

## **Jantz Recognized at Ports Association Annual Meeting; Schneidmiller Ends Tenure as Association President**



Commissioner Jantz, Commissioner Schneidmiller, Executive Director Jim Kuntz

TACOMA – During its 2005 annual meeting, the Washington Public Ports Association awarded Port of Walla Walla Commissioner Kenneth Jantz as Life Member of the organization. Commissioner Jantz will retire December 31<sup>st</sup> after serving the citizens of Walla Walla for 24 years. During his tenure, the Port of Walla Walla has grown significantly and is now one of the most active economic development organizations in Southeastern Washington. Jantz also played an active role in the leadership of the Washington Public Ports Association, supporting the development and success of ports throughout the state.

In addition to his service to the port community, Commissioner Jantz served for 16 years on the Waitsburg School Board, and for 15 years on the Touchet Valley Grain Growers Board of Directors.

“Commissioner Jantz has been an invaluable resource for the Port of Walla Walla through his years on the commission,” said Jim Kuntz, the Port’s executive director. “His leadership has been integral in guiding our organization through a period of tremendous growth. We are very grateful for his service, and are thrilled to see him receive this well-deserved recognition.”

At the conclusion of the Association’s annual meeting, Port of Walla Walla Commissioner Paul Schneidmiller ended his term as Association president. Schneidmiller served in the role for one year. As president, he led the Association’s Executive Committee and was responsible for establishing and implementing Association policy. “Commissioner Schneidmiller provided a steady hand at helm this year,” said WPPA Executive Director Patrick Jones. “Our member ports were well served by his leadership.”

The Washington Public Ports Association (WPPA) represents the state’s 76 port districts and provides a network through which ports share information and address issues such as trade, transportation, economic development, and the environment. Washington’s port districts offer a wide range of services, including marine terminals, barge facilities, industrial development, marinas, airports, railroads, and tourism promotion.