



News from the Washington Counties Risk Pool

April 2021

WHAT'S NEW AT THE POOL?

Spring Conference & Board Meeting – Virtually a Success!!

Thank you to everyone who was able to attend the 2021 Spring Conference & Board Meeting, which took place over two days, March 25-26. While it was certainly not the same as the in-person conferences we all enjoy so much, it was a great two days with a lot of great sessions, awesome presenters and fantastic attendance! As for the Board of Directors' meeting, which occurred Friday, March 26, here are a few key takeaways:

- Approval was granted to the Executive Director to enter into an agreement to upgrade our claims management system to the latest and greatest version. We can't wait to get this new system up and running for better adjusting, easier claim reporting and greater member access to their pending claims.
- The WCRP ended last Fiscal Year by increasing our Fund Balance by \$5 million. This is an exceptional increase and credits the good risk management and claims efforts by our staff and member counties!
- While we hate to see Columbia and Garfield Counties leave the WCRP, they have made the final decision to do so and will no longer be members of the WCRP as of October 1, 2021. They have been great members for many years and we wish them both the best at their new risk pool.
- The Board of Directors approved the new Risk Manager and Claims Administrator Certification requirements – see below for more information.
- The Board of Directors approved the addition of funding for a Cyber Risk Program, allowing for reimbursement of members' subscriptions to the KnowBe4 cyber service – see below for more information.

We are working hard to plan the 2021 Summer Conference & Board Meeting, July 28-30, 2021, and can't wait to share more with you soon!

Executive Committee and Officer Elections this Summer

The WCRP Nominating Committee will forward candidates to the Board of Directors at the next Board meeting where elections will take place, July 29 & 30, 2021. Board members will elect candidates to fill three Executive Committee positions with terms set to expire at the end of September this year and fill one vacancy with a term set to expire in 2022. The Board of Directors will also elect the next Vice President/President-Elect for a two-year term and the next Secretary/Treasurer for a one-year term.

Look for additional information about these open positions and the election process to be sent out in the coming months. In the meantime, if you are interested in learning more about Executive Committee positions, please contact the WCRP Executive Director, Derek Bryan, by phone (360) 292-4497 or by email derek@wcrp.wa.gov.

WCRP UNDERWRITING & RENEWALS

Annual Underwriting Survey

A critical piece of the annual renewals is the WCRP's *Annual Underwriting Survey* (formerly called the Risk Assessment Survey). While this very comprehensive survey can be a bit onerous, it is a necessary piece for both our actuarial and underwriting

purposes, in both how we are rated by the insurers we purchase coverage from, but also in how we rate our members each year.

Thank you to those that have completed the survey and if you have not yet completed it, we ask that you please do so as soon as possible. If you have any questions or need assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out to melissa@wcrp.wa.gov. We appreciate you taking the time out of your busy schedules to complete it!

WCRP Now Offering Group-Purchased Crime Policy

Many don't realize the significant coverage gap that exists when it comes to stolen money, whether by an employee or by someone on the outside. Neither the liability nor property coverage through the WCRP will cover lost or stolen money, and we believe it's essential that each county has a crime policy to fill this coverage gap. Read more [here](#) to participate in a group-purchased crime policy to secure this important coverage.

Cyber Security Awareness Program Approved!

Cyber risk is on the rise and counties are exposed to potential threats more than any other entity. In a pro-active move, and with the recommendation of the WCRP Risk Management Committee, the WCRP's Board of Directors approved funding a new Cyber Risk Program for the upcoming 2021-22 Fiscal Year. What's the bottom line? WCRP members will be reimbursed for KnowBe4, or a similar service that promotes cyber awareness through testing and training.

While this funding will not officially be effective until October 1, 2021, the Board's approval included an understanding that members will contract with KnowBe4, or a similar service, prior to October 1, but can be reimbursed for that cost after October 1. In the coming weeks, additional information will be posted to our website and sent out to all county risk managers. If you have any questions about this in the meantime, please contact Risk-Claims@wcrp.wa.gov.

WCRP MEMBER SERVICES NEWS

Risk Manager & Claims Administrator Certification Requirements

At their March 26th meeting, the Board of Directors approved Associate in General Insurance (AINS) 21 as the replacement for the Risk Management for Public Entities (RMPE) 352 course, which had been eliminated by The Institutes. The AINS 21 focuses on basic property and liability insurance principles and practices, and the ability to identify loss exposures, and this course is now one of three options for Risk Managers and Claims Administrators to achieve basic certification requirements. Click to review the updated [Risk Manager and Claims Administrator Certification Requirements!](#)

CDIWA Welcomes First Cohort

The County Development Institute of Washington (CDIWA) welcomed its first cohort of newly elected County Commissioners and Councilmembers last month! CDIWA is a partnership between WCRP and the Washington State Association of Counties (WSAC), and we are pleased to see 25 participants work through in-depth courses to become Certified Public Officials. There will be opportunities for others within Washington counties to participate in this program so keep an eye out for special announcements later this year. In the meantime, please check out cdiwa.org to learn more!

WCRP Scholarships

Public Risk Management Association Annual Conference 2021 - WCRP are eligible for one scholarship per member to the PRIMA Annual Conference, which will be taking place virtually this year, June 14 – 16, 2021. Because of the shift to a virtual conference, the WCRP is very excited to extend more opportunities to its members this year than we have in the past, and we hope you take advantage. To learn more about the event, please visit the [PRIMA Annual Conference](#) webpage. We ask that you please contact your county risk manager if you are interested in learning more about this offer.

Labor Relations Institute (LRI) - WCRP members are eligible for one free registration per county to attend the virtual Labor Relations Institute, May 5-7, 2021, hosted by the Association of Washington Cities (AWC). To learn more or to register, please visit the [Labor Relations Institute webpage](#). We ask that you please contact your county risk manager to request the scholarship code prior to registering.

Association of County and City Information Systems (ACCIS) 2021 Spring Conference - WCRP members are eligible for a \$150 scholarship per member county to attend the ACCIS 2021 Spring Conference, taking place virtually, April 19-23, 2021. ACCIS members can register up to 10 attendees for \$150. ACCIS non-member fee is \$150 per single attendee. To learn more and to register, please visit the [ACCIS webpage](#). We ask that you please contact your county risk manager to request the scholarship code prior to registering.

Municipal Research and Services Center (MRSC) - WCRP members are eligible for scholarships to attend the upcoming MRSC webinar listed below. To learn more and to register, please click the training title to be directed to the MRSC's webpage. We ask that you please contact your county risk manager to request the scholarship code before registering.

[Making the Switch to Paperless Permitting](#) | June 1, 2021

Planning Association of Washington (PAW) - WCRP members are eligible for one reimbursable scholarship per county, for the upcoming PAW webinar. To learn more and to register, please review PAW's webinar announcement, linked to event title below. We ask that you please contact your county risk manager if you wish to take advantage of this offer.

[Crafting Elegant Code](#) | April 16, 2021

Visit the bottom of the [WCRP Training & Scholarships](#) page for the most current listing of available scholarships or email MemberServices@wcrp.wa.gov to learn more.

WCRP Training – Spots still available!

[Foundations of Implicit Bias 2-Day Webinar Course](#)

This course is true to its name in that it is an introduction to implicit biases and how they can impact the daily decisions we make without our conscious awareness. Attendees will come away with a better understanding of hidden biases, how they impact our relationships and communities, and will learn tools to help them engage in constructive conversations and interrupt their own unconscious biases. Please join Janelle Tarasewicz, Principal Consultant at Aperture EQ, for this interactive two-day virtual course. Click on the training title above for a full description, specific details, and how to register.

Space is limited to 30 attendees, so sign up today!

April 28 & 29, 2021, 10:00am-1:00pm

June 2 & 3, 2021, 10:00am-1:00pm

[Situational Awareness & Personal Safety 4-Part Webinar Series](#)

This series is needed now more than ever to help keep public sector staff safe and is meant for all county staff and officials, at all levels. In this training, Jesus Villahermosa, of Crisis Reality Training, Inc., will teach practical skills to help participants actively practice situational awareness, verbal de-escalation, and how to formulate a plan of action before crisis strikes. Click on the training title above for a full description, specific details, and to register.

Space for 475! Each portion of the series builds upon concepts and principles, and we encourage you to sign up for all 4 parts!

May 5, 12, 19, 26, 2021, 10:00am-11:30am

[Ethics Training for County Government](#)

Back by popular demand! Attorney, Andy Cooley, of Keating, Bucklin & McCormack, examines common ethical dilemmas public employees and officials are faced with. This course is designed for public sector staff and will help attendees understand Washington State's ethics and conflict of interest laws for various public sector roles. This webinar is 90-minutes, followed by an optional 15-minute Q&A session.

Space for 475 attendees per session. Sign up to reserve your spot!

May 27, 2021, 10:00am-11:30am

July 8, 2021, 10:00am-11:30am

October 6, 2021, 10:00am-11:30am

For the most current training line-up and to register, please visit the [WCRP Training & Scholarships](#) page. Not seeing your training need? Email MemberServices@wcrp.wa.gov and let us know

SAVE THE DATE!

Events may be subject to cancellation or change due to gathering restrictions.

Summer Conference & Board Meeting | July 28-30, 2021

Hotel Murano, Tacoma | Pierce County

Fall Conference & Board Meeting | December 1-3, 2021

Alderbrook Resort, Union | Mason County



Washington Counties Risk Pool

Created by Counties for Counties

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