



**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**MINUTES**  
**July 19, 2023 – 9:00 A.M.**

The Washington Counties Risk Group (WCRG) Board of Directors conducted a regular meeting via Zoom on July 19, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.

**ITEM 1: INTRODUCTION & ROLL CALL**

<u>Board Member Name:</u>	<u>Representation Member Entity:</u>	<u>Attendance:</u>
Scott Hutsell	Lincoln County Commissioner	Present
Cindy Carter	Grant County Commissioner	Present
Michael Largent	Whitman County Commissioner	Present
Charles Whitman	Asotin County Commissioner	Present
Justin Dixon	Garfield County Commissioner	Absent
Marty Hall	Columbia County Commissioner	Present
Wes McCart	Stevens County Commissioner	Absent
Gene Strong	Wahkiakum County Commissioner	Present
Michael Heath	Ferry County Commissioner	Present

**Clear Risk Solutions:**

Wes Crago	Mark Sherwood
Jessika Tempel	Jenny Gunderson
Claire Hanberg	Rob Hill
Ellen Kosa	Steve Whetstone
Angela Eloff	Becca Kirsch
Frank Andrus	Patti Ferguson
Blair Kok	Dave Kosa
Byron Riche	Rick Templeton
Brian Turnbull	

**Guests:**

Tom Lannen – Skamania County Commissioner  
Shane Heston – Broker, Trask Insurance  
Jeff Evans – Stevens County Risk Manager  
Fred Lee – Broker, Hub International

Hutsell welcomed all in attendance and noted that a quorum was present.

**ITEM 2: EXECUTIVE/CLOSED SESSION**

- i. None.

**ITEM 3: ADDITIONS/CHANGES**

Hutsell called for any changes to the agenda. Crago informed the board there is a change under Item 4: Consent Agenda, to remove the financial reports.

**ITEM 4: CONSENT AGENDA**

The Consent Agenda items were reviewed by all board members. Hutsell called for a motion on the revised consent items. Heath moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented and seconded by Whitman. With all in favor and none opposed, the motion carried.

The Consent Agenda consisted of the following:

- i. Approval of the April 20, 2023, Minutes



- ii. Approval of the Claims Voucher for May 2023, June 2023, July 2023
- iii. ~~Approval of Financial Reports~~

#### ITEM 5: PUBLIC HEARING & INPUT

- i. None.

#### ITEM 6: BOARD RESOLUTIONS

- i. None

#### ITEM 7: ITEMS FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION

- i. Retreat Information
  - a. Tempel discussed upcoming September Retreat with staff and Board of Directors. She informed the board to be on the lookout for emails regarding additional information. No action was taken.
- ii. Skamania County Update
  - a. Crago updated the board that Skamania County will be joining WCRG in October and looking forward to having them join WCRG. Lannen said he is looking forward to joining the pool and can't wait to meet everyone in person. No action was taken.
- iii. Excess Insurance Update
  - a. Crago discussed that one of the pool's excess insurance carriers Hallmark fell below the rating we accept and now we can no longer work with them. Eloff informed the board that the excess layer has been replaced by Starstone for the year with a new insurance carrier. No action was taken.
- iv. Renewal/Market Forecast
  - a. Crago discussed an overall prediction on where the market will be this next year. Discussed a couple of things that might be improving, but overall, with jury verdicts rising, we see insurance costs increasing as well. Also, on the property side with windstorms, wildfires, and hurricanes play a huge factor with rating. Therefore, the rate increase prediction at this time would be between 12-19%. There will be more information presented at the next board meeting and the information will be sent out to the board and members.

#### ITEM 8: STAFF REPORTS

The following items were discussed by staff, and updates were given regarding the following topics. All questions were answered, and no action was taken.

- i. Underwriting
- ii. Marketing
- iii. Pre-Litigation Program
- iv. Claims
- v. Financial
- vi. Risk Management & Zywave
- vii. Communications

#### ITEM 9: EXECUTIVE REPORT

- i. Administrator Report – Andrus, Templeton, and Crago thanked staff and the board for their work they do on behalf of WCRG. Also, they are looking forward to seeing everyone in person at the board retreat. Templeton added that with the market review being not all good news, staff are focusing on partnerships with carriers and will be spending some time in September with our excess carrier, so we will update you on that. Crago discussed that the exit audit meeting is scheduled for next week and welcomed the board to reach out for meeting information if you would like to attend.



**WCRG**  
Washington Counties Risk Group

For Washington Counties, By Washington Counties

**ITEM 10: UPCOMING MEETINGS**

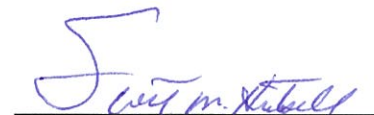
- i. August 16, 2023 – Fiscal Meeting via Zoom
- ii. September 27-29, 2023 – Board Meeting/Retreat at Northern Quest Resort
- iii. October 25, 2023 – Board Meeting via Zoom

**MEETING ADJOURNED**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:04 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Jessika Tempel

  
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Scott Hutsell, Chairman