Unit 15 members a Willingness to Serve reminder; multiple phone calls/emails with WSSRA Office Staff.
- Other: Proofreading

Immediate Past President Rita Figlenski's report was placed on file.

Secretary's Report – Eileen Wascisin gave the following report:

- WSSRA Activities:
 - Completed and distributed the action items and minutes from the November WSSRA Executive Board meeting.
 - Rules and Resolutions Committee: attended meetings, the last one on January 14.
 - Completed making all draft revisions to WSSRA Bylaws, preparation of draft changes for June Convention.
- Updating the workshop that she will conduct at the June convention, as well as preparing all other pertinent items (roll call, unit count, registrations, etc.). This is a busy time.

Secretary Eileen Wascisin's report continued

- Unit 30 – Clark County SRA
 - Attended Unit Board and prepared with Terry Nelson and Kathy Bounds the Agenda for meetings and programs, recorded and distributed minutes monthly.
 - Created and sent invitations to Unit members to attend the AI Workshop.
 - Attended AI Workshop. (Note: this workshop will be available to participate in at the June Convention.)
 - Attended a Technology Workshop and luncheon at ESD 112. CCSRA is building a working partnership with ESD 112 and will support a new initiative to promote Clark County public schools. A flyer was passed around at the board meeting.
 - Kathy Bounds, Terry Nelson, and I continue to keep the unit moving forward. The unit is receiving positive feedback from our efforts. Also, people are beginning to volunteer for various roles within our unit.
 - Upcoming events include a luncheon with John Zingale, Regional Teacher of the Year, who teaches at the Vancouver iTech Preparatory High School, a field trip in June on the Chelatchie Train, and looking at a retreat (place TBD) this summer to organize and plan the 2026-27 calendar with new volunteers.

Secretary Eileen Wascisin's report was placed on file.

Treasurer's Report – Eileen Perfremment presented the following financial information as of October 31, 2025. Need 9A

Financial Statement and Expense Budget

BALANCE SHEET (CASH BASIS)	
October 31, 2025	
Total Assets	\$ 2,810,290.87
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$2,810,290.87

Treasurer Eileen Prefrement's report continued

PROFIT & LOSS YTD COMPARISON

	October 2025	July-October 2025
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Total Income	<u>\$ 148,571.31</u>	<u>\$ 321,328.03</u>
Gross Profit	\$ 148,571.31	\$ 321,328.03
Total Expense	<u>\$ 119,442.03</u>	<u>\$ 439,020.00</u>
Net Ordinary Income	\$ 29,129.28	\$ -117,691.97
Total Other Expense	\$ -41,587.57	\$ -201,406.39
Net Other Income	<u>\$ 41,587.57</u>	<u>\$ 201,406.39</u>
NET INCOME	<u>\$ 70,716.85</u>	<u>\$ 83,714.42</u>

ANNUAL EXPENSE BUDGET 2025-2026

<u>Year to Date Spent</u>	<u>Total Budgeted</u>	<u>Remaining Budget</u>	<u>Percentage Spent</u>
\$ 439,020	\$1,428,600	\$ 989,580	31%

Treasurer Eileen Perfremment’s report continued

Budget Draft Proposal for 2026-2027

The proposed 2026-2027 budget draft includes the following differences and discussions.

DESCRIPTION	2025-2026	2026-2027	DIFFERENCE (increase) (decrease)	WHY
REVENUE (TOTAL CARRY OVER & REVENUE)	\$1,428,600	\$1,421,600	\$7,000 Total Carryover	
EXPENSES TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,415,858	\$1,392,858	\$23,000	Grants and Scholarships \$47,120 Grants & Scholarships \$47,120 Staff & Contractual Staff \$24,120 Total Office Operations \$23,000
TOTAL BUDGET	\$1,428,600	\$1,421,600	\$16,000	
BREAKDOWN OF MAJOR CHANGES				
OFFICE OPERATIONS GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS Grants - WSRTF	52,120	\$5,000	\$47,120	
TABLE STAFFING	\$767,738	\$791,858		2026-2027
			\$24,120	
	\$631,330	\$653,622		2025-2026

Treasurer Eileen Perfremment’s report was placed on file.

Finance Committee – Bruce Boyer, Chair/Peter Diedrick Liaison – no written report – Peter informed members of the Executive Board that WSSRA’s financial accounts are doing much better than a year ago due to investment changes.

Executive Director’s Report – Peter Diedrick gave the following report:

- The **Legislative Session** has been at the forefront of duties over the past month.
 - WSSRA advocates have been meeting virtually and in-person with legislators.
 - Plan 1 Retirees have not received a COLA since 2024, with inflation chipping away at purchasing power.
 - A \$2.7 billion shortfall in the state budget is driving legislators’ actions this year.
 - Legislative session ends March 12.
- **The new fiscal year** began in July.
 - **Maintenance Issue** (Water line under the WSSRA Office parking lot has a major problem). A leak was discovered and repaired in 2024, and it has recurred this year during the holidays. According to the plumbing company, the entire pipe between the main water line and the office is brittle and needs to be replaced. The board will discuss this later in the meeting.
- **2026 Convention.**
 - Office is transitioning to Convention mode.
 - Agendas are being solidified with guest speakers invited and menus selected.
 - SW-3 and SW-4 are working hard to prepare for the event.
- **WSSRA Finances are stable.**
 - Office and Committees are on budget.
 - Finance Committee’s investment selections continue to be successful.
 - Debbie has prepared the 2026-2027 draft budget for review by WSSRA policymakers.
- **Membership and Rejuvenation.**
 - Dr. Burke continues as an incredible recruiter.
 - Membership numbers are stable at just under 17,000.
 - Local units are faltering faster than the rejuvenation team can restart them.
 - The office is managing Unit 5 Grays Harbor and will be doing the same for Unit 12 Cowlitz beginning this spring.

Executive Director Peter Diedrick’s report was placed on file.

Historian's Report – Karen Keller reported on the following:

- WSSRA activities
 - Continued to add to Dottie Steven's yearbook each month.
 - Assisted Clark County Unit 30 in finding new or pending retirees on districts' websites.
 - Mini Grant/staff meeting presentations.
 - Rochester High School with Alan Burke.
 - Attended SCPP meetings.
- Unit 28 – Thurston County SRA
 - Maintained Unit 28 Facebook page each month.
 - Met with mini-grant team and selected 36 individual recipients and four school libraries; designed and printed certificates for mini-grant recipients; contacted principals for staff meeting (mini-grant checks delivery in January, presented at 7 school staff meetings, sent thank you notes to principals); organized a calendar for mini-grant team, and mailed congratulatory letters to mini-grant recipients.
 - Attended Unit 28 Thurston County Board meetings and luncheons.
 - Attended Coordinating Council SW-4.
 - Attended conference with Peter and Unit Past Presidents about Thurston County Unit situation.
 - Met with State Representative Beth Doglio (22), as planned by Ann Chenhall.

Historian Karen Keller's report was placed on file.

Journal Editor Report Kristin Murphy orally reported the following:

- Great job on pictures continue – just a short reminder to name who, where, or what is in the picture. Email original from the device used. Otherwise, quality degrades.
- The “winter” edition (January/February) arrived in mailboxes in mid-January. This edition featured a photo of Unit 30 Clark County/Vancouver on the cover.
- The “mid-winter” edition (March/April) – the deadline was February 5. She is currently working on this issue.
- The next deadline is April 6, which will be the “spring” edition. It features important information about the upcoming Convention in June.
- Photo reminder – please email Kristin the original. The largest version that is offered – usually if sent from a phone, members can choose the size “original” “, large” etc. There is no need to crop or adjust photos.
- The cost of the *Journal* continues to increase – printing and postage. Kristin is exploring other vendors to see if they can offer a better print rate (nothing can be done to lower postage costs). She hopes to have more on that in a future meeting.

Journal Editor Kristin Murphy's report was placed on file.

WSSRA Foundation President's Report – Kay Anderson – no report submitted

President Stevens asked President-elect Lora Brabant to report. Lora distributed a user's guide for how to donate to the WSSR Foundation for student scholarships. This is what the WSSR Foundation proposes to raise funds for student scholarships.

There are two ways to donate to the WSSR Foundation: a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) and a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD). Their goal is to have a reminder of this in each *Journal*. (See flyer for details.)

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES

NW-1 District Representative Ken Harvey reported the following:

- Attended the following:
 - NW-1 Coordinating Council meeting via Zoom.
 - Units 21 Skagit/Island/San Juan, Unit 22 Sno-Isle, Unit 23 Sno-King, Unit 32 Whatcom County were present.
 - Numbers were down, but three new faces were present.
 - Units were reminded to send in Unit Bylaws by April 1.
 - A new NW-1 Representative is needed to serve the NW-1 Region on the WSSRA Executive Board. The Willingness-to-serve forms must be completed to run for office and are available online.
 - Unit 21 Skagit's holiday luncheon.
 - * Sat by a young lady (received Prescott Scholarship) and learned about how her student teaching experience was going in a dual language school. She was very appreciative of being selected for the Neil D. Prescott Scholarship.
- Scholarships:
 - Attended two Scholarship Committee meetings via ZOOM
 - Finalized scholarship readers and sent the list of readers to Tara.
- Other
 - Reviewed Unit 22's Sno-Isle financial books.
 - Organized his electronic files and emails pertaining to WSSRA, Unit 22 Sno-Isle, and NW-1 Coordinating Council.

NW-1 District Representative Ken Harvey's Report was placed on file.

NW-2 District Representative Robin Stroben reported the following:

- Attended/participated in the following:
 - WSSRA Executive Board meeting.
 - NW-2 Coordinating Council meeting.
 - Unit 19 Southeast King programs and meetings and programs:
 - Lance Rhoades presented the history of the famous Von Trapp singing family and the classic musical numbers from “The Sound of Music.” This was held at the Weatherly Inn Retirement Community, where they provided a wonderful lunch.
 - Members received general information on how to downsize, declutter, and prepare for a possible future move.
 - Unit Board meeting/luncheon to plan future programs, with one taking place at the River Rock Restaurant at Maplewood Golf Course.
- WSSRA Scholarship meetings in person/ZOOM.
 - Organized WSSRA Scholarship materials for scholarship readers.
 - Arranged Scholarship meeting location, sent emails, and decided on the time to select scholarship recipients.
- Completed month-end bookwork each month for Unit 19 Southeast King, as treasurer and membership chair of this unit.

NW-2 District Representative Robin Stroben’s report was placed on file.

SW-3 District Representative Cathy Stordeur reported the following:

- Attended in person or via ZOOM the following:
 - Unit 14 Mason County
 - NW-2 Coordinating Council in Tukwila.
 - Unit 3 Clallam County
 - Drove President-elect Lora Brabant to activities when needed.
- Scholarship meetings and activities
 - WSSRA Scholarship Committee meetings.
 - Reached out several times to her scholarship readers with dates and information about Scholarship reading. New members are becoming involved in this process.
- **SW-3 Convention update:**
 - Celebration of Life Update: sent draft program to members of the Celebration of Life committee. She also has a follow-up with committee members in February.
 - Unit 8, Kitsap County meeting planned for June.
 - SW-3 Coordinating Council will meet on February 24 at the Silverdale VFW Hall.

SW-3 District Representative Cathy Stordeur’s report was placed on file.

SW-4 District Representative Ann Chenhall reported the following:

- Updates:
 - Convention Planning
 - Scholarship Committee work
- Attended the following:
 - WSSRA Executive Board meeting
 - Scholarship meetings
 - WSSRA Scholarship Committee meetings
 - Confirmed application readers with Tara.
- SW-4 Coordinating Council at Napavine Ribeye.
 - Gave convention updates and rechecked on commitments for the Convention.
 - Update Coordinating Council on WSSRA happenings.
- Met with the following:
 - SCPP Committee Hearing in person after contacting many members about the Hearing.
 - Spent time involved with legislators and legislative meetings.
 - Met with a person at St. Martin's College who put her in contact with this person for Student Teachers.

SW-4 District Representative Ann Chenhall's report was placed on file.

E-5 District Representative Shirlee Jellum reported on the following:

- Attended the following:
 - Unit 34 Yakima meeting
 - Provided reports highlighting the Executive Board, Health, and Membership Committees.
 - Scholarship Committee Meetings (facilitated these meetings on the following topics)
 - Revision of the Neil D. Prescott and the Handy/WSSR Foundation applications and judging guidelines.
 - Finalized revisions on all applications and judging guidelines.
 - Voted to accept changes to all applications and the judging guidelines.
- Emailed:
 - Unit 10 Counselor contact list (for Scholarships) in Klickitat and Skamania counties to Tara.
 - E-5 Scholarship Reader list to Tara
 - Welcome letter to E-5 Scholarship Reader Team (provided a timeline and protocols).
 - Other – received information from Kathy Schultz, who has someone interested in being the E-5 Representative.

E-5 District Representative Shirlee Jellum's report was placed on file.

E-6 District Representative Lanita Pomeroy reported the following:

- Attended and participated:
 - WSSRA Executive Board meeting.
 - WSSRA Scholarship meetings (via ZOOM)
 - WSSRA Membership meeting (via ZOOM)
 - CBSRA Unit 4 Board meetings and luncheons, one meeting had Lisa Karstetter from Microsoft on how technology is being used in schools in Quincey.
 - CDSRA Unit 2 Board meeting and luncheon.
- Acquired Scholarship reader.
- Emailed Scholarship reader list to Tara.
- Other:
 - Contacted the following schools to have CBSRA members present mini-grants and pursue new members at their February meeting.
 - Columbia Ridge Elementary Principal.
 - Ephrata Middle School Principal.
 - Wilson Creek School Principal.
 - Working on mini-grants and obtaining permission to attend school meetings.

E-6 District Representative Lanita Pomeroy's report was placed on file.

E-7 District Representative Don Kackman reported the following:

- Attended/Participated:
 - SAREA Holiday luncheon
 - AI meeting using AI via ZOOM.
 - WSSRA Scholarship meetings via ZOOM.
 - Mailed Scholarship flyers to high schools in Spokane.
 - Mailed fliers to colleges for Student Teacher Scholarships.
- Scholarship Activities
 - Organized E-7 Scholarship Committee
 - Called 175 schools, reminding them of upcoming WSSRA Scholarship offerings.
- Other:
 - Communicated with Sandra Ellersick concerning Unit 18 Pend Oreille County

E-7 District Representative Don Kackman's report was placed on file.

E-8 District Representative Ardith Eakin reported the following:

- Attended/Participated:
 - WSSRA Executive Board meeting – Lacey
 - WSSRA Scholarship meetings
 - E-8 Coordinating Council meetings
 - BFSRA Executive Board meetings
 - BFSRA Luncheon meetings

E-8 District Representative Ardith Eakin's report was placed on file.

COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

Awards – Sandy Grape, Chair; Rita Figlenski, Liaison. Rita reported that the committee will meet once the award nominations have been received.

Rules and Resolutions – Derryl Finney, Chair; Eileen Wascisin, Liaison. Derryl reported the following, with a more in-depth discussion of the proposed Bylaw changes under New Business.

- Committee meetings via ZOOM.
- Committee meetings with preparation to deliver recommended Bylaw changes to the WSSRA Executive Board on February 11.
- The committee decided to just work on Bylaws this year and then work next year on Policies and Procedures.
- The six proposed amendments for the Delegate Assembly in June are listed under New Business for discussion and voting.

Rules and Resolutions Committee report placed on file.

Nominating and Review – Sharon Hoseley, Chair – no report submitted. A reminder to staff was requested to ensure all chairs are aware of their responsibilities at the Convention.

Scholarship – Shirlee Jellum Chair reported that the committee met, along with Tara Marshall, Peter Diedrick, Dottie Stevens, Lora Brabant, and Linda Marler, to update high school, student teacher scholarships, and judging criteria:

- Revisions and edits were made to the Neil D. Prescott Student Teacher/Internship, Robert J. Handy (PEMCO), WSSR Foundation, and Gene Forrester Memorial Scholarships.
- Committee voted to approve changes and to present them to the Executive Board.
- Newly revised applications will be available for the 2027 Scholarship cycle.
- The committee discussed how challenging it is to obtain college applicants for Scholarships.

2026-2027 Scholarship Updates

BD 20260210-02

On a motion by Cathy Stordeur, the WSSRA Executive Board **VOTED** to **APPROVE** the Scholarship Committee's recommendation to adopt the revised Scholarship package for 2026-2027. **BD 20260210-02**

The Scholarship Committee report was placed on file.

Health Services – Patricia MacLachlan, Chair; Ken Harvey, Liaison – No report. It was noted that the Health Committee has a new chair and is reorganizing and making plans for the 2026 Convention. They will meet on March 31.

Membership – Alan Burke, Membership Chair; Shirlee Jellum, Liaison, submitted the following written report. President Dottie Stevens asked Secretary Eileen Wascisin to highlight his report. Alan's report included the following:

- The Membership Committee (plus invited state leaders and local membership committee members) met via ZOOM on January 9.
 - The purpose of the meeting was to review unit recruitment goals for the year and set plans to continue outreach efforts in the second semester of 2025-26.
- Statewide membership is holding near the 17,000, a number slightly less than the count at this time last year.
 - Membership Number Total as of February 1, 2026 – 16,875
 - Membership Last Year as of February 1, 2025 – 16,968
 - January 2026 membership count – 16,890
- The Fall blind mailer has so far generated 125 new members, more than occurred in the past twice-per-year blind mailing.
- Several units have increased membership through visits to local school faculty meetings – mostly to award mini-grants and, at the same time, promote membership in WSSRA.
- Next Membership Committee meeting will be on March 31 via ZOOM.

Membership Chair Alan Burke's report was placed on file.

Retirement Planning – Paul Schafer/Victoria Russell, Co-Chairs ;Cathy Stordeur, Liaison – has not met since September

Cathy reported that the last meeting was canceled and that the next meeting is scheduled for March 31.

Legislative Update – Larry Scholl/Carolyn Stella, Co-Chairs; Ann Chenhall Liaison – See Legislative Update.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Internship Job Description – Peter Diedrick – Peter reported that the young man interested in doing a legislative internship with WSSRA has since received a paid position. Peter went on to state that he wrote out a job description in case this comes up again. He distributed the job description to members of the Executive Board.

Due to dinner reservations and the lateness of the hour, the WSSRA Executive Board adjourned for the evening at 4:26 pm to resume at 9:00 am on Wednesday morning. The meeting will continue with New Business.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2026

The WSSRA Executive Board reconvened at 9:00 am on Wednesday, February 11, with New Business.

NEW BUSINESS

Proposed Bylaw Amendments for Delegate Assembly Vote. Derryl Finney and Lora Brabant spoke on the process used to review the Bylaws and Policies & Procedures documents. The Bylaws were thoroughly reviewed this year, and the committee will review Policies and Procedures next year. The Bylaw proposals that the committee wants the Delegate Assembly to vote upon at the June Delegate Assembly will follow. Before the Executive Board voted on each proposed change, there was discussion and clarification, if needed. It should be noted that the Executive Board is only voting to have these proposals brought before the Delegate Assembly for an actual vote.

Amendment 2026-01 – Bylaw Change 1 – WSSRA Affiliations Clarification would amend Article II.5 (Vision/Mission/Purpose) and delete Article III.2 (Membership and Dues) and Article X.1 (Affiliations and Alliances). If approved by the Delegate Assembly, Article II.5 would read

Article II.5 – Communicate to local units the activities of entities that support retired school personnel.

Article III.2 – Delete in its entirety.

Article X.1 – Delete in its entirety.

Reason: WSSRA uses a variety of senior resources, not just NRTA and AARP.

The following proposed motion to present Amendment 2026-01 to the Delegate Assembly was made:

Amendment 2026-01 – Bylaw Change 1: WSSRA Affiliations Clarification

BD 20260211-03

On a motion by Ann Chenhall, the WSSRA Executive Board **VOTED** to **RECOMMEND** Bylaw Amendment 2026-01 to be presented to the WSSRA Delegate Assembly for a vote. **BD 20260211-03**

Proposed Bylaw Amendments for Delegate Assembly continued

Amendment 2026-02 – Bylaw Change 2 – Membership and Dues Clarification would amend Article III – Membership and Dues – Section 1. If approved by the Delegate Assembly, Article III – Sections 1 would read:

Article II – Membership and Dues

Section 1: Regular Membership

1. **Washington State retired or active state-certificated or classified school personnel and/or their spouses are eligible for membership upon payment of dues.**
2. **Retired out-of-state education professionals residing in Washington State and/or their spouses are eligible for membership upon payment of dues.**

Reason – clarification of who may be a member of WSSRA. There has been confusion.

Amendment 2026-02 – Bylaw Change 2 Membership and Dues Clarification

BD 20260211-04

On a motion by Ardith Eakin, the WSSRA Executive Board **VOTED** to **RECOMMEND** Bylaw Amendment 2026-02 to be presented to the WSSRA Delegate Assembly for a vote. **BD 20260211-04**

Amendment 2026-03 – Bylaw Change 3 – Parliamentarian -would amend Article V – Executive Board Section 1.8.1 and 2; and Article V, Section 7.3. If approved by the Delegate Assembly, Articles V.1.8.1 and V.7.3 would read:

Article V.1.8.1 would read **Parliamentarian**

and

Article V.7.3 would read

Section 1: A Parliamentarian may be appointed, as an advisor, at the discretion of the Executive Board, for the purpose of ensuring meetings and delegate sessions run efficiently by providing advice on parliamentary procedure, rules, and precedents.

Section 2: In the absence of a Parliamentarian, the presiding official will ensure procedures are followed according to **Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, current edition.**

Reason: Currently, there is no description for a Parliamentarian.

Amendment 2026-04 – Bylaw Change 3 Parliamentarian Description

BD 20260211-05

On a motion by Robin Stroben, the WSSRA Executive Board **VOTED** to **RECOMMEND** Bylaw Amendment 2026-03 to be presented to the WSSRA Delegate Assembly for a vote. **BD 20260211-05 (1 opposed)**

Proposed Bylaw Amendments for Delegate Assembly continued

Amendment 2026-04 – Committee Budget Clarification would amend Article IX – Committees – Section 3.3.1 and 3.3.2. If approved by the Delegate Assembly, Article IX – Committees – Sections 3.3.1 and 3.3.2 would read:

Article IX – Committees

Section 3.3.1. All State Committee and Coordinating Council Chairs shall submit a budget proposal for the next fiscal year before the Spring Executive Board meeting.
and

Section 3.3.2. Upon request of WSSRA, Executive Board members, Coordinating Councils, and Committee Chairs shall review and adjust their budgets as needed.

Reason: Confusion that the Executive Board members, Coordinating Councils, and Committee Chairs need to review/adjust their budgets yearly (sent via the WSSRA Office in April and to be returned to the WSSRA Office within two weeks).

Amendment 2026-04 – Bylaw Change 4 – Committee Budget Clarification

BD 20260211-06

On a motion by Cathy Stordeur, the WSSRA Executive Board **VOTED** to **RECOMMEND** Bylaw Amendment 2026-04 to be presented to the WSSRA Delegate Assembly for a vote. **BD 20260211-06**

Amendment 2026-05 – Bylaw Change 5 – Addition of AI Policy for WSSRA would add Article XVI, titled "Acceptable Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tools." If approved by the Delegate Assembly, Article XVI Acceptable Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tools would read:

Article XVI – Acceptable Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tools (new amendment)

1. Responsible AI Use.

- 1. The WSSRA Executive Board shall oversee and approve any use of artificial intelligence tools in WSSRA programs, fundraising, administration, or other operations.**
- 2. AI systems shall be used only in alignment with the WSSRA mission, with appropriate human oversight, transparency, and protection of privacy and data security.**
- 3. Any AI-assisted decision affecting clients or beneficiaries must be reviewed and ratified by human decision-makers.**

Proposed Bylaw Amendments for Delegate Assembly continued

Reason: A proposal was presented to the Rules and Resolutions Committee for consideration of a proposed acceptable use of AI amendment to the WSSRA Bylaws. The new amendment proposal is a basic guideline proposal for the use of AI for the WSSRA organization.

AMENDMENT 2026-05 – New amendment – AI Policy for WSSRA

BD 20260211-07

On a motion by Cathy Stordeur, the WSSRA Executive Board **VOTED** to **RECOMMEND** the addition of **Bylaw Amendment 2026-05** to be presented to the WSSRA Delegate Assembly for a vote.
BD 20260211-07

Amendment 2026-06 – **New Amendment. Amending Bylaws and Policies Procedures** would **add** Article XVII – “Amending the Bylaws, Policies & Procedures document. (How to submit a Resolution and/or to Make a Motion to the Rules and Resolutions Committee).” If approved by the Delegate Assembly, Article XVII would read:

ARTICLE XVII – Amending the Bylaws and Policies & Procedures. (Procedure on how to submit a proposal for change to the Rules and Resolutions Committee for presentation and in the correct format):

- 1. Motion – presentation and format (See Policies & Procedures appendices).**
- 2. Resolution – presentation and format (See Policies & Procedures appendices).**

Reason: The Policies and Procedures require the Rules and Resolutions Committee to provide guidance to Unit Presidents and Coordinating Council Chairs on the differences between Amendments to the Bylaws, Policies & Procedures, and Resolutions. The correct procedure and format for submitting a motion or resolution are not shown in Policies & Procedures.

To implement this information, the following will take place after voter approval:

1. The WSSRA Board is to identify the process for submitting a motion or resolution for consideration by the Executive Board to bring forth at the Delegate Assembly at Convention.
2. The information will be included as an appendix to the Policy and Procedure document and posted on the WSSRA website.

Amendment 2026-06 – **New Amendment. Amending Bylaws and Policies Procedures**

BD 20260211-08

On a motion by Cathy Stordeur, the WSSRA Executive Board **VOTED** to **RECOMMEND** the addition of **Bylaw Amendment 2026-06** to be presented to the WSSRA Delegate Assembly for a vote.
BD 20260211-08

The Rules and Resolutions Committee stated at the end of their presentation that work on the Policies & Procedures will begin after the Delegate Assembly at Convention, with work to be completed and presented to the WSSRA Executive Board at their meeting in February 2027.

President Dottie Stevens initiated a short break at 10:40 am and resumed the meeting at 10:52 am.

Staff Personnel Committee – The Staff Personnel Committee submitted a letter to the WSSRA Board with two requests. They are requesting a 3% salary increase for the next fiscal year to keep pace with inflation in Western Washington. Also, they are requesting a \$94 monthly increase in healthcare benefits to help staff purchase health insurance for the next fiscal year. They cited that average premiums offered through Washington’s Health Benefits Exchange increased by 21% in 2026, and that members’ health care costs increased by about \$300. They have not requested a healthcare benefit increase in the past 3 years.

Staff Personnel Committee report continued

The Staff Personnel Committee met and recommended to the Executive Board that their requests be approved. The Executive Board discussed the requests before voting.

Staff Salary 2026-2027

BD 20260210-09

On a motion by Cathy Stordeur, the WSSRA Executive Board **VOTED** to **APPROVE** the Staff Personnel Committee recommendation for a 3% salary increase for the 2026-2027 fiscal year. **BD 202602-09**

Staff Healthcare Benefit 2026-2027

BD 20260210-10

On a motion by Cathy Stordeur, the WSSRA Executive Board **VOTED** to **APPROVE** the Staff Personnel Committee recommendation for a \$94 month healthcare benefit increase for the 2026-2027 fiscal year. **BD 202602-10**

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Emmett Mills, Legislative Coordinator, gave a brief recap on what is happening with the legislature at this time.

- Brief recap
 - SCPP would not endorse the COLA (HB 1474) or the (HB 2034).
 - Possibility that HB 1474 will pass. Need to wait and see for a one-year 3% COLA
 - Representative Sharlett Mena, 29th Legislative District, sent a letter with 23 signatures stating that they support HB 1474, which would provide a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for TRS 1 and PERS 1 retirees to the Appropriations Committee Leadership Team.
 - Letter explained that TRS 1 and PERS 1 remain the only state-managed

Legislative Update continued

pension plans with an annual COLA, following the legislature's decision to eliminate it in 2011.

- Gave an example of how a retiree, who is now 80 and retired in 1998, has only received five COLAs since her retirement; how no COLA has affected her purchasing power by about 29 percent since 2010. She needs to substitute (using a walker) to make ends meet.
- The legislature has considerable flexibility in funding ad hoc COLAs, which are funded over 15-year periods. It is in the legislature's capacity to provide a COLA in 2026. This approach does not affect the current budget but would deliver immediate, meaningful relief to retirees who need it now.
- HB 1474 is still not moving.
- SB 5862 received a hearing on Thursday, February 5
 - Passed by Ways & Means on Monday, December 8 (cutoff date)
 - Amended to add \$110 per month cap
 - Senators Braun and Schoesler voted "Do not recommend."
 - Tuesday, February 10, it was pulled from Senate Rules in a package pull and could be brought to the floor any day. Cutoff date is Tuesday, February 17.
- Scenario
 - Come down to the budget end game
 - House Dems preparing to move HB 2034. Senator Robinson will be able to negotiate our COLA into this.
 - Unlike most other programs, funding can be delayed beginning in a future biennium.
- Revenue forecast expected on Monday, February 16, with legislative budgets soon to follow. There have been no other programs yet.
- Legislative Committee members are coming to town on Tuesday, February 17.

Once the legislative committee leaves, Emmett will send a memo to all members reporting on the legislative committee members' in-person meetings with legislators. Watch your emails for updated information.

A discussion with the Executive Board followed.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

- March 1 - WSSR Foundation, Gene Forrester, and PEMCO Scholarships deadline
- March 25 – WSSRA Executive Board reports due
- March 31 - Council of Committees (includes - Membership, Health, Retirement Planning) is meeting via ZOOM. Times TBD.
- April 1 - Neil D. Prescott Student Teaching/Internship Scholarship deadline
- April 6, 2026 – *Journal* articles due.
- April (mid) Convention reports will be due in April (Tara will send details)
- April 14 – WSSR Foundation – 9:30 am
- April 14 – Budget Committee – 11:30 am
- April 14 – Finance Committee – 1:00 pm
- April 14 – Scholarship Committee - 3:00 pm
- April 15 – Awards Committee – 1:30 pm
- June 8-10 – 2026 Convention

AGENDA ITEMS FOR APRIL 15

- Last meeting before Convention
- Items of Importance
 - Review the proposed budget for 2026-2027.
 - Be prepared to ask questions before the vote is taken to send it to the Delegate Assembly.
 - Be informed – members may ask questions.
- Convention
 - The Convention Program and Registration details will be reviewed with the Executive Board.
 - Ask questions

ADJOURNMENT

The February 10-11, 2026, Executive Board meeting was adjourned by consent at 12:03 pm.

Eileen J. Wascisin

Eileen J. Wascisin WSSRA Secretary

February 10-11, 2026

The meeting adjourned at 12:03 pm

NEXT MEETING

WSSRA EXECUTIVE BOARD HYBRID

APRIL 15, 2026 – 9:00 am

MARCH 25, 2026 – Executive Board Report due

MID – APRIL - Delegate Assembly Reports due

APRIL 6, 2026 – *Journal* Articles due

WSSRA Office

PO Box 5127 – 4726 Pacific Avenue

Lacey, Washington 98509