

2016

MEMBERSHIP

SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC ASSURANCE ALLIANCE

ANNUAL REPORT

# **Our Purpose**

Protecting local government assets since 1987, the South Dakota Public Assurance Alliance is a Member-owned local government risk-sharing pool providing liability and property coverage and risk management services to South Dakota municipalities, counties, townships, conservation districts, and special districts.

Our mission is to provide exceptional coverage and service to our Members, ensuring stable rates and risk reduction for South Dakota's future.

### **Board of Directors**



Dennis Olson Chairman Brandon



Mike Wiese Vice Chairman Brown County



Jim Borszich Treasurer Huron



Michael Hall Secretary Sioux Falls



Mic Kreutzfeldt Salem



Jeff Heinemeyer Madison



Terry Weisenberg Lawrence County



Tracy Turbak Sioux Falls



Steve Harding
Pierre



Yvonne Taylor SDML



Bob Wilcox SDACC

## Letter from the Chairman of the Board

#### Dear SDPAA Members:

This report is designed to provide you with an overview of the pool finances as well as a general understanding of the services that are offered by the SDPAA. If you have any additional questions about this report or questions about the pool, please contact myself or a member of the Board.

The South Dakota Public Assurance Alliance had another very successful year in 2016. The balance sheet shows a very good net earnings number. Loss Control Credits, Loss Ratio Credits, Renewal Credits, and Law Enforcement Credits were continued in 2016, resulting in cash credits to Members totaling a little over a million dollars.

The Pool has been in existence for thirty years. Two of the goals in establishing the Pool in 1986 were providing reasonable rates and eliminating the fluctuation of rates from year to year. Over the last thirty years our Members have experienced coverage at a very competitive price. There have only been a few minor rate increases, eliminating rate fluctuation, while adding refund credits as mentioned above along with many new lines of coverage. These goals have been accomplished.

The biggest expense with the pool is the payment of claims. Any claim that is prevented relates directly to profitability and stable rates. The Board has a contract with Safety Benefits to aid you in preventing claims. They have numerous programs available including "hot lines" to allow you to speak with experts to answer questions. If you have any questions about a situation that may lead to a claim, please contact Doug Kirkus at Safety Benefits or Lynn Bren with the SDPAA for assistance.

One of our long term goals is to achieve formal recognition from the Association of Governmental Risk Pools (AGRiP) demonstrating the Alliance's compliance with the National Advisory Standards for Public Entity Risk Pools. We are continually working on this recognition and will become a reality very soon.

The Board of Directors truly appreciates your membership and continued participation in the South Dakota Public Assurance Alliance. Your questions and concerns are welcomed.

Sincerely,

Dennis E. Olson Chairman of the Board

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### Letter from the Executive Director

Dear SDPAA Members,

2016 marked the SDPAA's 30<sup>th</sup> year of providing superior coverage, risk management solutions and service to its Member-owners.

Most of the government officials who founded, nurtured and developed the best understanding of the pooling movement are gone or retiring. Newer government officials have less direct experience with the long-term benefits of pooling, and they probably do not remember much about the public risk coverage crises in the 1970s and 1980s. Keeping elected and appointed government officials connected to pooling concepts, invested in pooling outcomes, and committed to long-term vision is of primary concern to pool executives and their boards of directors. Critical to this is the understanding that pooling is so much more than insurance; it is better government.

Pools embody the ideal of local control because pools are crafted to meet the specific needs of their public entity members. Pools are member owned, member governed, and member driven. As owners, members have a say and have the opportunity to actively participate and impact not only their destiny, but that of the SDPAA as a whole.

This partnership is further proof that local government entities acting together can accomplish great things. At year 30, the ties that bind the SDPAA remain strong and we remain committed to continuing our history of providing SDPAA Members with exceptional coverage, services and return on investment.

Thank you for your participation in this highly successful journey.

Sincerely Yours,

Judy Payne

Judith M. Payne Executive Director

# **Member Services**

### Member-Owned, Protecting Local Government Assets since 1987

The South Dakota Public Assurance Alliance (SDPAA) added thirteen new Members and also added numerous coverages for many existing Members in 2016. The new Members consisted of eight cities/towns, one township, one county and three special districts. The growth was achieved in a highly competitive environment. The SDPAA has been able to maintain stable rates through its financial strength and solid financial planning. The SDPAA has grown to 422 Members which consist of cities, counties, conservation districts, townships and special districts.

The SDPAA website continues to be a valuable resource for Members to obtain sample documents and policies, links to training information and the most current news articles prepared by SDPAA staff.

SDPAA staff began review and development of an updated pool information management system which will afford our Members access to their coverage information and the opportunity to manage their asset schedules more efficiently through a Member Portal.

We have enjoyed the hundreds of one-on-one Member visits throughout South Dakota. By reviewing coverages, we have identified the importance of making sure that each Member is appropriately covered for the risks that face the public entities of our State.

We also appreciate the opportunities available at various Member conferences, conventions, schools and meetings to support education of Members' elected and appointed officials and staff.

SDPAA continues to provide one of the broadest coverage programs available to governmental entities in South Dakota. SDPAA's mission is to provide exceptional coverage and service to our Members ensuring stable rates and risk reduction for South Dakota's future.

We thank the Member-Owners for their long-term dedication and strong support. We will continue to enhance the Member Services Program and look forward to a productive and exciting 2017!

# **Claims Services**

### Helping Members Mitigate Damages

In today's world, dealing with claims is a fact of life. Providing our Members with professional, timely, and efficient claims services is one of our top priorities. An important component of the SDPAA's continued success is the close working relationship between Members and the claims administrator.

The Pool's claims administrator, Claims Associates Inc., follows a claims handling policy that requires promptly contacting the Member and claimant when a claim is reported, and responsive, courteous follow-up communications with all parties involved. The goal is to conduct a thorough investigation as close in time as possible to the date of loss or date notice is given while recollections are fresh and other evidence can be examined or collected. Thorough investigations allow for more detailed analysis of claims.

All claims are reserved for both indemnity and loss adjustment expense, at a level that reflects the degree of liability exposure, and expected expenses. Reserves are regularly reviewed for accuracy, and adjusted as information becomes available.

All claims are analyzed to determine the exposure to the Member and the Pool. Claims that are found to have merit will be resolved in the most efficient and cost-effective manner. Whenever possible, claims are resolved without resorting to litigation. Claims Associates uses direct negotiation and formal mediation to resolve claims. For claims that are without merit, the Pool maintains an aggressive defense posture. When suit is filed, defense counsel is selected based on the type of suit, the location, and Member input. We are fortunate to work with a select group of attorneys with experience working with public entities in various types of litigation. We work as a team with defense counsel to expeditiously bring litigation to a successful conclusion or put us on the best footing possible should the case go to trial. The Member is a part of that team and is consulted throughout the process and advised of progress.

Regardless how a claim is resolved, we always look for ways to leverage any lessons learned for the benefit of all Members. Claims Associates works closely with the SDPAA Executive Director, SDPAA Board, Underwriters, Member Services, and Loss Control personnel to educate Members about changes in law or provide practical advice to help eliminate or minimize future claims.

# **Loss Control Services**

### Helping Members Prevent and Manage Risks

The liability exposures facing local government in South Dakota are numerous. By utilizing risk management and loss control methods, you can often reduce liability, and in some cases, it can be eliminated. The South Dakota Public Assurance Alliance (SDPAA) contracts with Safety Benefits, Inc. (SBI) to assist its members in reducing and managing these exposures.

This past year, loss control representatives conducted 143 on-site surveys for SDPAA members. During these surveys, recommendations were developed to assist members with their loss control efforts. In 2016, the SDPAA continued the process of having SBI conduct property replacement surveys of all buildings that the SDPAA covers. This service helps members ensure they have all their properties scheduled, and have sufficient coverage on each for replacement.

SBI continues to develop training programs to assist members in reducing exposures. In 2016, a total of 3,978 local government employees attended 169 free training classes offered by the SDPAA. The SDPAA continues to offer a free DVD library to assist members with their training needs. This past year, 58 members checked out 366 safety DVDs.

Also in 2016, members of the SDPAA continued to have access to free online training. Through an agreement with FirstNet Learning, members can participate in 54 different training courses. A total of 49 members had employees who successfully completed 2,076 on-line training courses.

The SDPAA sponsors an Employment Practices Hotline that provides members with free access to attorneys that specialize in employment law. In 2016, a total of 51 members made 89 calls to the hotline.

The SDPAA continued to retain the legal experts from the Legal Liability Risk Management Institute (LLRMI) to update and train law enforcement members on model policies and procedures for law enforcement and jails. These policies and procedures are developed specifically for South Dakota agencies. Additionally, member law enforcement agencies and their personnel have access to free online training courses that deal with the model policies and procedures for both law enforcement and jails.

SBI assists SDPAA in keeping members aware of the latest in risk management, loss control, and safety trends and techniques through articles in the South Dakota Municipal League and the County Comment magazines.

This year's annual Loss Control Training Conference had 167 attendees. Additionally, safety awards were presented to 61 members recognizing them for their loss control efforts. We presented 16 Bronze, 4 Silver, 42 Gold and 29 Platinum Level awards at the Safety Award luncheons held in conjunction with the Annual SDML and SDACC Conferences. The Platinum Level award is presented to members who have received the Gold Level award and have combined loss ratios of less than 60 percent for all lines of coverage.

### **Staff and Service Providers**

### **SDPAA Staff**

Judith M. Payne, Executive Director Lynn Bren, Director of Member Services Kristina Peterson, Director of Underwriting Paytra Nichols, Underwriter Jerry Krambeck, Member Services Representative Deb Corkill, Executive Assistant

South Dakota Public Assurance Alliance Main Office: 208 Island Drive, Ft. Pierre, SD 57532 Satellite Office: 5024 Bur Oak Place, Suite 103 Sioux Falls, SD 57108

Office: 800.658.3633 or 605.224.8654 (Option 2)

Web: www.sdpaaonline.org

### **Service Providers**

### **Claims Administration**

Claims Associates, Inc. Jeff Jares, President PO Box 1898 Sioux Falls, SD 57101 888.613.7064

### **Financial Audit**

Eide Bailly Ryan Donahue, CPA 4310 17<sup>th</sup> Ave. S. Fargo, ND 58103 701.476.8826

#### **Actuarial Services**

AON Risk Solutions Mujtaba Datoo, Actuarial Practice Leader 100 Bayview Circle, Suite 100 Newport Beach, CA 92660 949.608.6332

#### **Investment & Custodial Services**

The First National Bank in Sioux Falls, Trust Department Kyle Cipperley and Tom Benz PO Box 5186 Sioux Falls, SD 57117-5186 800.553.7073

### **Loss Control Services/Property Valuations**

Safety Benefits, Inc.
Doug Kirkus, President
4901 Isabel Place, Suite 120
Sioux Falls, SD 57108
888.313.0839

#### Reinsurance Broker

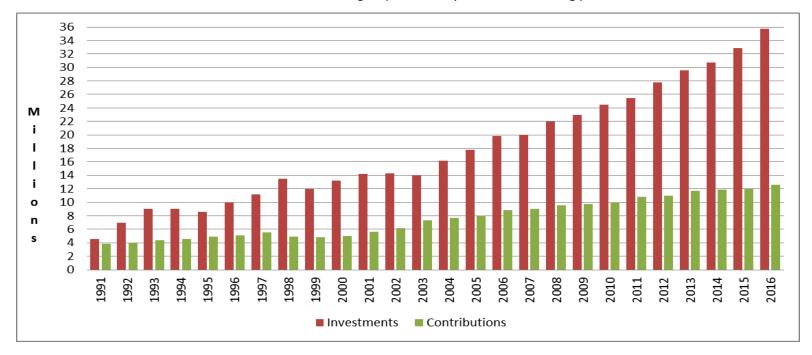
Alliant Insurance Services, Inc. Doug Wozniak, Sr. Vice President 1301 Dove Street, Suite 200 Newport Beach, CA 92660 949.756.0271

#### **General Counsel**

May, Adam, Gerdes and Thompson, LLC Rob A. Anderson PO Box 160 Pierre, SD 57501 605.224.8803

# **Membership Growth & Contributions**

Since it began in 1987, the South Dakota Public Assurance Alliance has had steady growth in Membership and contributions. With 422 Members and over \$35 million in investments, SDPAA is one of the largest public entity-owned risk sharing pools of its kind in South Dakota.



### **SDPAA Investments**

# Investment Portfolio 12/31/2016

Cash and Money Market Fund Certificates of Deposit US Government Agencies

1,535,175	4.3%
5,591,183	15.7%
28,592,240	80.0%
35,718,598	100%



# **Statement of Net Position**

For the Year Ended December 31, 2016

<b>ASSETS</b>	٠
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\$ 1,535,175
\$ 652,551
\$ 34,183,423
\$ 1,031,761
\$ 37,402,910

### **LIABILITIES AND MEMBERS' EQUITY**

### LIABILITIES:

Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	\$ 29,387
Unearned Contributions	\$ 3,149,844
Losses and Loss Adjustment Expense Reserve	\$ 10,790,429
Total Liabilities	\$ 13,969,660
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NET POSITION	\$ 23,433,250
Total Liabilities and Members' Equity	\$ 37,402,910

# Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Change in Net Position

For the Year Ended December 31, 2016

UNDERWRITING:		
Contributions	\$	11,507,053
Reinsurance Ceded		(1,957,930)
Total Operating Revenue	\$	9,549,123
LOSSES: Losses and Loss Adjustment Expenses Incurred	\$	6,108,389
GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES: Administrative Expenses	\$	1,465,513
Administrative Expenses	Ψ_	1,400,010
Operating Gain/(Loss)	\$	1,975,221
NON-OPERATING INCOME AND (EXPENSE):		
Net Investment Income	\$	430,404
Earned member equity, NLC Mutual Ins. Co.		29,681
Capitalization Contributions		91,910
Total Non-Operating Income	\$	551,995
CHANGE IN POSITION	\$	2,527,216

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# **SDPAA Membership**

Cities	Colman	Hill City	Newell	Viborg	Day County
Aberdeen	Columbia	Hosmer	New Witten	Vilas	Deuel County
Alexandria	Conde	Hot Springs	Nisland	Virgil	Douglas County
Alpena	Corona	Hoven	North Sioux City	Volga	Edmunds County
Andover	Crooks	Howard	Oacoma	Wagner	Fall River County
Astoria	Custer	Hudson	Oelrichs	Wall	Faulk County
Aurora	Dallas	Hurley	Ortley	Warner	Grant County
Avon	Davis	Huron	Parker	Wasta	Gregory County
Badger	Deadwood	Interior	Peever	Watertown	Hamlin County
Baltic	Dell Rapids	Iroquois	Pickstown	Waubay	Hand County
Batesland	Delmont	Isabel	Piedmont	Webster	Hanson County
Belle Fourche	Doland	Kennebec	Pierpont	Westport	Harding County
Belvidere	Draper	Keystone	Pierre	Wessington	Hughes County
Blunt	Dupree	Lake Andes	Quinn	White	<b>Hutchinson County</b>
Bonesteel	Eagle Butte	Lake City	Ree Heights	White River	Hyde County
Box Elder	Edgemont	Lake Preston	Roscoe	Whitewood	Jackson County
Brandon	Egan	Langford	Roslyn	Willow Lake	Jerauld County
Brandt	Eureka	Lead	St. Francis	Wilmot	Jones County
Brant Lake	Fairburn	Lebanon	St. Lawrence	Wood	Kingsbury County
Bridgewater	Fairfax	Lennox	Sherman	Woonsocket	Lake County
Bristol	Fairview	Long Lake	Sioux Falls	Worthing	Lawrence County
Britton	Faulkton	Madison	Sisseton	Yale	Lyman County
Brookings	Flandreau	Marion	Spearfish	Yankton	Marshall County
Buffalo	Florence	Martin	Springfield	Counties	McCook County
Buffalo Gap	Freeman	McIntosh	Stockholm	Aurora County	McPherson County
Burke	Ft. Pierre	McLaughlin	Stratford	Beadle County	Meade County
Camp Crook	Garretson	Midland	Sturgis	Bennett County	Mellette County
Canova	Gary	Milbank	Summerset	Bon Homme County	Miner County
Canton	Gettysburg	Miller	Summit	Brookings County	Minnehaha County
Castlewood	Gregory	Mission	Tea	Brown County	Moody County
Cavour	Grenville	Mission Hill	Timber Lake	Buffalo County	Oglala Lakota County
Centerville	Groton	Mitchell	Tolstoy	Butte County	Pennington County
Central City	Harrisburg	Monroe	Toronto	Charles Mix County	Sanborn County
Chancellor	Harrold	Montrose	Trent	Clark County	Stanley County
Chelsea	Hartford	Morristown	Tripp	Clay County	Sully County
Claire City	Hayti	Mount Vernon	Turton	Codington County	Todd County
Claremont	Hecla	Murdo	Valley Springs	Corson County	Tripp County
Clark	Hermosa	New Effington	Veblen	Custer County	Turner County
Clear Lake	Herrick	New Underwood	Vermillion	Davison County	Walworth County

# **SDPAA Membership**

**Townships** Lansing Aberdeen Civil Lawrence Alban Lee Allen Leseuer Andover Lien Athol Lincoln Lowe Baker Brainard Lyons Broadland Mathews Butler Mellette Cambria Minnesota Carthage Montpelier Castlewood North Detroit Choteau Creek Oneota Columbia Custer

Ordway Rauville Darlington Richland (Cavour) Richland (Mina) Dayton Dixon Rosefield Dumarce Rusk Dunkel South Detroit Spirit Lake Eden Edens Springlake Elmira Spring Valley Flrod Star Valley Esmond Sumner Foxton Swan Lake Fuller Union Garden Prairie Union - Howes

Ward Garland Gem Warner Harmon Fast & West Wavne Hartland Webster West Rondell Henry White Butte Hickman Highland (Canton) Whitewood Highland (Wagner) Highland (Webster) Conservation Districts

Highland (Webster)

Conservation Distr

Hillside

Hoffman

Jones

Kidder

Conservation Distr

American Creek

Aurora County

Badlands

Beadle County

Bennett County Brookings County Brown-Marshall Soil

Butte
Campbell County
Charles Mix
Clay County
Clearfield-Keyapaha & Hamill

Codington County

Corson County
Custer
Davison County
Day County
Deuel County
Douglas County
East Pennington

Edmunds County Elk Creek Fall River Faulk County

Grant County
Gregory County
Haakon County
Hamlin County
Hand County
Hanson County

Harding County
Hughes County
Hutchinson County
Hyde County
Jackson County

Jerauld County
Jones County
Kingsbury
Lake County
Lawrence County

Lincoln Marshall County McCook

Miner

McPherson County
Mellette County

Minnehaha
Moody County
Pennington
Perkins County
Potter County
Roberts County
Sanborn County
South Brown

Spink Stanley County Sully County Todd County Tri-County Turner Union

Walworth County Yankton County Ziebach County

**Special Districts** 

Alexandria Fire District
Belle Fourche Irrigation District

Black Hills Council of Local Governments

Boulder Park Road District #2

Brown County Mud Creek Watershed District Canyon Springs Preserve Road District Canyon Springs Sanitary and Water District

Castlewood Ambulance District Castlewood Fire District Cedar Hills Road District Centennial Hills Road District

Central Plains Water Development District Central South Dakota Enhancement District

Claire City Fire Protection District

Columbia & Community Fire Association Conde Rural Fire District Corson Village Sanitary District

Custer Ambulance District

Custer-Fall River Waste Management District Dakota Dunes Community Improvement District

Diamond E Road District East Jones County Fire District **Edgemont Ambulance District** 

First District Assn. of Local Governments

Health Pool of South Dakota
Lake Cochrane Sanitary District
Lake Herman Sanitary District
Lake Madison Sanitary District
Lake Pelican Water Project District
Lead-Deadwood Sanitary District
Lyons Volunteer Fire Department

Metro Communications

Mountain Pines Road District

North East Box Canyon Road District North Marsh Lake Watershed District Northwest SD Regional Landfill Pickerel Lake Sanitary District Planning & Development District III

Prairie Village

Renner Sanitary District

South Dakota Municipal League SDML Workers' Compensation Fund SD Assn of County Commissioners

**SDPAA** 

SD Public Funds Investment Trust
Sioux Falls Regional Airport Authority
South Eastern Council of Governments
Southern Missouri Waste Management Assn.
University & Bridle Estates Sanitary District
Upper Crow Creek Watershed District
West Dakota Water Development District
Woodland Hills Sanitary District

# **Past Board Members**

### **Richard Negstad**

Brookings County Commissioner 1986 - 1989

### Ray Woodsend

City Attorney, Rapid City 1986 - 1993

### **Carole Hillard**

Councilmember, Rapid City 1989 - 1994

### **Jack White**

Mayor, Sioux Falls 1986 - 1994

### **Duane Anderson**

City Attorney, Sioux Falls 1986 - 1997

### Karen Bulman

Councilmember, Rapid City 1993 - 1998

### **Gary Hanson**

Mayor, Sioux Falls 1997 - 2003

### **Stan Rietveld**

Councilmember and Airport Board, Mitchell 1987 - 1998

### Ralph Mack

Codington County Commissioner/Weed Board 1989 - 1999

### **George Opitz**

Lawrence County Commissioner 1987 - 2000

### **Manfred Szameit**

Finance Officer, Sioux Falls 1986 - 2001

### **Gary Drewes**

Mayor, Pierre 1995 - 2002

### **Judy Larson**

Black Hills Council of Local Government 1993 - 2002

### Allen Aden

Director of Public Safety, Pierre 1997 - 2008

### **Gary Colwill**

City Attorney, Sioux Falls 2004 - 2008

### **Ted Eggebraaten**

Retired Brookings County Highway Superintendent, Brookings 2002 - 2011

### **Jerry Krambeck**

Mayor, City of Spearfish 2002 - 2013

# In Appreciation

The South Dakota Public Assurance Alliance takes this opportunity to publicly thank the *South Dakota Municipal League*, for its foresight in creating a liability and property pool. Without the leadership of the League, the Pool would not be in existence today.

The primary goal of both organizations is to provide quality service, stable contributions and practice good risk management. This long-standing partnership has been beneficial to the public entities of South Dakota.

### **South Dakota Public Assurance Alliance**

Judith M. Payne, Executive Director Main Office: 208 Island Drive, Ft. Pierre, SD 57532 Satellite Office: 5024 Bur Oak Place, Suite 103 Sioux Falls, SD 57108 Office: 800.658.3633 or 605.224.8654 (Option 2)

### **Sponsored and Endorsed By:**

South Dakota Municipal League Yvonne Taylor, Executive Director 208 Island Drive, Ft. Pierre, SD 57532 800.658.3633

### **Endorsed By:**

South Dakota Association of County Commissioners Bob Wilcox, Executive Director 211 East Prospect Avenue, Pierre, SD 57501 605.224.4554