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Board of Directors Meeting

MINUTES

May 6, 2026 – 9:00 A.M.

The Washington Counties Risk Group (WCRG) Board of Directors conducted a regular meeting via Zoom on May 6, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.

ITEM 1: INTRODUCTION & ROLL CALL

Board Member Name:	Board Member Entity:	Attendance:
Scott Hutsell	Lincoln County Commissioner	Present
Cindy Carter	Grant County Commissioner	Present
Tom Handy	Whitman County Commissioner	Present
Charles Whitman	Asotin County Commissioner	Absent – Commissioner Chris Seubert sat in as representative for Asotin
Justin Dixon	Garfield County Commissioner	Present
Marty Hall	Columbia County Commissioner	Present
Montgomery Stobart	Stevens County Commissioner	Present
Mark Letham	Wahkiakum County Commissioner	Present
Robert Dean	Ferry County Commissioner	Present
Brian Nichols	Skamania County Commissioner	Present

Clear Risk Solutions:

Wes Crago
Jessika Tempel
Frank Andrus
Rick Templeton
Patti Ferguson
Lisa Holterhoff
Michael Johnson
Taylor Montgomery
Angela Eloff
Becca Kirsch
John McMillan
Claire Hanberg
Jenny Gunderson
Mary Mirante Bartolo
Rachel Hufman
Dave Kosa
Janessa Wulf

Guests:

Jeff Evans – Stevens County Risk Manager
Sara Slack – Skamania County HR Administrator
Blair Kok – Grant County Risk Manager

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

ADDITIONS/CHANGES

i. None.

ITEM 2: EXECUTIVE/CLOSED SESSION

i. None.

ITEM 3: CONSENT AGENDA

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

The Consent Agenda consisted of the following:

i. Approval of Minutes (January 21, 2026)

ii. Approval of the Claims Vouchers (February 2026, March 2026, April 2026)
iii. Approval of Scholarship Applications – (Grant County – 2)
iv. Approval of Financials (Bank Statements: December 2025, January 2026, February 2026. Income Statement, and Balance Sheet)
v. Administrative Letter to WA Trust
vi. Approval of BOD sweep account

ITEM 4: PUBLIC HEARING & INPUT

i. None.

ITEM 5: BOARD RESOLUTIONS

i. None

ITEM 6: ITEMS FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION

i. Discussion of WCRG Growth Strategy
   a. Crago discussed continuing to explore membership growth opportunities for WCRG to help spread risk and strengthen the pool's financial stability. He noted that staff have been in contact with several counties and are exploring potential opportunities for membership growth. Board members supported staff's efforts to evaluate potential counties, emphasizing the importance of due diligence and ensuring any prospective members are in good financial, risk, and cultural fit. The Board expressed general support for continuing to pursue qualified growth opportunities. Letham moved to approve as presented and seconded by Dean. With all in favor and none opposed, the motion carried.

ii. Update Bylaws
   a. Crago discussed section 2.2 of the current bylaws and recommended amending them to require that only County Commissioners serve as Board members, noting that Board members should have decision-making authority within their counties. Board members expressed support for the change and discussed allowing counties to designate an alternate commissioner if needed. Additional discussion included removing language related to the Fiscal Officer position that appeared out of place in the bylaws. Crago thanked the Board for their discussion and staff will work on this and get an updated Bylaw for the Board consideration at the next meeting. There were no additional questions or concerns, and no motion was needed.

ITEM 7: STAFF REPORTS

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

1. Underwriting
2. Marketing
3. Pre-Litigation Program
4. Claims
5. Membership & Retention
6. Financial
7. Risk Management & Zywave
8. Communications

ITEM 8: EXECUTIVE REPORT

i. Administrator Report
   a. Andrus thanked staff and Board members for their continued support and partnership. He shared excitement about recent and upcoming hires, recognized Jenny Gunderson for her work supporting staff resources, and provided an update on the organization's recent move into a new office space

designed to enhance training and collaboration opportunities. Templeton echoed his enthusiasm for the new facility and looked forward to welcoming Board members for a visit.

Hufman provided an update on renewal preparations, noting that meetings with carriers are underway. She also recognized Claire and her team for their work on Member Day and thanked Board members for their service.

Crago reported that the organization remains financially strong and is preparing forecasts while monitoring market conditions. He noted that the insurance market continues to be a key factor in future planning and highlighted ongoing efforts to support law enforcement members.

Scott thanked staff for their updates and shared news of the recent passing of a former Board member, asking that thoughts be kept with the member's family.

ITEM 8: UPCOMING MEETINGS

i. Fiscal Meeting: Wednesday May 20, 2026, via Zoom at 9:00 A.M.
ii. Fiscal Meeting: Wednesday June 17, 2026, via Zoom at 9:00 A.M.
iii. Board Meeting: Wednesday July 22, 2026, via Zoom & Ephrata, WA at 9:00 A.M.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:17 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessika Tempel

Jessika Tempel

Scott M. Hutsell

Scott Hutsell, Chairman

23 Jul, 2026 7:39:45 AM PDT