

COMPCONTROL

The Official KMIT Member Newsletter

KMIT Happenings

By Don Osenbaugh, KMIT Pool Administrator

This has been another busy year for KMIT (but, aren't they all!).

After beginning 2007 with a rate increase (what a way to start a year!), your **KMIT Board of Trustees (Linda Jones, President)** has spent a lot of time this year discussing how to make KMIT even more stable and long-term secure. At its February (**De Soto**), April (**Ark City**), and June (**Sedgwick**) meetings, the Board talked about ways to help those cities who have been struggling the most over the past several years to get work-comp healthier. I was directed to meet, individually, with 10 of our member cities, followed up by contact by Renee Rhodes (our IMA risk control person), with specific assistance related to enhanced work comp procedures and processes, toward improved loss ratios (the ultimate indicator of improved practices). Those cities really have worked hard to get better, and we are excited about their progress.

Last year (2006) was the first year of the enhanced risk control rating system (formerly called Safety Olympics—the Gold/Silver/Bronze designations), and that also seems to be paying off. Frankly, the 'old system' had become somewhat stale and out-dated, and the 'new system' seems to have breathed some new life (and awareness) into the work-place safety, risk control, and claims management processes. This year's risk control audits have gone very well.

In mid-February through early-March, the **KMIT 'Training Troupe'** hit the road for its annual **Supervisor Training Tour**, with stops in **Dodge City, Bonner Springs, Coffeyville, and Haysville**. We had GREAT attendance, and fabulous 'audience participation', all across the state. These trainings are extremely helpful for supervisors, and are really probably the only work comp training that most supervisors ever get. And, they are short—only three hours in the afternoon on a Thursday.

(Continued to page 3)

Linda Jones - President
Osage City

Lana McPherson - Vice President
De Soto

Bud Newberry - Treasurer
Ulysses

Steve Archer Cheryl Beatty
Arkansas City Eudora

Sharon Brown Toby Dougherty
Clay Center Hays

Carol Eddington Gary Hobbie
Oswego Russell

Howard Partington
Great Bend

Don Moler
LKM Executive Director
Ex Officio

Don Osenbaugh
Pool Administrator / Agent
Editor

Victoria Vanderhoof
Claims Manager
Insurance Management Associates

Paul Davis
Vice President, Risk Management
Insurance Management Associates

Andy Hixson Wendy Flowers
Agent Layout Editor

CompControl is a publication of the League of Kansas Municipalities and the Kansas Municipal Insurance Trust for the purpose of educating and informing cities about loss control methods and risk management. If you have any questions concerning KMIT workers' compensation or risk management that you would like to see answered in this newsletter, please direct those inquiries to:

Kansas Municipal Insurance Trust
300 SW 8th Avenue
Topeka, KS 66603
Phone: (785) 354-9565
Fax: (785) 354-4186
wflowers@lkm.org

Copyright 2007 by the League of Kansas Municipalities. Contents herein are not intended to provide specific legal or medical advice. Readers should seek advice on specific concerns from a qualified professional.

Letter from the Pool Administrator

Dear KMIT Members and Others,


An awful weather year got worse in late June and early July, when flooding caused incredible damage to a number of cities in Kansas, and a bunch of those cities were also in our KMIT family. You have heard many stories of the Coffeyville situation...Coffeyville is a KMIT city, as are Fredonia, Neodesha, Independence, and a number of other cities in southeast Kansas that reside along the banks of the smaller rivers and streams that flow toward that corner of the state; all were affected to one degree or another—a few have ***huge long-term problems to overcome.***

A number of you probably sent crews and equipment to aid our friends in southeast Kansas. Thank you; that's what friends are for.

There could be some work comp issues as a result of the flooding and cleanup. Our KMIT Claims Adjuster, Victoria Vanderhoof (victoria.vanderhoof@imacorp.com), sent out a notice to that effect at the time of the flooding. That notice included the message that some of the health-related aspects of being exposed to the various elements (bacteria, chemicals, mold, etc.) associated with river flooding can show up later as well as now. Please contact Victoria if you have any questions about any employee health matter that could possibly be related to the flooding. KMIT is about helping cities and city employees. This is where the insurance part of the deal comes in. This is why you have work comp. Your employees' health and safety comes first.

Elsewhere in this edition are articles dealing with transitions: **Toby Dougherty** (Hays City Manager) is the newest member of the KMIT Board of Trustees. Keith DeHaven (Sedgwick Mayor) and Ty Lasher (formerly of Cheney; now City Administrator of Bel Aire) have gone off the Board. **Andy Hixson** (ahixson@lkm.org) is the new KMIT Compliance Officer/Agent (replacing Mike Smith, who now is with the Kansas Association of Counties).

Please plan to attend (and bring all of your city's elected officials) the **KMIT Annual Meeting**, which will be held during the LKM Annual Conference (in Overland Park), on **Monday, October 8, at 4PM** (will end at or before 5, so that participants have time to get ready for the evening at The Legends).



Pool Administrator

(Continued from page 1)

There is no reason not to go...even for busy supervisors. And, even if your supervisors have attended one of these sessions before, I urge you to send them again, any and every time we can schedule one within a reasonable drive from your city. In 2008, we will again be planning to stop in three or four KMIT cities. Those cities are yet to be identified...if your city would like to host a seminar, let me know. I will be considering cities who are located in 'sub-regions' where we haven't been lately, and/or cities who will commit to sending most/all of their own supervisors to the training. This training is inexpensive and worth much more than its very minimal cost.

The KMIT Board will meet next in **Great Bend** in late August; then the night before the **KMIT Annual Meeting** in Overland Park; and finish the year with a meeting in early-December in **Russell**.

The new member cities of KMIT this year (so far anyway) are **Lecompton** and **Edwardsville**. KMIT's membership stands at 140. Over 4,200 municipal employees are covered by KMIT. Our total annual premium is now about \$5.2 million.

Please feel free to contact me anytime with any KMIT questions. I can be reached at dosenbaugh@lkm.org or 316-259-3847.

KMIT Injury 'Hotline'

In order to provide our member cities with the superior customer service you have come to expect from KMIT, we have changed the phone number for the **Injury Care Line**. The new number is toll-free, **1-866-931-0160**. Please make a note of this new number, and *make sure all supervisors are aware of the new phone number*.

The Injury Care Line is a hotline staffed 24-hours-a-day/7-days-a-week by registered nurses, who stand ready to assist you in triaging your workplace injuries, and in making decisions about whether an employee needs to go to the emergency room or can wait until morning to see the city's **designated physician**. Additionally, in cases of serious injury, the hotline nurses can assist with coordinating care and communication with the injured worker's family members, city staff, and the IMA claims adjuster.

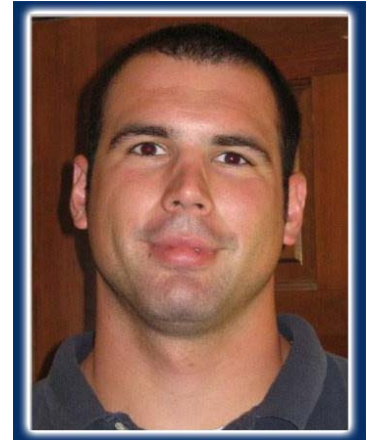
Please remember that this 'hotline' is **not an injury reporting line**. Even if you have contacted the Injury Care Line, *you will still need to complete an accident report form to submit to IMA to initiate the claim*. This is a valuable tool in helping you to manage your claims effectively, and to get IMA staff involved promptly even after hours or on weekends.

If you have any questions about the KMIT Injury Care Line, please contact our KMIT Claims Adjuster, Victoria Vanderhoof (victoria.vanderhoof@imacorp.com).

Introducing Andy Hixson

The newest League (and KMIT) staff person is Andy Hixson, whose first day was July 30. Andy's KMIT title is 'Compliance Officer/Agent' (his League moniker is 'Program Manager').

Like his predecessors in the position (Bret Glendening, Mark Morris, and Mike Smith), Andy will have primary responsibility for renewal applications, compliance requirements (to the Kansas Insurance Dept., KDOL, NCCI, etc.), and coordination with KMIT's contractors, such as the KMIT auditor and actuary, as well as being an agent for KMIT and handling questions from our member cities. In short, Andy is the "inside guy" at the KMIT office.



Andy is from Mulvane, and graduated from Mulvane High School, then Emporia State, before pursuing his MPA degree from Wichita State (Hugo Wall School), and will receive his Master's Degree this coming December from WSU.

Andy can be reached at the League office at 785-354-9565 or at ahixson@lkm.org.

Safe Cities as of July 3, 2007

If you would like assistance returning an injured employee to work, or need ideas for modified duty, please contact Victoria Vanderhoof, 1-877-502-9897 or victoria.vanderhoof@imacorp.com.

Admire	Conway Springs	Glasco	Lecompton	Ramona	WaKeeney
Allen	Council Grove	Glen Elder	Lenora	Ransom	Wakefield
Andale	Cullison	Goodland	Lincoln Center	Reading	Walton
Andover	Damar	Grainfield	LKM	Roeland Park	Wamego
Atchison	Derby	Grandview Plaza	Lucas	Rose Hill	Wellington
Atlanta	De Soto	Greeley	Marysville	Satanta	Wellsville
Baldwin City	Eastborough	Grenola	McFarland	Sedan	
Baxter Springs	Edwardsville	Grinnell	Melvorn	Sedgwick	
Belleville	Edgerton	Halstead	Minneapolis	Sharon Springs	
Bennington	Elkhart	Hamilton	Moline	Spearville	
Beverly	Ellsworth	Hartford	Montezuma	Spring Hill	
Bird City	Esbon	Haysville	Neosho Rapids	Stafford	
Blue Rapids	Eudora	Hesston	Ogden	St. Francis	
Brewster	Eureka	Hiawatha	Olpe	Stockton	
Caldwell	Florence	Hill City	Osage City	Tampa	
Centralia	Ford	Hillsboro	Oskaloosa	Tescott	
Chautauqua	Fort Scott	Holcomb	Ozawkie	Tipton	
Cheney	Fowler	Independence	Palco	Tonganoxie	
Cherryvale	Frankfort	Jetmore	Paola	Treece	
Clay Center	Fredonia	Johnson City	Park City	Turon	
Columbus	Galena	Kingman	Peabody	Ulysses	
Concordia	Girard	Kinsley	Princeton	Valley Center	

Claims

*Top 5 Frequency and Cost Analysis
January 1, 2007 through July 1, 2007*

<u>By Department</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Claims Cost</u>
Police	70	\$ 139,572
Maintenance	50	116,652
Water	40	109,031
Sanitation	40	75,534
Park	40	55,870

<u>By Accident Type</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Claims Cost</u>
Fall or Slip	70	\$ 193,643
Strain or Injury	67	205,573
Miscellaneous Causes	54	32,290
Cut/Puncture/Scrape	33	20,316
Struck or Injured	26	64,219

<u>By Body Part</u>	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Claims Cost</u>
Multiple Body Parts	46	\$ 93,379
Knee	33	170,936
Lower Back Area	24	21,860
Fingers	21	11,413
Hand	19	39,594

If you would like a similar breakdown for your city, please contact
Victoria Vanderhoof at 1-800-288-6732

KMIT ANNUAL MEETING

The KMIT Annual Meeting will be held on Monday, October 8, at 4PM, during the LKM Annual Conference in Overland Park.

As always, there will be a free open bar reception (along with super finger food) just prior to the short official meeting. There will also be some great door prizes.

The primary purpose of the annual meeting is to bring the entire membership up-to-date on the KMIT work comp pool and to elect incoming/returning Board of Trustee members (about ½ of the 11 positions on the Board renew or turn over each year...Board members can serve up to three two-year terms).

Though each KMIT-member city has just one vote, **please plan to bring your entire city contingency to the meeting.**

The meeting will end no later than 5PM.

DeHaven and Lasher Resign From KMIT Board

Mayor **Keith DeHaven**, of Sedgwick, and **Ty Lasher**, now City Administrator in Bel Aire, have both submitted their resignations from the KMIT Board of Trustees. The DeHaven resignation was effective at the end of the latest KMIT Trustee meeting on June 29 (hosted by Keith in Sedgwick); Lasher's resignation letter was dated June 6, and was accepted retroactive to that date by the Board.

DeHaven has been appointed to the LKM Governing Body by LKM President Allen Dinkel, effective immediately. Keith was appointed to the KMIT Board of Trustees in June 2001 (and was due to retire from the Board in October, due to the term limit requirement of KMIT Bylaws); he served as Board President during the 2005-2006 term. Keith was presented a thank you plaque by KMIT President Linda Jones at the Sedgwick meeting (see photo).

Lasher was first elected to the KMIT Board of Trustees in October 2004, and served on the Board while he was City Administrator of Cheney. Ty was recently appointed to the position of City Administrator in Bel Aire (not a KMIT city); his first day there was July 2.

DeHaven's position will be left unfilled until the annual election process at the KMIT Annual Meeting in October. Toby Dougherty has been appointed to fill Lasher's unexpired term (see story below).



Toby Dougherty is Newest KMIT Trustee

Toby Dougherty (tdougherty@haysusa.com) has been appointed by KMIT President Linda Jones to fill the unexpired term of Ty Lasher on the KMIT Board of Trustees.

Toby was promoted to the position of City Manager of Hays on August 1 (upon the retirement of Randy Gustafson), after serving there as Assistant City Manager since March of 2005. Toby is a native Kansan and a KU graduate (BS 2003). He also served as City Administrator in Gallatin, Missouri for two years before coming back to Kansas.

Toby will be on the ballot for a one-year term (the remainder of Ty's two-year year term), at the KMIT Annual Meeting in Overland Park in October, as per the KMIT Bylaws, and would be eligible to serve three additional two-year terms, before being term limited.

Q&A

Q. What do I do when an employee of my city gets injured on the job?

A. If you are already familiar with KMIT's procedures, proceed as you normally would.

But, if you are not familiar with KMIT's procedures, then: first seek medical help for the employee IF the injury is serious and needs immediate attention (use the ER room if you cannot get the person into the designated physician immediately, but do not use the ER unless the injury is serious and requires immediate attention). After the employee is treated, or if no immediate treatment is required, contact the KMIT Claims Adjuster, Victoria Vanderhoof, at 316-266-6347 or victoria.vanderhoof@imacorp.com .

Q. What do I do about a serious 'after-hours' injury?

A. Call the KMIT Hotline IMMEDIATELY, 1-866-931-0160.

Then, the next day, contact Victoria to report the claim.

Q. How do I learn about KMIT's claim procedures?

A. 1. Contact Victoria BEFORE a claim arises.

2. Attend a KMIT Supervisor Seminar early next year. The seminar schedule will be announced sometime in the fall.

KMIT Calendar

- August 24** KMIT Board of Trustees Meeting,
Great Bend
- October 7** KMIT Board of Trustees Meeting,
Overland Park
- October 8** KMIT Annual Meeting,
Overland Park

KMIT Revenues & Expenses July 31, 2007

Combined Assets

Cash In Bank	\$3,285,331
UMB-Holding Acct.	893,892
Investments	2,755,302
Other Assets	<u>482,361</u>
Total Assets	\$7,416,886

Combined Liabilities & Equity

Accrued Expenses Outstanding	\$2,290,355
Reserved for Losses	1,947,564
Incurred But Not Reported (IBNR)	2,679,438
Other (IBNR) Adjustments	<u>481,227</u>
Total Liabilities	7,398,584
KMIT Statutory Fund Balance	<u>18,302</u>
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$7,416,886

Kansas Municipal Insurance Trust

300 SW 8th Avenue
Topeka, KS 66603

