



County Connection

Monthly News from the Washington Counties Risk Pool

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WCRP Executive Committee

Py 2017 President

Keith Goehner

Py 2017 Vice President

Tammy Devlin

Py 2017 Secretary/Treasurer

Drew Woods

Other Members

David Alvarez

Steve Bartel

Clyde Carpenter

Steve Clem

Jill Johnson

Robert Koch

Mike Thomas

Lisa Young

Risk Pool Staff

Administration

Executive Director

Derek Bryan

Accounting Officer

Sue Colbo

Admin. & Accounting Specialist

Shelese McConnell

Office Assistant

Trish Todd

Claims

Claims Manager

Susan Looker

Senior Claims Analyst

Mike Cook

Senior Claims Analyst

Holly Nelson

Claims Analyst

Lisa McMeekin

Claims Assistant

Sally King

Claims Representative

Cort Campbell

Member Services

Loss Control Coordinator

Jill Lowe

Member Programs Specialist

Hanna Braennstroem

What's New at the Pool?

Summer Conference & Board of Directors Meeting - Registration Open

The 2017 WCRP Summer Conference & Board of Directors Meeting is set to take place at the Marcus Whitman Hotel in beautiful Walla Walla. There's still time to register for the event, which will include a welcome reception, valuable education and roundtable, as well as a fun Thursday night event at the Three Rivers Winery, which will include a celebration of Mike Cook (see below!).

Here are some things to remember:

- Breakfast is included for all hotel guests and will be served in the restaurant between 6:30 am - 9:00 am. Running late? We've been told you can take your breakfast with you throughout the hotel.
- Those not lodging at the hotel are also welcome to enjoy breakfast in the restaurant. Simply mention you are with the Washington Counties Risk Pool group.
- Dinner is on your own on Wednesday, but stop by the welcome reception between 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm for some light hors d'oeuvres and refreshments!
- WCRP has organized a shuttle to take attendees between the hotel and the Three Rivers Winery. Additional instructions to come.

Registration is open until June 19, but don't wait, the available block of rooms may be depleted before the deadline.

Thank you as always to our broker and insuring partners for your reception and dinner sponsorship!!

Register Now!!

Welcome, Shelese!

We are excited to welcome Shelese McConnell, WCRP's new Administrative & Accounting Specialist, to the team. Shelese started April 24th, is a graduate of Western Washington University, and has returned back home to Olympia with her husband, Curt. They just bought a house, they have a German Shepherd, and they enjoy binge watching TV shows.

Shelese sits in the front reception area at the Pool and brings her computer and customer service skills, along with her finance experience and education. Please expect to see her soon and please take the opportunity to say hello and welcome her in person!



Nominate Yourself...or Someone Else...for Executive Committee.

Elections for the WCRP Executive Committee will take place on Friday, July 21, during day two of the WCRP Board of Directors Meeting in Walla Walla. Before that, the WCRP Nominating Committee will be meeting on June 16th at the Red Lion Hotel in Seatac to nominate candidates for the four (4) open positions, as well as for Vice-President and Secretary/Treasurer. If you're interested in serving on the Executive Committee, or as an officer, please let Derek Bryan know at derek@wcrp.wa.gov.

We'll Miss You, Mike!

As we welcome new staff in, we will soon say goodbye to one of our most admired. Mike Cook has decided to trade in his claim files for tee-times, announcing that his retirement will take place in August. Mike retired from Farmers, but he wasn't done doing what he does best and in 2004, the WCRP was fortunate enough to have him join us. Mike has spent the last 13 years handling all sorts of member claims and lawsuits and has built some long-lasting friendships. We know Mike has a lot of memories from his many years with us, but they don't compare to the memories we all have of him.

We look forward to celebrating Mike (and telling a few stories) at the Three Rivers Winery on the night of Thursday, July 20th, during WCRP's Summer Conference & Board Meeting in Walla Walla. Thanks for a great run, Mike!



Keeping You Informed

Claims and Risk Management News Impacting WCRP Members

PRA Bills Pass...OK, so what are they?

You may have been thinking about these bills while responding to public record requests, and now you may have more questions because of them. The bills are [ESHB 1594](#) and [EHB 1595](#) and we suggest you research them, or make sure your Public Records Officer (PRO) does.

Here's a quick one (or two or three) liner for each:

1594 includes several changes, including a new tracking mandate, training requirements, and a change in the definition of what is a "public record" when held by agency volunteers, and allows the Attorney General's Office to consult with local governments.

1595 now allows an agency to charge 10 cents per page for scanned records, 5 cents for every four attachments, and 10 cents for each gigabyte when sending records electronically. There's also a custom access charge allowed for those times when special IT services are required.

We suggest you familiarize yourself with these rules, implement or change your internal policies and processes, and train your staff.

New Paid Sick Leave Requirements

Better to mention this now so you have time to research, plan, change policies, and budget for it! The attention on [Initiative 1433](#) was largely focused on the minimum wage increase, which by the way is now \$11/hour, but there was an additional piece having to do with all (full and part-time) employees earning sick leave. The new rule, effective January 1, 2018, requires all employers to provide employees with paid sick time, accrued at a minimum rate of one hour of sick leave for every 40 hours worked. Accrued sick leave can be used after 90 calendar days of employment, and unused leave can be carried over to the next year.

Got a Ford Explorer? Read this.

After monitoring complaints about exhaust smells in 2011 - 2015 Sport Utility Ford Explorers, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has launched an investigation citing customer complaints. According to the complaints, the issue seems to occur while accelerating with the air conditioning active and in circulation mode. Skagit County was good enough to bring this to WCRP's attention and, while the County hadn't heard any specific complaints about exhaust smells, County Risk Management is being proactive by placing carbon monoxide alarms in all County owned Ford Explorers that meet the NHTSA criteria. The County chose the KIDDIE Worry-Free Alarm because of its 10-year lithium battery and compact size. They will be placed in the back-cargo area of the aforementioned vehicles. Thank you, Skagit County!

What's Coming Up?

Training:

Management & Supervisory 101

July 25 - 26 - Chelan County

Management & Supervisory 201

June 19 - 20 - Franklin County

September 14 - 15 - Chelan County

Managing 365

July 6 - Kittitas County

Conferences:

Summer Conference July 19 - 21, 2017

Walla Walla, WA - The Marcus Whitman Hotel

REGISTRATION IS OPEN [Conference Flyer](#) - [Driving Directions](#)

Fall Conference November 29 - December 1, 2017

Union, WA - The Alderbrook Resort

Meetings:

Nominating Committee Meeting June 16, 2017

Red Lion Hotel, SeaTac, WA

Executive Committee Meeting June 16, 2017

Red Lion Hotel, SeaTac, WA

Executive Committee Meeting July 7, 2017

Red Lion Hotel, SeaTac, WA

Board of Directors Meeting July 20-21, 2017

The Marcus Whitman Hotel, Walla Walla, WA

Investment Committee Meeting July 21, 2017

The Marcus Whitman Hotel, Walla Walla, WA



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