

**Special Meeting Agenda/Minutes
Grays Harbor County/Pacific County/Wahkiakum County/
Cowlitz County Commissioners**

November 17, 2006

1. Call to Order

At 11:30 a.m., Commissioner Rasmussen of Cowlitz County called to order the Special Joint Meeting of the County Commissioners of Grays Harbor, Pacific, Wahkiakum, and Cowlitz Counties for replacement of Senator Mark Doumit's seat for the 19th Legislative District. Commissioner Rasmussen stated the purpose of the meeting and named Tiffany Ostreim as the Clerk for the special meeting. Commissioners Bob Beerbower, Mike Wilson, and Albert Carter were present from Grays Harbor County; Commissioners Jon Kaino, Pat Hamilton, and Norman Cuffel were present from Pacific County; Commissioners Daniel Cothren, George Trott, and Mark Linquist were present from Wahkiakum County; and Commissioners Jeff Rasmussen and Kathleen Johnson were present from Cowlitz County.

2. Election of Chairman

Mark Linquist moved to elect Commissioner Rasmussen the Chair for this special meeting, Commissioner Hamilton seconded. Nominations were closed. The motion carried.

3. Discussion on Process

Commissioner Rasmussen outlined a tentative process for this meeting. Asked for suggestions or alternatives. Commissioner Kaino moved to delete VI – Accept nominations because the Washington State Democratic Central Committee presented three nominees for the position, motion seconded. The motion carried.

Candidates drew lots.

1. Dave Van Curen
2. George Raiter
3. Brian Hatfield

Candidates were excused from the Hearing Room. Commissioner Rasmussen presented proposed questions to be used during the interviews. Commissioner Kaino moved for the Chair to ask the questions, Commissioner Johnson seconded. Commissioner Carter clarified other questions and follow-up questions would be allowed after the three structured questions. The motion carried.

4. Interview of the Candidates

Commissioner Rasmussen outlined the format for each candidate. The candidates to be considered to fill the position were ratified by the Washington State Democratic Central Committee. The nominees gave opening statements and were interviewed in the following order:

Dave Van Curen
George Raiter
Brian Hatfield

George Raiter gave his concession speech. Stated a sitting commissioner should not have to resign their position in order to run for Senate position. Noted currently there is a Senator who is serving as a County Commissioner. Maintain that right to vote for who you want.

5. Vote

A roll call vote was taken: Commissioner Beerbower – Brian Hatfield; Commissioner Carter – Brian Hatfield; Commissioner Cothren – Brian Hatfield; Commissioner Cuffel – Brian Hatfield; Commissioner Hamilton – Brian Hatfield; Commissioner Johnson – Brian Hatfield since George Raiter conceded; Commissioner Kaino – Brian Hatfield; Commissioner Linquist – Brian Hatfield; Commissioner Rasmussen – George Raiter; Commissioner Trott – Brian Hatfield; and Commissioner Wilson – Brian Hatfield. The vote was ten to one to appoint Brian Hatfield to fill the 19th Legislative District Senate vacancy.

Commissioner Kaino moved to adopt the resolution appointing Brian Hatfield to fill the vacant position of Senate for the 19th Legislative District, seconded by Commissioner Carter. The motion carried.

Cowlitz County Auditor Kristina Swanson, administered the oath of office.

1. Special Joint Resolution (SJR) 06-001 appointing Brian Hatfield

The Chairman adjourned the meeting.

**Board of County Commissioners
Of Cowlitz County, Washington**

Jeff Rasmussen, Chairman

Kathleen A. Johnson, Commissioner

Attest:

Tiffany Ostreim
Acting Clerk of the Board

Board of Commissioners
Grays Harbor County

Bob Beerbower, Chairman

Mike Wilson, District 2

Albert A. Carter, District 3

Attest:

Donna Caton
Clerk of the Board

Board of County Commissioners
Pacific County, Washington

Jon C. Kaino, Chairman

Pat Hamilton, Commissioner

Norman B. Cuffel, Commissioner

Attest:

Kathy Noren
Clerk of the Board

Board of Commissioners
Wahkiakum County, Washington

Daniel L. Cothren, Chairman

George A. Trott, Commissioner

Mark E. Linquist, Commissioner

Attest:

Holly Pfenniger
Clerk of the Board