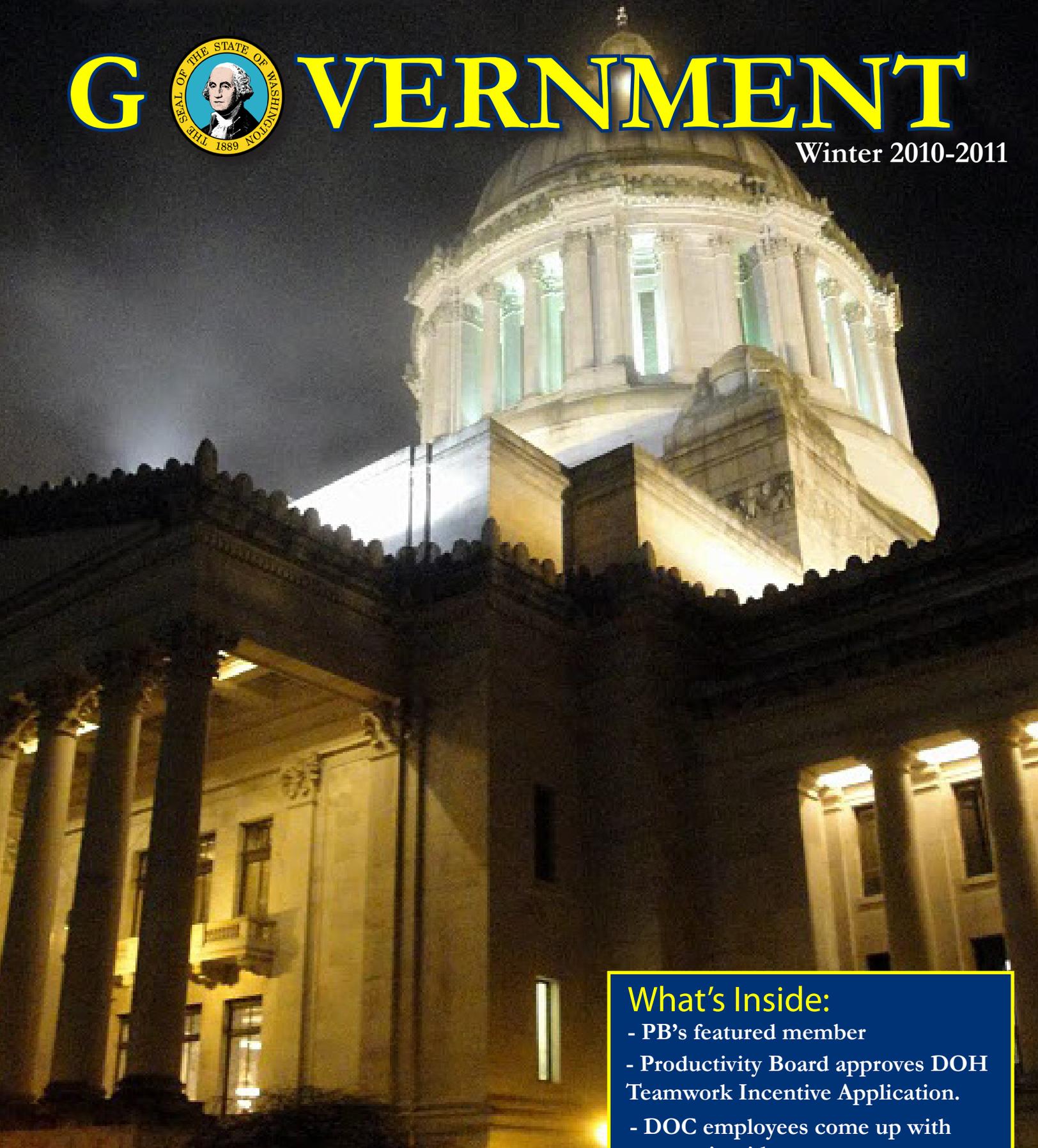


# SMART



# GVERNMENT

Winter 2010-2011



## What's Inside:

- PB's featured member
- Productivity Board approves DOH Teamwork Incentive Application.
- DOC employees come up with cost saving ideas.



## DOC implements cost saving idea to supplement budget shortfalls

One idea that came from staff was re-issuing clothes and underwear issued to offenders. This will save the agency money by not having to purchase new items for all incoming inmates. The employees also came up with another cost-saving idea of using reusable bags at the correctional facility store, using these instead of paper ones that are disposed of after use.

Secretary Eldon Vail commends the staff saying: "It doesn't surprise me that the best cost-saving ideas have come from our staff," Secretary Vail said. "The men and women who work on the ground level at prisons and field offices are typically better able to see what ideas will work."

## Streamlining wireless process saves agency over \$7,000



Pictured above: Mark Harrison, Deanna Morgan, Faith Johnson, Brenda Deligeannis, Michelle Owen and Marissa Bergener

A review of the Blackberries, Cell Phone and Pager plan usage within the Department of Health's office of Community Wellness and Prevention to determine a more economical way to provide these services to staff. The goal of the project was to save the agency money by merging services and share wireless minutes across the office. The team was able to inventory unused cell phones and pagers

to eliminate those that were not being actively used within the agency. They were also able to consolidate minutes throughout the department, which also resulted in saving to agency. As a result of its findings and consolidation, the Department of Health saved over \$7,000 in first-year savings.

## State Government Calendar of Events

January 10  
**First day of Legislative Session**

January 17  
**Martin Luther King Jr. Day**

February 4  
**PRODUCTIVITY BOARD MEETING**  
*Secretary of State's office*

February 14  
**Valentine's Day**

February 21  
**President's Day**

March 4  
**PRODUCTIVITY BOARD MEETING**  
*Secretary of State's office*

April 1  
**PRODUCTIVITY BOARD MEETING**  
*Secretary of State's office*



## State employees are still eligible to earn up to \$10,000 through the Employee Suggestion and Teamwork Incentive Program

In 2010 two bills passed by the Washington Legislature were:

Substitute House Bill 2998 suspended certain monetary awards and salary increases.

Substitute Senate Bill 6382 reduced the cost of state government operations by restricting compensation.

These bills do not impact the State Productivity Board's Employee Suggestion and Teamwork Incentive programs.

“The Productivity Board’s awards programs have been hugely successful in saving the state tens of millions of dollars since their creation in 1982, and we’re glad these programs are not impacted by the recently passed legislation. In tough budget times like now, it’s important to give workers incentives to help state government save money,” said Secretary of State Sam Reed.

“People from several state agencies were concerned that the Employee Suggestion and Teamwork Incentive programs would be eliminated by the passage of House Bill 2998,”

said Productivity Board Director Tracy Workman. “I’m glad to say that is not happening. The bill’s prime sponsor assured us that was not his intent, and the measure was amended to fix those concerns.”

The bills restrict agencies from paying monetary performance-based awards or recognition awards. Both measures prohibit the payment of awards provided in state law “other than suggestions awards and incentive pay unit awards.”

With the two measures having been signed into law last February, the only way state employees will be able to receive monetary rewards will be by submitting an employee suggestion or a process improvement through the State Productivity Board, Workman said.

To learn more about the Teamwork Incentive Program or the Productivity Board visit [www.secstate.wa.gov/productivityboard](http://www.secstate.wa.gov/productivityboard).



## PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION WEEK **EXCELLENCE** IN GOVERNMENT

### Kicking off 2011 Public Service Recognition Week

The wheels have started turning on the 2011 Public Service Recognition Week. Productivity Board staff held the first meeting on November 17 at the State Library building where just over 20 representatives attended to start planning the 2011 events. The dates for State Employee Day with the Seattle Mariners and the Tacoma Rainiers will be set in stone shortly and employees will be notified as soon as tickets become available.

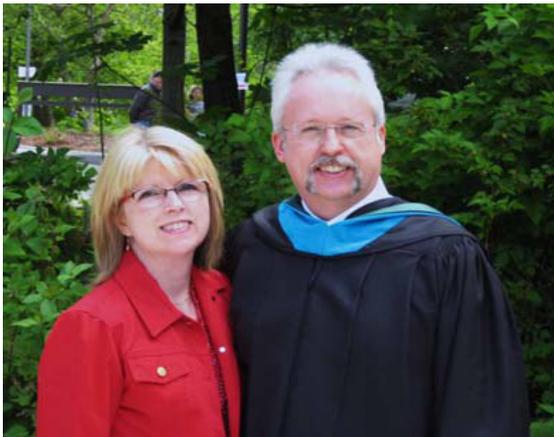
2011 PSRW meeting dates:

- January 12, 2011
- February 9, 2011
- March 9, 2011
- April 6, 2011
- April 20, 2011
- May 4, 2011 Olympia PSRW Event
- May 2011 Spokane PSRW Event
- May 2011 Tri-Cities PSRW Event
- May 2011 Seattle PSRW Event
- June 8, 2011

Meetings are held from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in the State Library Building, located at 6880 Capitol Blvd in Tumwater.

[www.sos.wa.gov/productivityboard/psrw](http://www.sos.wa.gov/productivityboard/psrw)

### Productivity Board featured member



Pictured above: Rich Tomsinski and wife Barb

Meet Rich Tomsinski, Deputy Project Director with the Employment Security Department (ESD) Tomsinski inquired about board membership in 2008, and when a position opened, he was appointed to the board by Governor Gregoire in November 2009 after a glowing recommendation from ESD Commissioner Karen Lee. "Working with the Productivity Board has always been consistent with my interests in improving organizational performance through employee

engagement," Tomsinski said. "I believe that every organization can do more to engage employees to help us do our jobs and meet our public service missions." Tomsinski will serve a three-year term with the Productivity Board and can be reappointed to additional terms. "My plan is to listen and learn," he said. "I'm hoping to find an opportunity to help make a difference."

### Productivity Board Members:

- Governor Christine Gregoire - Ex-Officio
- Secretary of State Sam Reed - Chair
- State Auditor - Brian Sonntag
- Department of General Administration - Martin D. Casey
- Private Sector Representative - Retired Mike Kerschbaum PEMCO Financial Services
- Speaker of the House Appointee - George Masten
- Federation of State Employees Appointee - Wanda Riley
- Department of Personnel Assistant Director - Scott Turner
- State Board for Community and Technical Colleges - Kathy Goebel
- Employment Security Department - Rich Tomsinski

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