

WASHINGTON AUTO THEFT PREVENTION AUTHORITY

WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION OF SHERIFFS AND POLICE CHIEFS
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"The mission of the Washington Auto Theft Prevention Authority is to prevent and reduce motor vehicle thefts and other associated crime in the State of Washington."



WATPA MEMBERSHIP MEETING: September 11, 2008

MEMBERS PRESENT: John Batiste, Merle Pfeifer, Mike West, Emil Dammel, Dan Satterberg, Steve Strachan, John Lovick, Harvey Gjesdal, Ken Hohenberg, Jim LaMunyon (Staff)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Don Pierce (Chair)

GUESTS PRESENT: Grant Clark, WATPA Public Awareness Coordinator; Nancy Morris, Accounting Services Support; and Cynthia Jordan, Division Assistant.

CALL TO ORDER:

Dan Satterberg called the meeting to order with a moment of silence to reflect and remember those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001.

APPROVAL OF MARCH 20, 2008 MINUTES:

Mike West noted that on page 3, within the Grant Review Process/Review Committee, sixth line down it says "receive" and should be "received". Mike West made a motion to approve the minutes of May 8th, 2006, with the friendly amendment. The motion was carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Director LaMunyon reviewed the financial reports as presented to the Authority (Attachment A). It was noted that since May the monthly WATPA revenue has been increasing. This could be an indication that fines are being paid, or tickets are on the rise. As of September 1st, 2008 the account balance is a bit over \$4.5M, with just less than \$4.5M encumbered for grants. The bump in the revenue is not based on miles driven, because traffic infractions issued are the same. Motorist breaking traffic laws result in 113 deaths nationally and over 7000 accident related injuries, for this reason we encourage our officers to aggressively enforce motorist laws. The revenue generated by the traffic cameras may also be having an impact on the increased revenue. The question arose as to whether or not [Initiative 985](#) will impact WATPA dollars generated by traffic camera infractions. OFM prepared an [Impact statement for initiative 985](#) if it were to pass.

*Washington Auto Theft Prevention
Authority*

JOHN BATISTE
Chief – WA State Patrol

EMIL DAMMEL
Insurance Industry

HARVEY GJESDAL
Sheriff—Douglas County

KEN HOHENBERG
Chief—Kennewick

JOHN LOVICK
Sheriff – Snohomish County

MERLE PFIEFER
General Public

DON PIERCE
Executive Director - WASPC

DAN SATTERBERG
Prosecuting Attorney – King County

STEVE STRACHAN
Chief—Kent

MICHAEL WEST
Automobile Industry

JIM LAMUNYON
Executive Director - WATPA

PUBLIC AWARENESS COORDINATOR:

Our new WATPA Public Awareness Coordinator, Grant Clark, earned a B.A. in Journalism from Western Washington University and has over 12 years of experience in public relations, media relations and marketing. Grant presented his marketing ideas to the membership, outlining his plans on developing a marketing environment that will build enthusiasm for the WATPA program. Included in these strategies are: student driver's education; business partnerships; monthly press releases; Public Service Announcements; auto theft prevention tips brochures; and a dynamic website.

ALPR MODEL POLICY UPDATE:

Membership was given a copy of the ALPR model policy draft (Attachment B). This policy has been reviewed by stakeholders, users and JoAnna Arlow, WASPC Policy Director. Currently New York PD is being sued over the use of their ALPR's and surveillance cameras. The ACLU is concerned with the retention period and access to the data collected. WASPC's model policy allows for a 60-day retention period. The question remains as to whether collected data is disclosable through the public record act. The 60-day timeframe should meet the needs of the intent of the equipment. The expectation of privacy is diminished when on public streets but the possibility of mis-use is reduced by a shorter retention period. The accountability of who has access and how the information is used is built into the policy. Agencies are not required to adopt the WASPC model ALPR policy, but must have one in place before WATPA funding for ALPR equipment will be released.

GRANT AWARDS:

We have received all but four of the signed WATPA grant agreements. To date we have not had any reimbursement requests submitted for equipment purchases. It is our intent that the reimbursement turn around time will be 15 days.

The Authority agreed to increase the next round of equipment grant awards by \$1M. We would like to announce the equipment grant proposal by January 15th, 2009, with an application due date of March 1, 2009. The Authority would use March to decide what agencies will receive equipment funding. This allows agencies time for the procurement process and have the equipment before June 30th, which is the end of the biennium.

We will announce the next grant period by February 1st, 2009, with a due date of April 1st, 2009. This will give the Authority 3-months to review and work through the decision process and determine what applications will be funded. This timeline is critical to the agencies that have task forces and must have new money available prior to July 1st, 2009.

Authority members, please submit your budget proposals to Jim LaMunyon, WAPTA Director as he will begin the budget writing process soon. If there is anything that you would like to see

built into the new budget, or amendments, let Jim LaMunyon know. We should be meeting with OFM soon to review the WATPA account activity history.

2009 LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

Are there any initiatives, issues or recommendations that you as a body have at this point? There are a couple of things that we want to monitor this session. Primarily the LPR technology to ensure that nothing comes up that will restrict the use of the ALPR's, or mandates how we use it and how we retain data. We will watch closely anything that may have an impact or affect our funding.

Legislature may want to take a look at the enabling legislation that affected juvenile sentencing. The Authority membership asked that if there are any issues that present themselves during session that they are notified to have the opportunity to review/follow the issue in a timely manner. WATPA will request time early on the legislative calendar (House & Senate) to give a presentation about the results of the work of the Authority.

The Governor's office is very interested in the work of the Authority. WATPA sent the grant summaries of the programs that were funded (Attachment C). It is clear that the Governor's office is going to pay attention to the results.

The WATPA annual report is due to the Legislature and Governor by December 31st, 2008, so we will be working on preparing that report over the next several weeks. A draft should be sent to you by the end of November for your review prior to the December deadline.

VEHICLE THEFT STUDY:

Jim LaMunyon met with Dr. Nick Lovrich and the two graduate students that are working on the study. The outline is drafted and now they are working on the finishing touches. We have worked with them to make contacts within the WSP and NICB to obtain the information that they need for the report. The only snag that we have run into is that each month WASPC distributes a list (maintained by the WSP) of the top 20 stolen vehicles in the state. The problem is that the database that is used does not give you the number of a year/make/model that is stolen. For example we can tell you that the top stolen vehicle is a 1992 Honda Civic, but I can't tell you how many. WSP will eventually have to do a re-write of that program to capture that information but there is no funding available to undertake that project yet. The study once complete may not provide any new information, but all of the information related to Washington State's auto theft statistics and prevention programs will be in one comprehensive report rather than all over the place. The study is due November 1st, 2008.

There is currently no hard data regarding stolen vehicles being exported out of the country, or coming through our ports from other places. At this point there is no cooperative effort among the ports and border crossings regarding possible stolen vehicles being exported unless there is a tip that they are able to follow up on. Although there is a 91% recovery rate of stolen vehicles in Washington that percentage does not reflect the condition of the vehicle, or what percentage of the actual vehicle is left when recovered.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

There was a press conference held on August 17th, 2008 related to the WATPA grant awards. It was well presented and attended with all of major news stations and press releases sent to the major newspapers.

With no further business Dan Satterberg, Authority Vice-Chair, adjourned the meeting at 11:45 p.m.

The next regular scheduled WATPA meeting will be held on November 6th, 2008, 10 AM – 2 PM, WASPC Training Room