



Retired Public Employees Council Chapter 24 – Mason County Area

Meeting Date: Thursday, June 27th, 2024
Meeting Time: 11:00 AM
Meeting Place: Shelton Timberland Library
Meeting Address: 710 W Alder St, Shelton, WA 98584

CHAPTER NOMINATIONS & ELECTIONS NOTICE

Nominations and Elections for chapter officers will take place at the **June 27th meeting**. Delegates to the RPEC Convention will be elected at this meeting.

It is vital that you attend to ensure that officers can be elected for Chapter 24. A minimum of 9 members must be present to constitute a quorum (as stated in the Chapter 24 Constitution). A quorum is required to have a valid election.

This meeting will be held on Thursday, June 27th at 11:00 AM at the Shelton Timberland Library, located at 710 W Alder St, Shelton, WA 98584.

Future opportunities for using Zoom to have hybrid meetings (in-person & virtual) will be explored once the chapter has officers in place. Your participation will ensure that chapter 24 elections are a success and that Chapter 24 members will have adequate representation moving forward.

Please notify Jakob at **(360) 352-8262 ext. 106** or **jakob.canup@rpecwa.org** if you plan to attend the meeting or have questions.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Sincerely,

Mike Marston, RPEC District 6 Representative
Mason, Grays Harbor, Kitsap, Jefferson, and Clallam Counties

JUNE 2024 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Check out RPEC On Air!

RPEC On Air!, our new podcast, is now available on various platforms, including RPEC's new website. Please check out the first two episodes. Share your ideas for guests and topics by emailing podcast@rpecwa.org. You can listen to the podcast from your computer or mobile phone on these platforms and applications:

RPEC website: <https://2024.rpecwa.org/category/media/podcasts/>

Spotify: <https://podcasters.spotify.com/pod/show/rpecwa>

Amazon Music & Audible: <https://music.amazon.com/podcasts/8fcc2df0-2c5f-4c33-8284-8a33e5a07979/rpec-on-air>

iHeartRadio: <https://www.iheart.com/podcast/269-rpec-on-air-176951624/>

Apple Podcasts: <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/rpec-on-air/id1746803484>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLK6dVty4SjAeW3c4Pa0QgVK4Z4GFasL84>

Pandora: <https://www.pandora.com/podcast/rpec-on-air/PC:1001088140>

RPEC Launches New Website

After a year of work, informed by feedback sessions from members and the all-member survey from spring 2023, RPEC's new website is "live" as of June 1. The website has many new features. Members will have opportunities to participate in topical online forums, which track comments and discussions on topics of interest such as pensions, Social Security, healthcare, and Medicare. The website has improved navigation, making it easier for members to find information. New to the website is a feature that requires members to create an account to log into the member-only portal. For many years, RPEC has given its information and resources away to anyone who visits the website. Now, our full content will only be available to dues-paying members. Visitors to the website will have limited access to our communications tools. Watch for more details about webinars that will be hosted by the Council, on the new website and its new features. Visit www.rpecwa.org to explore the new website.

New Member Webinar, July 26, 1-2 p.m. via Zoom

Are you new to RPEC? If so, welcome! Chances are you joined RPEC due to our organization's legislative and policy leadership. Now that you are part of the RPEC family, we'd like to tell you more about the many ways you can get more involved and access not only the RPEC member-only benefits but also those that come with being part of a national AFL-CIO union. Please mark your calendars today and plan to join us for a presentation about member benefits, how you can become active in RPEC's legislative advocacy, and more. Registration will be available soon and will be included in the new member packets to be mailed soon to new members.

Health Care Authority to Change Open Enrollment Period

The Health Care Authority will be changing the open enrollment dates for 2025 from the month of November 2024 to **October 28 through November 25, 2024**. The new open enrollment period will impact retirees who earn their healthcare benefits from the Public Employees Benefits Board (PEBB). More details to follow.

Executive Board Approves Candidate Endorsements & Contributions

On May 6th, the Executive Board took formal action to endorse candidates running for state offices. The list of candidates considered by the Executive Board was initially composed by RPEC's Political Action Committee (PAC). The Executive Committee and PAC chair interviewed all candidates to determine their support for RPEC's legislative priorities and to better understand their relevant experience for state office. The list of endorsed candidates and contributions amounts will be published in the summer edition of the RPEC membership newsletter. Candidates for office are endorsed based on their support of RPEC's legislative priorities. When making an endorsement, the Executive Board also considers the candidate's voting record (if they are an incumbent or if RPEC has endorsed them in the past for other races) and their past working relationship with RPEC and its chapters.

The endorsement list is designed to help inform the work of RPEC chapters in cultivating relationships with candidates who are likely to win the primary election in August. Chapters also are encouraged to invite these elected officials to their summertime outdoor events or to schedule them as speakers at chapter meetings.

PAC Fund-raiser Fast Approaching

In addition to your generous cash and pension-deduction contributions to the PAC, RPEC will host a special fund-raising event at Convention, September 25-26. Chapters and individual members are encouraged to donate items, from original artwork and one-of-a-kind items to excursions, experiences, and gift baskets. All proceeds will be directed to the PAC for campaign contributions to endorse pro-retiree candidates. Do you have an item that you wish to donate to raise funds for the PAC? Reach out to your chapter president with details. Every chapter is responsible for transporting their donated items to our in-person Convention, which will be held in Wenatchee.

Upcoming Events

Visit www.rpecwa.org for a full calendar of Council Office and chapter meetings.

- June 18 – Select Committee on Pension Policy (10:00 am)
- June 19 – Council Office closed, Juneteenth
- June 27 – Public Employees Benefits Board (9:00 am)
- June 27 – Healthcare Workgroup (3:30 pm)
- July 4 – Council Office closed, Independence Day
- July 5 – Legislative Update Call (2:00 pm)
- July 11 – Public Employees Benefits Board (9:00 am)
- July 11 – Healthcare Workgroup (3:30 pm)
- July 12 – Legislative Committee Meeting (10:00 am)
- July 16 – Select Committee on Pension Policy (10:00 am)
- July 18 – Public Employees Benefits Board (9:00 am)