

# MEMBERSHIP Matters

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April - June, 2010



## THIRTY POOLS REPRESENTED ON AGRiP COMMITTEES

With the recent formation of two new study committees, representatives from 30 AGRiP member pools now serve on four committees to address areas of interest to the public entity risk and benefits pooling community. These are the:

- Membership Practices Committee;
- Professional Development and Mentoring Committee;
- Healthcare Reform Legislation Study Committee, and the
- Acknowledgment and Awards Study Committee

Eight member pools and the California Association of Joint Powers are also represented on the AGRiP Board of Directors.

The eight person Membership Practices Committee (MPC) oversees the AGRiP Advisory Standards for Public Entity Risk and Benefits Pools and serves as the peer review panel for applications for AGRiP RECOGNITION for compliance with these best practice guidelines. Forty-two pools currently hold AGRiP RECOGNITION.

Members of the MPC are Chairman **Bob Worthington**, retired CEO of the Montana Municipal Interlocal Authority, **Sheryl Brandt**, Director of Claims and Risk Management, Enduris (WA); **Brett Davis**, President & CEO, Park District Risk Management Agency (IL); **Betty DiMaria**, Chief Performance Officer, Public Employer Risk Management Association (NY); **Michael Fleming**, Chief Executive Officer, CSAC Excess Insurance Authority (CA); **Michael Hammond**, Executive Director, Miami Valley Risk Management Association (OH); **Barbara Rhoades**, Chief Executive Officer, Ohio Transit Risk Pool; and **Wayne Carlson**, Executive Director, Nevada Public Agency Insurance Pool.

A ten member Professional Development and Mentoring Committee (PD&MC) was organized early in 2009 to continue AGRiP's emphasis on educational programs beyond the organization's Five Year Education Plan that was developed earlier by a Curriculum Development Committee.

Members of the PD&MC are Chairman **John Foehl**, President & CEO, Government Entities Mutual; **Sharilyn Cromer**, Sales Director, LocalGovU; **Janet DeGracia**, Executive Director, North Bay Schools Insurance Authority (CA); **Cindy Dieck**, Loss Control Administrator, Ohio Township Association Risk Management Authority; **Steve Fast**, Assistant Director, Colorado School Districts Self Insurance Pool; **Ty Gagne**, CEO, New Hampshire Public Risk Management Exchange; **Susan Garvey**, Director of Legal Services, Intergovernmental Risk Management Agency (IL); **Paul Jahn**, Vice President of Claims, Public Employer Risk Management Association (NY); **Tom Job**, Administrator, Kansas County Association Multi-Line Pool and **Steve Rawlings**, Director of Member Services, Virginia Association of Counties Group Self-Insurance Risk Pool.

On April 18, five full-time pool legal counsel were appointed as the AGRiP Healthcare Reform Legislation Study Committee to review the recently enacted federal legislation dealing with healthcare reform. The committee is to identify provisions requiring implementation by public entity employee benefits pools; and for any potential adverse impacts on such pools that may or will affect these pools differently than they may affect the traditional employee benefits insurance industry. The committee is to report these findings and any recommendations regarding them to the AGRiP CEO no later than August 1.

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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).

## **AGRiP OPERATIONS MANUAL REVISED**

The AGRiP Operations Manual for Public Entity Risk Pools has been revised for 2010. The AGRiP Advisory Standards is the framework on which the Operations Manual information is arranged.

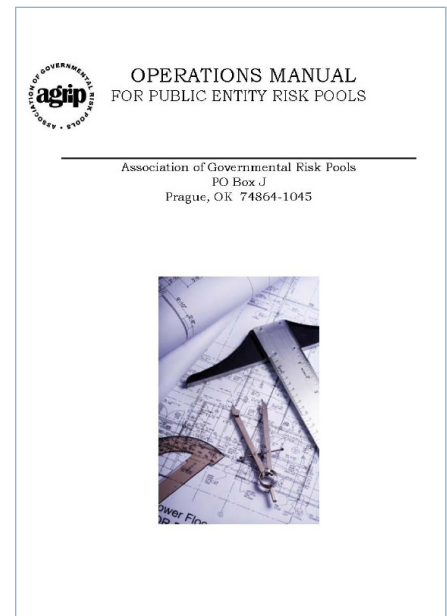
The AGRiP Advisory Standards provide best practice guidelines for public entity risk and benefits pool administration. The manual expounds upon each category of standards as an aid to the development of board policy and pool operational practices in conformance with the standards. A number of pools use the manual as part of their orientation program for new board members and/or staff. The manual is also used as a teaching aid in the "Pooling Basics" class taught at the AGRiP Governance and Leadership Conference each fall and in the Essentials in Risk Pool Management (ERPM) program offered by the Insurance Educational Association (IEA).

The manual is divided into sections consistent with the Advisory Standards, with chapters on:

- Government Regulations
- Governing Documents
- Staff and Service Providers
- Member Services
- Coverages
- Funding
- Financial Management
- Claims Management
- Professional Development
- Organizational Planning

The manual was first published in 1997. It was last revised in 2003. Having grown from 68 pages in the 2003 edition to 108 pages, the 2010 manual includes 58 pages of exhibits.

AGRiP members may obtain the Operations Manual for \$15, while nonmembers pay \$95 per copy.



## **2010 AGRiP Institute for Management & Leadership**

The 2010 Institute will continue our traditions of great opportunities to interact and learn from other pool executives, ask questions and learn new skills. Our continuing training series with GiANT Partners includes a full-day workshop with Jeremie Kubicek, a co-founder of GiANT Partners and President of GiANT Impact. Special focussions on human relations issues for pool organizations will be examined in presentations featuring recruiter Gary Abram and attorney Christopher Burton. Greg Trout will challenge executives to stretch their thinking to explore new strategies for improving operating performance.



And, what would a trip to the Puget Sound area be without an opportunity to go on a whale watching excursion by boat while still having an opportunity to continue learning experiences with your peers. More information is available at [www.agrip.org](http://www.agrip.org).

## ACWA - JPIA ACQUIRES NEW BUILDING

The Association of California Water Agencies Joint Powers Insurance Authority (ACWA-JPIA) prepared their first Comprehensive Annual Financial Report in 2009 and has applied for a certificate of achievement for excellence for compliance with the Government Finance Officers Association guidelines.

Also, late in 2009 the pool finalized purchase of a new 16,000 sq. ft. office facility (see below) in nearby Roseville. Renovations are expected to begin this summer, with an anticipated move-in date by year end, according to CEO **Dan Klaff**.

Klaff said the pool has owned their current 14,000 sq. ft. building in Citrus Heights for about 15 years and it was time to remodel or move. They found it would be cheaper to refinish and move to the Roseville building than to displace 37 employees to remodel the current building. Plus, the new office will have nearly 2,000 sq ft. of training space, Klaff said.



The pool's building and property ad hoc committee set an objective for the renovation to be eligible for Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) certification. Pool members and others are able to track progress on the building renovation at [www.acwajpia.com](http://www.acwajpia.com).

## FROM THE POOLSIDE

The Alaska Municipal League Joint Insurance Association (AMLJIA) Executive Director of Trindel Insurance was recently approved for a three year extension of AGRiP RECOGNITION for compliance with the Advisory Standards for Public Entity Risk and Benefits Pools. **Don Hemphill** is retiring June 30 as Executive Director of Trindel Insurance Fund, a pool serving ten northern California counties. **David Nelson** will succeed Hemphill. His e-mail address is [dnelson@trindel.org](mailto:dnelson@trindel.org).

A plaque commemorating this achievement was presented June 8 during the Public Risk Management Association Conference in Orlando, FL.



Receiving the RECOGNITION plaque is AMLJIA board member **Terri McFarland** (right) and Loss Control Assistant **Sharon Tunnell**.

**Michael Pennacchio** a member of the Executive Committee for the Nevada Public Agency Insurance Pool (NVPAIP) is the Public Risk Management Association (PRIMA) 2010 Public Risk Manager of the Year. He accepted the award during PRIMA's 31st Annual Conference in Orlando.

Pennacchio is Risk Manager for the Incline Village General Improvement District in Incline Village, NV. The Public Risk Manager of the Year award was established by PRIMA in 1994 to honor a risk manager who has effectively coordinated and managed a risk management program for a public entity facing out-of-the-ordinary challenges.

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**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

**AGRiP Institute for Management and Leadership**  
August 16-18 2010  
Semiahmoo, WA

**AGRiP Governance and Leadership Conference**  
October 18-20, 2010  
Nashville, TN

**AGRiP Spring Conference**  
March 14-16, 2011  
Clearwater, FL

**Thirteenth Annual AGRiP Pooling Track**  
Held at PRIMA's Annual Conference  
June 5-8, 2011  
Portland, OR

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

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

*AGRiP Committees (continued from page 1)*

The five members appointed to the committee are Chairman **Geoffrey Beauchamp**, General Counsel, Delaware Valley Insurance Trust (PA); **Kelly Pridgen**, Assistant General Counsel, Association County Commissioners of Georgia; **Scott Wilson**, In-house Counsel, TML Intergovernmental Employee Benefits Pool (TX); **Ed Dutton**, Director of Claims & Legal Services, Park District Risk Management Agency (IL); and **Mark Rauch**, General Counsel, CityCounty Insurance Services Trust (OR). Assisting the committee are **Sharon Scudder**, Executive Counsel, North Carolina Association of County Commissioners and **Ann Gergen**, Interim Director of the National League of Cities Risk Information Sharing Consortium and Vice President—Claims and Loss Control for NLC-Mutual Insurance Company.

The most recent committee was appointed on June 15. It is the ten-member AGRiP Acknowledgement and Awards Study Committee. The committee was organized to consider the merits and value of whether AGRiP should establish a formal on-going program to recognize outstanding achievements or service which contribute to furthering the best interests and/or practices of the public entity risk and benefits pooling sector, and if determined appropriate, make recommendations on key elements for such a program. A final committee report is expected by December 31, 2010.

**Craig Nelson**, Executive Director of the Nebraska Intergovernmental Risk Management Association is chair of the committee. Others on the committee are **Lisa Duquette**, Program Manager, New Hampshire School Health Care Coalition; **Alan Fergin**, Director of the SET-SEG schools Property/Casualty Pool and WC Fund (MI); **Greg Jackson**, JPA/JPIA Trust Administrator, Montana Association of Counties; **June Kissinger**, Division Director, Risk Management Member Support Services, Texas Association of School Boards; **Nancy Lee (Nance) Kreutzman**, Executive Director, Transit Mutual Insurance Corporation of Wisconsin; **Joanne Rennie**, General Manager, Public Agency Risk Sharing Authority (CA); **John Sallade**, Managing Director of Insurance Programs, County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania; **Trudy Sower**, Director of Risk Management, Georgia School Boards Association, and **Dean Steel**, CEO, Utah Risk Management Mutual Association.

**Association of Governmental Risk Pools**

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