

# MEMBERSHIP Matters

Volume 11, Number 2

March - April, 2009



## POOL HAPPENINGS FROM HERE TO THERE

### Ohio County Pools Acquire Building

The County Commissioners Association of Ohio (CCAO) and two related public entity pools have jointly purchased a building in downtown Columbus. The building is a three-story structure that has 22,152 square feet of space. The new address for all three entities is 209 East State Street, Columbus, OH 43215-4309.

The three entities formed a Limited Liability Corporation (LLC) to purchase and manage the property. The two pools involved are the County Risk Sharing Authority (**CORSA**) and the County Employee Benefits Consortium of Ohio (**CEBCO**). The three entities contributed equally to the financing of the building, and have equal ownership of the LLC. Dave Brooks, Managing Director of CORSA, stated that they saw three major advantages to the LLC. Since it is a corporation, there is limited liability to the three members. However, the LLC avoids the tax liabilities normally accruing to a corporation. Any taxing implications would flow through the LLC to its members, and all three members are tax exempt. Third, the statutes provide a high degree of flexibility with respect to the governance and management of the LLC. A Board of Governors, consisting of the Presidents and Vice-Presidents of the three members, plus the past President of the CCAO, governs the LLC. For additional information about the LLC or the newly acquired property, contact Dave Brooks at 614-220-7988 or by email at [dbrooks@ccao.org](mailto:dbrooks@ccao.org).

### Pool Suggests Vendor Charitable Donations Instead of Gifts

Perhaps in response to the AGRiP Advisory Standard for pool Conflict of Interest Policies, one pool executive sent the following message last November to those who provide services to the pool:

“Over the years attorneys, consultants and vendors have favored MCIT staff with gifts during the holiday season and throughout the year. To ensure that our actions and decisions cannot be called into question, we ask that if this has been a practice of your organization that you understand we cannot accept these gifts. We would prefer that you make a contribution to a charity in our name.”

### MIRMA Identifies a “Farmers Market” Coverage Option for Members

Farmers markets can be a nice benefit to a community by providing a source of fresh locally grown produce. Such markets often are located on public facilities such as parking lots, streets or parks. This exposure is often hard to manage properly as the size of the market can grow quickly as more customers begin to attend. The Missouri Intergovernmental Risk Management Association (**MIRMA**) recently reported about an opportunity for their members to transfer any risk a member city might encounter with a farmers market located on municipal property. MIRMA reported this transfer can be done at a reasonable price; \$100. According to MIRMA, The Missouri Farmers Market Association (MFMA) is an association for the advancement of farmers markets and offers an insurance product for the market as a whole. It provides \$1,000,000 of liability coverage and will name the city (landlord) as an additional insured. Missouri Farm Bureau underwrites the program. There may be similar “market association” programs in other states.

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AGRiP Members are listed in the **Membership** area and their websites are available in the **Links** area at [www.agrip.org](http://www.agrip.org).

**ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTAL RISK POOLS  
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

December 31, 2008

<b>Assets</b>		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 299,186	372,673
Investments (certificates of deposit)	607,291	508,025
Accounts receivable	4,704	5,626
Prepaid expenses	15,925	30,224
Inventories	3,805	3,471
Total current assets	<u>930,911</u>	<u>920,019</u>
Noncurrent assets:		
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation	24,050	18,383
Utility and lease deposits	730	730
Total noncurrent assets	<u>24,780</u>	<u>19,113</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 955,691</u>	<u>939,132</u>
<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 57,250	52,303
Deferred revenue	341,426	335,812
Total current liabilities	<u>398,676</u>	<u>388,115</u>
Net assets:		
Unrestricted	<u>557,015</u>	<u>551,017</u>
Total net assets	<u>557,015</u>	<u>551,017</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$ 955,691</u>	<u>939,132</u>

**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**

<b>Revenues</b>		
Dues	\$ 429,259	385,677
Spring conference	193,459	145,062
August institute	18,540	44,280
Governance conference	186,594	212,310
Quality Education Initiative	116,641	30,245
Interest income	27,408	34,190
Other	<u>25,153</u>	<u>23,208</u>
Total revenues	<u>997,054</u>	<u>874,972</u>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Spring conference	121,106	88,209
August institute	19,675	45,024
Governance conference	161,940	117,776
PRIMA conference	6,807	4,566
Salaries and wages	366,264	346,317
Payroll taxes and benefits	147,911	122,464
Administration	66,239	46,737
Research consulting	50,913	-
Legal and professional	14,146	9,999
Office lease	14,210	11,778
Board expense	14,532	17,411
Depreciation	6,040	8,088
Other	<u>1,273</u>	<u>485</u>
Total expenses	<u>991,056</u>	<u>818,854</u>
Changes in net assets	<u>5,998</u>	<u>56,118</u>
Net assets at beginning of year	<u>551,017</u>	<u>494,899</u>
Net assets at end of year	<u>\$ 557,015</u>	<u>551,017</u>

## FROM THE POOLSIDE

The Public Employer Risk Management Association (**PERMA**) WC pool in New York has added 4,500 square feet to the existing two story 20,000 square foot building the pool occupies in Latham. According to PERMA President **Brent Wilkes**, the expansion includes a fully equipped training room and meeting space where half the claims staff can be trained at one time. The meeting space also is available without charge to other municipal groups.



In December, "Risk Journal" published by the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority (**MMRMA**) switched to a bi-monthly schedule using a four page, full-color format. Previously the newsletter used a two-color format, with each quarterly issue typically being six to eight pages. According to MMRMA staff, new printing technologies allow them to produce a full-color newsletter at a lower cost than the previous two-color version.



**Ben Rank** recently joined Cities and Villages Mutual Insurance Company (**CVMIC**) as a Loss Control Specialist. He is a Certified Occupational Health and Safety Technologist (OHST) and has an Associate Degree from

Lakeshore Technical College as well as a Bachelor Degree in Business Administration. Rank joined CVMIC from the City of Green Bay, WI where he served as the City Safety/Risk Manager for almost three years.



Schools Association for Excess Risk (**SAFER**) is a new AGRiP regular member pool. The excess pool serves community college districts, regional occupational programs and county offices of education in California. Keenan and Associates in Torrance, CA administers the pool.



**Fred Satink** has joined the Vermont League of Cities & Towns (**VLCT**) as a Loss Control Consultant in the Safety & Health Promotion division. He has many years of loss control experience, which encompass a strong focus on workers' compensation issues. His last position was as National Program Risk Manager for Smith, Bell & Thompson where he worked to improve clients' safety programs and developed a web-based risk management tool.



Recent new AGRiP Partner members include **Roy Burger**, CEO of FirstNet Learning, Inc., in Denver, CO; **Jerry Edwards**, President

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Operations Ken Horner, Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority (**MMRMA**) Executive Director Mike Rhyner and Colorado Schools Districts Self Insurance Pool (**CSDSIP**) Executive Director and AGRiP Board President Cheryle Mangels.

AGRiP celebrated its 10th Anniversary with a cake presentation at the Annual Membership Meeting in Daytona Beach, FL. Sharing a slice from left to right are, Ohio Transit Risk Pool (**OTRP**) CEO John Nielsen, AGRiP CEO Harold Pumford, Cities & Villages (**CVMIC**) Director of

AGRiP Board President Cheryle Mangels (center), Wisconsin Municipal Mutual Insurance Company (**WMMIC**) Official Representative and Committee Members Howard Ludwigson (left) and Eric Veum (right) admire the AGRiP Advisory Standards recognition plaque presented to WMMIC at the AGRiP Annual membership meeting in Daytona Beach, FL.



**Job Postings** for positions with public entity pools are listed on [www.agrip.org](http://www.agrip.org). There is no charge for such listings. To list a position, email Harold Pumford at [hpumford@agrip.org](mailto:hpumford@agrip.org).

## Activities Calendar

**Eleventh Annual  
AGRiP Pooling Track**  
Held at PRIMA's  
Annual Conference  
May 31-June 3, 2009  
Dallas, TX

**AGRiP Institute for  
Management and  
Leadership**  
August 3-5, 2009  
Burlington, VT

**AGRiP Governance  
and Leadership  
Conference**  
October 19-21, 2009  
Grand Hyatt Seattle  
Seattle, WA

**AGRiP Spring  
Conference**  
March 22-24, 2010  
Hyatt Regency  
Irvine, CA

Additional information for AGRiP Conferences and Institutes are listed in the SEMINARS area at [www.agrip.org](http://www.agrip.org).

Edwards Risk Management, Inc. in Marble Falls, TX, and **Thomas Aveni**, MSFP, President of The Police Policy Studies Council in Spofford, NH.

School Boards Insurance Trust (**KSBIT**). She formerly held the position of Educational Sales Consultant with Herff Jones Education Division in Indianapolis.



**Becky Prevo-Benoit** is now the Workers' Compensation Claims Supervisor for the Association County Commissioners of Georgia's Group Self-Insurance Workers' Compensation Fund (**ACCG-GSIWCF**). She joins the pool after 25 years experience in the insurance industry, with 10 years as a WC supervisor. Most recently, she was with Fireman's Fund and Sedgwick Claims Management Services in their Atlanta offices.



**Enduris** has issued its first Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR), for fiscal year ending August 31, 2008, since changing its name from Washington Governmental Entity Pool. The CAFR is available in the Finance area at [www.enduris.us](http://www.enduris.us).



The New Hampshire School Health Care Coalitions (**NHSHCC**) has changed its mailing address to PO Box 3907 Manchester, NH 03105-3907. AGRiP monthly updates such information on pools in the AGRiP Online Sourcebook located at <http://www.agrip.org/publications/agrip-publications/#sour>.



**Melanie Judy** in early March joined the Kentucky School Boards Association as Marketing Manager for the Kentucky

Membership matters is a newsletter for Members of the Association of Governmental Risk Pools. To comment or contribute articles, contact:  
**Harold Pumford, CEO**  
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**"... to unite the pooling community to achieve excellence in pool governance, management and services."**

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