

GSRMA Joint Powers Agreement (JPA)/Bylaws Summary

(The following is a short summary of the pending JPA/Bylaws Revision as presented by GSRMA Risk Manager Scott Schimke.)

I will break my summary down into two parts. The first part deals with making the existing JPA and Bylaws more reader friendly. The second part will address the substantive additions to the JPA and Bylaws.

The original JPA and Bylaws were drafted in 1979. Over the course of the last 30 years the legal world of risk sharing pools (such as GSRMA) has evolved. This evolution is the driving force behind the majority of the rewriting process. Specifically, we moved items contained in the JPA to the Bylaws and vice versa. This allows the proposed JPA to be a much more static document and relegate operational duties to the Bylaws. In addition we "cleaned up" or standardized terms within both documents, removed provisions or requirements that were no longer relevant to the overall operation, clarified the definitions of the words "claims", "city", "county", "PCA" and "special districts" and improved the overall grammar of both documents.

Basically, we made the proposed documents much easier to read and understand.

In regards to actual additions, the proposed documents will now allow the GSRMA Board to adopt a late payment policy (including the ability to add a finance charge to members who pay late) and to clarify that notice to members can now also be electronic (i.e. E-mail, website) as well as a written hard copy.

In summary, the proposed documents are more standardized, efficient and easier to understand. This will allow us to be more efficient in our service to our members.

Sincerely



Scott Schimke, ARM
Risk Manager