



## **PUGET SOUND MEAT PRODUCERS COOPERATIVE**

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### **For Immediate Release**

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### **Puget Sound Meat Producers Cooperative held its Third Annual Meeting and Elected 2011 Officers**

**Pierce County, WA, February 21, 2011** - The Puget Sound Meat Producers Cooperative (PSMPC) held its Third Annual Shareholders' Meeting, at the Farm Bureau Building in Lacey, Washington on February 19, 2011.

PSMPC is a non-profit cooperative of local ranchers, farmers, butchers, restaurant owners and other related entities who three years ago joined to develop and operation a mobile, USDA-inspected meat processing unit servicing King, Kitsap, Lewis, Mason, Pierce, and Thurston counties

The PSMPC Mobile Meat Processing Unit (MMPU) is a 45-foot trailer designed and constructed to meet USDA and Organic specifications. The Unit processes the animals and then transports the animal carcasses to a cooperative partner cut & wrap facility for further USDA and Organic processing. The MMPU is an investment, underwritten by the Pierce Conservation District, to help preserve local farmland, in Pierce County as well as in the five other counties where PSMPC serves farmers growing meat animals and where the MMPU operates.

PSMPC's vision is to provide "***Local Meats for Local Meals***". With a mission "***To provide USDA Inspected slaughter of livestock; to Members, Associate Members, and Non-Members in the Puget Sound Region.***"

A new Board of Directors was installed, and officers were elected for a one year term.

Perry Schermerhorn – President  
Joe Keehn – Vice President  
Mike Parrish – Vice President  
Scott Gruber – Treasurer  
Becky Weed – Secretary

Guest Speakers at the event included Representatives from; Bill the Butcher, Whole Foods, and Northwest Cooperative Development Center.

At the meeting it was announced during the year 516 animals were processed and a Net Income of \$8,129.00 was realized. The budget share at the meeting forecasts increase numbers through the unit and further improvement in net income for 2011.

During 2010 the MMPU operated as many as 4 days a week, at 4 different Operational Sites within the region. Membership was steady, with a slight increase in producer members. Through the summer of 2010 PSMPC operated regularly at 3 sites, supporting an increase in production for PSMPC Members.

PSMPC also supported educational opportunities in participation with WSU and local High Schools. The support has varied from on site services, to providing specimens for educational projects.

2011 Operations began on Tuesday, January 4th, and given predicted volume each Tuesday thru March.

For further information please access the Puget Sound Meat Producers Cooperative at [www.pugetsoundmeat.com](http://www.pugetsoundmeat.com) or e-mail the Secretary at [psmpc@pugetsoundmeat.com](mailto:psmpc@pugetsoundmeat.com).