



January 29, 2026

TO: Mayors
 City Councilmembers

FROM: Mayor Rob Putaansuu, City of Port Orchard
 AWC Past President & Nominating Committee Chair

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform you of actions taken to date by the 2026 AWC Nominating Committee and the AWC Board of Directors.

The Nominating Committee consists of the following members appointed by AWC President Fred Brink. This year, the Nominating Committee includes one member from each multi-city district.

Name	Title	City	AWC Board District
Rob Putaansuu (Chair)	Mayor & AWC Past President	Port Orchard	12
Francis Benjamin (Vice Chair)	Mayor & AWC Past President	Pullman	2
Stephanie Vignal (Secretary)	Mayor	Mill Creek	8
Cris Kaminskis	Mayor	Liberty Lake	1
Erin McCardle	Mayor	Chelan	3
Naila Duval	Councilmember	Toppenish	4
Matt Cole	Mayor	Ridgefield	5
Dave Olson	Mayor	Edgewood	6
Chris Roberts	Councilmember	Shoreline	7
Satwinder Kaur	Council President	Kent	13
Ronnie Wright	Mayor	Oak Harbor	14

The purpose of the Nominating Committee is to compile a list of officer and director candidates for the AWC Board of Directors and to present the candidates to the AWC Annual Meeting on June 25, in conjunction with the AWC Annual Conference in Spokane.

2026 NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT – 1

At its January 29, 2026 meeting, the Nominating Committee reviewed its guidelines, roles, and responsibilities and discussed the 2026 nominating procedures, process, and timeline. Mayor Rob Putaansuu is serving as Chair. The committee selected Mayor Francis Benjamin as the Vice Chair; and Mayor Stephanie Vignal as the Secretary.

The Nominating Committee directed AWC staff to issue the call for applications for the following positions on the AWC Board with a term ending in June 2026:

- President
- Vice President
- District 2
- District 4
- District 6
- District 8
- District 12
- District 13
- District 14
- At-Large 2 (Western, less than 5,000 population)
- At-Large 4 (Eastern, less than 5,000 population)

According to the AWC Bylaws, the AWC Board of Directors forwards the names to the Nominating Committee for the positions of President, Vice President, and Secretary. The AWC Board of Directors took action on January 20, 2026, to forward Mayor Jon Nehring for the position of President; Mayor Matthew Lundh for the position of Vice President; and Mayor Nancy Backus, Auburn, for the position of Secretary.

Additionally, the term for District 10 will commence at the Annual Meeting. District 10 is a single-city district with one position, appointed by the legislative body of the City of Tacoma.

The 2026 AWC Nominating Committee set a deadline of April 13, 2026, for applications from elected officials interested in applying to serve on the AWC Board of Directors. Individuals applying after the deadline must run for a position directly from the floor during the Annual Meeting on Thursday, June 25, 2026.

The 2026 AWC Nominating Committee will reconvene on Tuesday, April 28, 2026 at 1 pm, to review applications submitted by potential candidates for the open positions. The Nominating Committee will meet online.

Attest:

Signed by:


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Secretary

1/29/2026

Date