League of Women Voters of Mason County Board Meeting April 10, 2026 11:30 am on Zoom

Present: Lynn B., Toni D., Dee Ann K.P., Patti B., Jacqueline W., Stephanie B., Peggy J., Amy D., Eileen P.

Lynn called the meeting to order at 11:32 am.
In the absence of Lynda L., her agenda item of Observer Corps was removed. The revised agenda was approved.
The minutes of the February 6, 2026, Board meeting were approved.
Attendees answered the question of the day, Are you keeping a journal or have you ever kept a journal?

Leadership Team. Amy reported on Karen Crowley's (LWVWA) Resisting Threats to Democracy emails and urged members to take action as requested. Amy also encouraged members to read emails The Evergreen Voter, where Mason County is featured on Storytelling. A virtual Town Hall is beginning on April 27 on Resisting Threats to Democracy. It will meet every other Monday to discuss top concerns and actions in WA State. Peggy J. volunteered to attend regularly.

Dee Ann announced the LWVMC Communications Committee will need to be revamped with the resignation of Peggy M. In particular, help with Facebook page is needed. Dee Ann's term on the state board ends in June. There is training for local Leagues on resisting threats to democracy. She recommended new members to attend the State Council in Lacey as a means to ease into the state operations. The State Council has a Washington Superior Court Judge as Keynote speaker. There will be a panel of coalitions, partners from several organizations. There are also workshops and caucuses. Members need to register. The Education Fund can pay 60% of fee. Peggy J. offered a free registration for a member as she accidentally register twice. Dee Ann also suggested that it's time we review our LWV-MC DEI, candidate, and nonpartisan policies.

Lynn discussed the distribution of the TRY brochures. Carole B. has been circulating them in the Shelton region, Peggy J. has been distributing in North Mason and the Canal areas, Karen H. in the Mason Lake area, and Eileen has been distributing them at rallies, organization meetings, and at local high school civics classes. Patti will order 20 copies of the book "The State We're In." The pocket constitutions prepared by the ACLU will not be distributed at tabling events. Eileen will distribute those that she has to high school civics classes, but also indicated that the ACLU also distributed to civics classes in the fall. Dee Ann proposed distributing them at the Shelton Timberland Library on Constitution Day in September or October, at which some Leagues are reading the constitution at their local libraries. Lynn also reported the display of Mason County Pioneering Women posters was well viewed at the library. LWV-WA is beginning a "No Hate in WA" campaign.

Nominating Committee. Patti reported the committee was searching for a new leadership as Treasurer Patti and Secretary Eileen have volunteered to serve another term. Amy indicated she would like to chair the general membership meetings but not arrange them. We will need a new Board meeting chair. If the League goes back to the President/Vice President model, the Vice President could be the Board meeting chair. Discussion ensued on standing committees and a succession model of staggering leadership positions. Peggy J. is developing a succession model. Patti suggested we beef up committee chair roles to contribute to leadership.

Treasurer. Patti gave the Treasurer's Report which she had emailed to members. By the end of March, the checking account went down by $1006.22 to reflect the last of the old membership payments to the State League. We will not need to do this again with the new model of membership payment implemented by the National League. Funds now go directly to the national, and the local receives $13 from each membership. OURCU checking balance is $7473,65, savings $1.00, and CD $1196.01. The Education Fund balance is $7631.52. We earned $385.01 from donations and memberships last month. Expenses in February were $1487.48 for Board Insurance, Facilities donation to Faith Lutheran Church and the final PMP payment for state dues. To answer the question of income tax: as a non-profit 501 c-4 we don't pay any as we are exempt through 1099N file with Washington Secretary of State and the IRS.

Civic Storytelling. Patti reported on the 50 on-the-street interviews at the No Kings III Rally at Kneeland Park on March 28, 2026. Volunteers were filmed from the back. Lynda recruited volunteers and brought them to the table for the remote interviews. Releases were signed as well. One high school senior Henry served as the interviewer.. We will have a display table at the Council event in June, 2026. Dee Ann requested pictures of League members doing the interviews and any other pictures attendees had for the Web Site.

Voter Services. Dee Ann reported the Speed Dating event in October will be limited to 10 candidates for maximum acoustics. We will need to see how many county positions will be contested after filing week May 4 to 8. There may need to be a separate Speed Dating event for the three 35th Legislative positions of Senator and two Representatives.

Gloria S. has volunteered to organize tabling in the county.

Eileen will be scheduling high school civics class visits to Shelton High school, North Mason High and Mary M. Knight in the spring, right after spring break.

Member Services. Lynn reported on the success of League 101 and thanked Amy D., Peggy M., Lynda L., and Peggy J. for their valuable help. Ten people attended the orientation at the Shelton Timberland Library, with four attendees joining the League afterwards. New members reported liking the event, mentioning good interactions. Mary K. volunteered to lead the Climate Change Committee. This committee has been without a chair for sometime.. Lynn reported on the “Get Involved Forms.” Speed dating, event tabling, and observer corps were popular areas of interest. Stephanie B. volunteered to work on social media.

Observer Corps. No report.

Advocacy. Amy encouraged members to follow the state legislative emails. There were five bills signed by the Governor related to League concerns. The state is encouraging League members to circulate the Decline to Sign flyers on the new initiative to restrict voter registration, particularly for women.

April 22, 2026, is Earth Day. On that day, there will be a discussion on Christian Nationalism at Faith Lutheran Church, 7 pm.

There will be an economic boycott on May 1.

Programs. Peggy J. has volunteered to be the new program chair from September 2026 to June 2027 for the general membership programs. She will look at issues which affect our lives for program topics and arrange speakers.

Amy D. announced that the April 21, 2026, general membership meeting will feature Lydia Zapetta speaking on the Immigrant Detention Center in Tacoma.

The May 19, 2026 general membership meeting will feature a panel on Intellectual Freedom and Censorship, with TRL librarians Kristine Techavanich and Sean Lotz plus children's book author Mary Boone who has personally experienced book banning. Then on Friday, May 22 from 4-6 pm, Marmo's Café will host a showing of "Salt of the Earth," a 1954 film, once blacklisted, about the poor working conditions of Mexican American mine workers. Dee Ann will include s Zoom link on posters to publicize the member meeting. Llyn D. has organized both events, sponsored by LWV-MC in partnership with Timberland Regional Library, Shelton

The June annual meeting date and location have not yet been determined. Lynda will attempt to secure the Arcadia Fire Hall again for the potluck and meeting.

Anticipating a large number of attendees at the May member program, Peggy J. suggested a different arrangement of chairs, with few tables for Board members and the guest speakers and chairs at the back of the room. We could probably accommodate 30 people with that arrangement. Peggy J. invited her husband to attend a future meeting to suggest ways to improve the acoustics for people at the meeting and on Zoom.

For the May meeting, guest speaker Kristine asked where to send her power point. She should send it to the League email address.

For the Good of the Order. Amy recommended a book club with the LWVUS, July 29, 2026, Zoom moderated by Heather Cox Richardson, Book is "How the South Won the Civil War."

Lynn adjourned the meeting at 1:12 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eileen Perfrement
Secretary