

2000 Annual Report Pierce County Data Processing Department

The standing committee for Data Processing is the Information Services Committee. The 2000 Board members were Seth Speerstra, John Shafer and Myrna Larrabee. John Shafer replaced Dick Truax on this committee in May after the April Board of Supervisor Committee Reorganization. The citizen members were Art Gallardo Johnson and Jeff Olson.

The Pierce County computer infrastructure as of December 31, 2000 included 209 desktop PCs and 45 laptops. The breakdown of the operating systems on these is as follows: 191 are Windows 95, 30 are NT, 12 are Windows 98, 2 are OS/2, and 19 are 2000. Pierce County has 3 NT servers, 1 Novell server and 1 mainframe. In addition to the Microsoft applications that people are running there are 14 applications that are department specific. The county also has 137 printers.

A summary of the 2000 financial statement for the Data Processing Department is as follows:

<u>Budgeted Amount</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>End Balance</u>
\$335,332	\$332,635	\$2,697

Major 2000 Projects

- ◆ The county went from 227 desktop PCs and laptops at the end of 1999 to 254 at the end of 2000. Although the Sheriff's laptops were here in 1999 they really started utilizing them in 2000.
- ◆ E-Mail and Internet are being used more widely as an effective business tool on a daily basis. As of December 31, 2000, 122 people have county e-mail addresses.
- ◆ Anti-virus software with current signature files was loaded on county PCs. We did end up with one virus that we needed to take action on all PCs to clear from the county. Because of the one that got through people are looking more carefully at what they are opening through e-mail.
- ◆ 26 PCs were upgraded to keep current with technology needs in the county.
- ◆ Additional people began using networked services to ensure nightly backups and increase efficiency.
- ◆ The Highway Department was upgraded from a Novell server to a NT server for their main computer application.
- ◆ A Pierce County web page was implemented with current calendars, job openings, departmental information and countywide information.
- ◆ A time tracking system was implemented in the Data Processing department. This will be used to build a database which can track where time is spent as well as which machines,

people or projects the time is being spent on.

Future Data Processing Projects Planned for 2001

- 1) We have budgeted for 26 new PCs this year. We need to keep the hardware at a level that it can run the current software.
- 2) We will be locking down computers to prevent viruses from getting in to Pierce County. We will do this by blocking certain files from being opened on county computers as well as installing a more robust anti-virus software with current signature files that will be updated frequently.
- 3) The County Web page will be expanded.
- 4) We are planning to evaluate and implement an option to allow scanning on a countywide basis.
- 5) We will be helping more departments implement the use of GIS.
- 6) As Microsoft continues to change their operating systems as well as their desktop software we need to keep up with the changes as well as learn the new software.
- 7) I will be putting together a 3 year technology plan for the county.

We are trying to replace about 1/5 of the total computers annually which is working well. We need to keep the hardware at a level that it will run current software and other peripherals. In the near future we will need to look at upgrading some of the software that we are using for main office applications. We are still running some DOS based applications which do have their drawbacks. In other cases we are running versions of software that are no longer being supported by the vendors that we purchased it from. Some of these packages are quite expensive to upgrade.

Submitted by: Janet Huppert
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