

LOCAL 443 News

June 2006 Local 443, Washington Federation of State Employees, AFSCME Olympia, WA

Notice of Election of Delegates to AFSCME International Convention

AFSCME International's 37th Convention will be held at McCormick Place, 2301 South Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, IL, on August 7 – 11, 2006. Local 443 will be electing 11 Delegates and 10 Alternates at the June 20, 2006 Local 443 General Membership Meeting. You must be present or have a proxy letter submitted at the June 20, 2006, Local 443 General Membership Meeting, stating your consent to be nominated and elected. You must also be a member in good standing.

NOTICE OF ELECTION OF LOCAL 443 DELEGATES TO Washington State Labor Council Convention

Washington State Labor Council 2006 Constitutional Convention will be August 21 through 24, 2006 in Wenatchee, Washington. Local 443 will be electing 12 Delegates and 2 Alternates at the June 20, 2006 Local 443 General Membership Meeting. You must be present or have a proxy letter submitted at the June 20, 2006, Local 443 General Membership Meeting, stating your consent to be nominated and elected. You must also be a member in good standing.

Dear WFSE Local 443

I would like to take this opportunity to address the concerns published in your March 2006 Local 443 Newsletter regarding computer screen wipes in DSHS DCS Central Services.

All staff members in Central Services were recently provided with new flat screen computer monitors as an upgrade to their existing work stations. At the time the monitors were installed, IT staff provided instructions on how to care for the monitors along with a very small supply of special computer screen wipes for cleaning.

In an effort to conserve the limited number of the computer screen wipes until more supplies could be ordered, a suggestion was made that the supervisors maintain a supply for their staff to share. It was never the intent of Central Services management that staff would be required to request these wipes from their supervisors. An adequate supply of computer screen wipes has been ordered and they will be available in the supply room for staff to readily access.

We appreciate your interest in providing staff with the tools they need to do their job, but hope that future concerns be brought to our attention prior to rising to the level of the local Newsletter.

Very truly yours,

David Stillman, Director
Division of Child Support

EDITOR'S NOTE: To date there has been no notification of receipt of ordered screen wipes mentioned above..

Upcoming Events

June 2-3, 2006 – Democratic State Convention, Yakima
June 10, 2006 – WFSE/AFSCME Policy Committee, SeaTac DoubleTree
June 17, 2006 -- Regional Meeting of the WFSE Southwest Locals, Kelso, email
Secretary443@aol.com if you are interested in attending.
June 28-July 2, 2006 – Summer School for Union Women, Evergreen State College, Olympia

Local 443 General Meeting

5/16/06

6:15 PM to 9:15 PM

GA Building

Draft

The meeting of Local 443 was called to order by President Geppert at 6:15 pm in the auditorium of the General Administration building in Olympia.

Roll call of officers was taken by Recording Secretary Shellie Savage. All Officers were present with the following exceptions: Absent: Stan Leja

The membership performed the flag salute.

M/S/P (Motion/Seconded/Pass) to adopt agenda.

OBLIGATION OF NEW MEMBERS

Anne Fischel, E. Nina Triffleman, TESC, Sari Pel, Employment Security

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

M/S/C to adopt April 2006 general meeting minutes as corrected.

SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER

Wendy Carbonel was present. Notify the president at the beginning of the meeting if you wish to have her stay past 7:00 pm.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

GUEST SPEAKER

Reiko Callner and Anne Fischel of Unity in the Community

M/S/P to donate up to \$99 to JAACL Northwest in support of Unity in the Community.

AFSCME 21st Century Plan

M/S/P propose we post the entire 21st Century Plan on the Local 443 website.

Local 443 July 2006-June 2007 Budget

Reviewing this month and to be voted on at the June 20th general meeting.

Sergeant-At-Arms Election by Local 443 E-Board

To be elected at the June 14th E-Board meeting.

June Regional Meeting of the WFSE Southwest Locals

Date: Saturday June 17, 2006

Time: 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Place: Kelso Red Lion, Kelso, Washington

Attendees: SW Regional Local Members (approximately 200 to 250)

Local 443 Constitution Draft Revisions

We will be reconvening the Constitution Committee to implement some suggested changes from AFSCME.

EVENTS

Upcoming Conferences

AFSCME 37th International Convention Call

August 7-11, 2006 in Chicago, Delegates and Alternates to be elected at the June 20, 2006 general meeting.

M/S/P to send 11 Delegates and 10 Alternates to the AFSCME International Convention.

Washington State Labor Council Convention Call

August 21-24, 2006 in Wenatchee. Delegates and Alternates to be elected at the June 20, 2006 general meeting.

Summer School for Union Women, The Evergreen State College, Olympia, June 28–July 2, 2006. We have only received one request for a scholarship.

We have 5 scholarships available.

STAFF REPORTS

Joanne McCaughan – participated in the organizing up north.

Joan Gallagher, Field Representative – will be moving into Labor and Industries.

Tana Gann, Field Representative – continuing to do a lot of onsite informational meetings.

M/S/P to obtain the current Area Rep List from the Area Rep Supervisor and post it on the website.

CORRESPONDENCE

Routed around the room.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance sheet was distributed as of May 9.

OFFICERS REPORTS

Tee Hall, 2nd Vice President – reported on the button making machine.

M/S/T (Motion/Seconded/Tabled) E-Board recommends we purchase the button machine in the amount not to exceed \$1,000.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Organizing – Local 443 will be an entrant at Lakemair Parade. We need you to recruit folks to march in the parade on Saturday, July 22, 2006. Bring your family members! This year's theme is Public Service. Contact Joe Nilsson at (360) 259-4657 if interested.

Shop Steward Committee – Alanna Gehr, Chair reported that the committee met on April 29, 2006. There were twenty-six (26) people attending, representing 10 agencies. A grievance database is being developed indicating the contract article violated, while maintaining the grievant's confidentiality. A Shop Steward Conference is also being worked on. Next month's Stewards' meeting will be June 3 at 12:30, South Puget Sound, Bldg. 27, Rm 119.

AGENCY REPORTS

Evergreen State College – Faculty have filed with PERC to join a faculty union.

OLD BUSINESS

Report on the Washington State Labor Council COPE Convention, Saturday, May 13, 2006.

The purpose of the convention was to endorse candidates for U.S. Congress, statewide offices, Washington State House and Senate positions, State Supreme Court Judges and initiatives to be placed on the November Ballot.

It was a very productive meeting and I thank you for sending me.

Respectfully submitted by: Gail Richardson

Update on Computer Screen Wipes –

M/S/P to publish the letter from the DSHS Director in the Local 443 Newsletter.

Dated: April 7, 2006

To: Washington Federation of State Employees, Local 443

Dear WFSE Local 443.

I would like to take this opportunity to address the concerns published in your March 2006 Local 443 Newsletter regarding computer screen wipes in DSHS DCS Central Services.

All staff members in Central Services were recently provided with new flat screen computer monitors as an upgrade to their existing work stations. At the time the monitors were installed, IT staff provided instructions on how to care for the monitors along with a very small supply of special computer screen wipes for cleaning.

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Very truly yours,

*David Stillman, Director
Division of Child Support*

CUSTOMER SERVICE

M/S/P Whereas the union has grown in size

Whereas every member should feel good about interacting or communicating with the Union

Whereas most large companies hire private consultants to assist in customer service delivery

Therefore Local 443 respectfully requests that the Executive Board direct Council 28 to assess and provide guidance for improving the WFSE Union management practices, policies and standards to deliver customer service. Guidance should be in the form of a comprehensive report of suggested practice(s) to improve and

the ways to measure (metrics) successful implementation of management practices, policies and standards to deliver customer service.

NEW BUSINESS

M/S/P that an expenditure of up to \$2,000 from the Collective Bargaining Budget be authorized to pay for 500 Collective Bargaining 14 inch by 22 inch yard signs, stakes and lath for the signs, as well as 250 car window cling signs. Sign wording would be approved by the Local 443 President, in consultation with the Local 443 Organizing Chair and WFSE Communications Director. Signs would be strategically placed in Thurston County during the first part of the summer.

Cost Data provided by The Sign Shop (Local, Union):

500 Sign Faces (Three Color), including tax and setup - \$950
250 4" by 10" Window cling Signs - \$600
Stakes and Lath for Signs - \$380
Total - \$1930

Rationale

- Develop Community Awareness and Support
- Be Proactive and Visible
- Make Connection Between Governor and Negotiation Process and Results

**Governor,
State Employees
Deserve
A Real Raise!**

Paid for by:

LOCAL 443, Washington Federation of State Employees, AFL-CIO

M/S Resolution submitted by Ecology to be discussed at the June 20th general meeting.

Whereas the Ecology Collective Bargaining Unit in the Washington Federation of State Employees has been recently formed and as with all young units needs special attention and cultivation to create a strong unit; and

Whereas the unit has recently been forced to engage a decertification campaign; and

Whereas the unit's Communication Committee Chair has recently resigned for personal reasons and no other member has stepped forward to fill this important position; and

Whereas timely, cogent, and pertinent communication is essential to promote and preserve the collective bargaining unit's organization and cohesion; and

Whereas adequate financial resources are essential to communicate effectively with bargaining unit members; and

Whereas a part time professional editor would provide the needed expertise to Ecology members or organize, edit, and distribute a newsletter and other pertinent communications.

Be is resolved that Local 443 provide a grant of \$1,200 to the Ecology Bargaining Unit Communication Committee to be used for the remainder of 2006 to pay for a stipend to a part time professional editor and for other expenses associated with the unit's communication strategy.

M/S/P Motion 2 "High Five"

Whereas employee recognition is important part of morale

Whereas improved employee morale is associated with greater productivity

Whereas it is nice to know when the job you are doing is appreciated

Therefore Local 443 respectfully request that WFSE Council 28 greatly encourage AFSCME Executive Director, Greg Devereux to implement a program similar to ESD ITSD "High Five" awards in which a customer or team member who is happy with the work an employee is doing may submit a short description of the efforts to the union and that person is given a certificate of appreciation.

M/S/P Motion 4 "FLSA and National Convention"

Whereas the FLSA laws have been misinterpreted in every agency in the State of Washington

Whereas thousands of employees have had a loss in pay because the OFM/LRO has refused to admit there was misinterpretation of the FLSA

Whereas millions of dollars in state budgets will be affected when the misinterpretation is resolved

Therefore Local 443 WFSE/AFSCME direct it's national convention to carry the cause of overtime pay to the national 2006 convention with the intention to share and gather information from other states and determine if lobbying is needed at the federal level to resolve the FLSA misinterpretation.

M/S/P Motion 6 "Overtime Compensation at National Convention"

Whereas people who have to work overtime to carry the functions of the business are not justly compensated

Whereas poor management is the usual cause for overtime

Therefore Local 443 WFSE/AFSCME hereby direct the national 2006 convention to initiate discussion concerning overtime and attempt to organize a national drive to require overtime payment be double standard time and triple standard time in the case of holidays.

M/S/P All motion and resolution makers' names will be recorded in the secretary's notes. The president will designate the name of the seconder of the resolution or motion and will also be recorded in the secretary's notes. The maker of the motion or the seconders' names will only be published if requested by the parties.

Door Prize: Greg Jaspersen

PEOPLE: \$15.50

Adjourned: 9:15 p.m.

SPECIAL NEEDS?

If you or anyone interested in attending a Local 443 meeting should need any ADA accommodations in order to attend please contact the Sergeant At Arms, Robyn Steacy or email Secretary443@aol.com or call the local message phone at (360) 754-8437.



Committee Contacts

Finance – **Susie Rathke** Treasurer@wfse443.org
Grievance – : **Don Vaughan** GrievChair@wfse443.org
Political Action -- : **Bruce Zeller**
Shop Steward – **Alanna Gehr**
Organizing – **Joe Nilsson** OrgChair@wfse443.org

Diversity -- **Open**
Media – **Shellie Savage** Secretary443@aol.com
Contracts – **Open**
Scholarship : **Michele Elhardt**
Women's & Family Issues – **Open**

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 11 June 14	Executive Board Meeting @ 6:30 p.m. @ WFSE Conference Room, 1212 Jefferson Street, Olympia
May 16 June 20	General Meeting @ GA Building, Capitol Campus @ 6:00 p.m. (3rd Tuesday each month)
May 17 June 21	Thurston-Lewis County Labor Council Meeting at the Labor Temple in 6:00 p.m. -- 119 ½ N Capitol Thurston-Lewis County Labor Council Meeting at Carpenter Hall In Centralia, 417 N Pearl at 7:00 pm
Check out Local 443's website at: www.wfse443.org Local 443's Phone Number: (360) 754-8437	



It's important what you think, do and say. Please write YOUR newsletter with your comments, reports, and/or articles. Be sure to include your name a phone number where our Editor can reach you for article verification. We will do what we can to put them in print. We look forward to hearing from YOU!!

YOUR COMMENTS, FEEDBACK AND/OR SUBMISSIONS ARE APPRECIATED

Please send to: PO BOX 105, Olympia WA 98507-0105