



# Newsletter

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EDITION 3

*WFOA Newsletter is published quarterly for members and friends of the Washington Finance Officers Association.*



*Dale Hough*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**G**reetings my friends! It is bittersweet to write my last newsletter article as WFOA President, but remembering that succession is the key to invigoration and vibrancy, I am excited to be moving over to let Jack Broyles take the reins.

I am proud of WFOA and the strides we took this past year. The Tacoma virtual conference was a success. Who could have anticipated a complete turnaround from live to virtual? Certainly not me. The Local Conference Committee led by Sandi Roberts, now of Graham Fire and Rescue, the Education Committee chaired by Debbie Booher and Beth Wright, the volunteer teams and most importantly the membership were able to bend and not break to provide and attend an excellent gathering of virtual education. Not to be outdone, the 2021 Spokane virtual conference, led by Local Conference Chair Michelle Hughes and President Elect Jack Broyles, accepted the challenge. They are spinning up their own excellent WFOA conference experience for the members and sponsors of WFOA. Make sure you register today!

The non-conference educational experiences we provided this year continue to be top of the line. In addition to providing a high quality series of sessions grown internally, we were able to bring in a couple free or low cost GFOA sessions. I was especially impressed with the ARPA presentation made by Emily Brock. What a whirlwind! Our agreement with the California Municipal Finance Officers Association continues to bear fruit. We offered several no-cost CSMFO webinars to our membership during my term.

Some of the executive board and myself met virtually with a select group of similar government finance officer associations from across the nation. We are actively sharing organizational "how we do it" information on a more "local" level with associations from Colorado, Michigan, California and Oregon. It is a great incubator of good ideas and new strategies. We have only met twice but were impressed with the interesting ideas being shared including member recruitment, board structure and new member onboarding. Look for future reports on this collaboration.

Our internship program continued to grow this year! We actively fund internships for students interested in our profession. We increased our number of internships by 25% this past quarter. I am very proud of Camille Tabor and Sandy Langdon and the work of the committee in nurturing our program.

Our awesome Board met in July and covered many topics. We unanimously voted to continue to contract with Misty Slagle and Slagle Management Northwest for continued conference and event assistance. She is excited to show us what she can do with our live 2022 conference in Tacoma. Her professionalism and skills are great assets for WFOA. The Board also agreed to continue the contract with Northwest CPA Group, PLLC of Richland for our annual financial statements and audit report. Thanks to Dan Legard for managing that process for us. The meeting was Craig Warner's final meeting as a Board member. I treasured his advice and guidance throughout his many years on the Board. See you at our next live conference or maybe a Mariners game!

It has been a pleasure serving as your President this year. It was a challenging and eventful year. I discovered that there is no playbook for a pandemic presidency. In spite of the challenges, I hope that I was able to help guide the Association through to our next seasons of recovery and growth. My friend and your new President, Jack Broyles, will do a fantastic job representing WFOA and taking us the rest of the way.

Thank you for all of your support. Be safe.

— Dale

## WFOA OFFICERS 2020 - 2021

**DALE HOUGH, President**  
Lacey Fire District 3  
360-528-2310  
dhough@laceyfire.com

**JACK BROYLES, President-Elect**  
Woodinville Water District  
425-487-4106  
jbroyles@woodinvillewater.com

**DAN LEGARD, Vice President**  
City of Kennewick  
509-585-4477  
dan.legard@ci.kennewick.wa.us

**STACIE TELLERS, Treasurer**  
State Auditor's Office  
360-725-5557  
tellerss@sao.wa.gov

**FORREST SMITH, Secretary**  
Yakima County Dept. of Corrections  
509-574-1316  
forrest.smith@co.yakima.wa.us

**CRAIG WARNER, Past President**  
Yakima County  
509-574-1313  
craig.warner@co.yakima.wa.us

## Virtual WFOA 2021 Annual Conference Starts Sept. 14

### WFOA BOARD MEMBERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

SANDI ROBERTS  
2020 Conference Chair  
253-533-8371  
sroberts@grahamfire.org

MICHELLE HUGHES  
2021 Conference Chair  
509-625-6320  
mhughes@spokanecity.org

NICOLE MUEGGE  
2022 Conference Chair  
360-786-5144  
nicole.muegge@co.thurston.wa.us

CAMILLE TABOR  
Professional Development &  
Sustainability Committee Chair  
360-282-3965  
CTabor@snofire7.org

BETH WRIGHT  
Education Co-Chair  
425-888-7632  
bwright@northbendwa.gov

DEBBIE BOOHER  
Education Co-Chair  
360-394-9720  
Dbooher@cityofpoulsbo.com

BRET BRODERSEN  
Professional Rules and Operational  
Standards Chair  
360-623-8283  
bbrodersen@cityofcentralia.com

MICKIE COOPER  
Member Communications/  
Scholarship Chair  
425-334-8588  
mickie.cooper@lkssd.org

KELLY COLLINS  
State Auditor Rep.  
360-902-0091  
collinsk@sao.wa.gov

STACI ASHE  
State Treasurer Rep  
360-902-9017  
staci.ashe@tre.wa.gov

ERIC LOWELL  
MRSC Rep.  
206-625-0916 Ext. 105  
ELowell@mrsc.org



By MICHELLE HUGHES  
2021 Conference Chair

The 2021 Local Conference Committee and the Education Committee are excited to host the WFOA 2021 Annual Conference virtually. With 2021 proving to be just as challenging in these ever-changing times the decision to remain virtual was a difficult one to make. We all had high hopes to be able to get together in person for this year's conference but when life gives you lemons, what do you do, you make lemonade. You spoke and the WFOA Board listened.

This year's conference will be spread over more days with more education opportunity including pre-conference education along with a key note speaker. The WFOA Board selected an excellent platform to provide live CPE eligible sessions, pre-recorded CPE sessions with the presenter available to answer questions, and non-CPE pre-recorded sessions. The pre-recorded non-CPE classes will remain available for you to watch over the next six months. Pre-Conference sessions will be held on Thursday, September 9 starting at 9 a.m.

This year's conference will be spread over two weeks on Tuesdays and Thursdays starting September 14 at 8:30 a.m. At that time we will kick off the conference with a General Session and Keynote Speaker Bill Bowen speaking on a Complaint Free World. You won't want to miss it. Each day opening sessions will be at 8:30 a.m. with classes beginning at 10:50 a.m. and ending at 2:50 p.m. each day. We look forward to you joining us on our continued venture into the current "normal" for training. There will continue to be a great selection of exhibitors available for you to peruse their information and make contact with. We will also be holding a meet-and-greet in Spokane on September 22, from 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. at Barrister Winery to give you an opportunity to meet your local conference committee. We will be sharing information on how to get more involved with WFOA and see how you can participate in the Spokane 2023 conference. Check the WFOA website for [2021 Virtual Conference registration](#) information.



## WFOA's Annual Business Meeting Sept. 23

The WFOA Board invites all WFOA members to attend the annual business meeting of the Association. The annual business meeting will be held in conjunction with the WFOA 66th Annual Conference. The conference has gone virtual and so has our annual meeting!

**Date:** Thursday, September 23  
**Time:** 8:30-9:50 a.m.  
**Location:** Virtual Platform – Zoom

**Agenda:** Membership voting: 2021-2022 slate of officers and annual resolutions of the Association. Updates and presentation from the President, and more!

If you are attending the 66th Annual Conference, the unique Zoom link will be accessible in the virtual conference session listing. If you are not attending the 66th Annual Conference and would like to attend the WFOA Annual Business Meeting, please email [wfoareg@gmail.com](mailto:wfoareg@gmail.com) by Friday, September 3. The registration team will assist you in obtaining the Zoom link for the meeting.

## 2022 WFOA Excellence Award

### By Professional Development and Sustainability Committee

We are looking for nominees for the 2022 WFOA Excellence Award. Do you know a finance professional who has made significant contributions to public finance? Do you know someone who excels at financial management or leadership in finance? Is there a finance professional in your organization who is always volunteering, or who has come up with innovative ideas?

If you do, please submit their name(s) for the Excellence Award. It's easy to do, and it's all on our website at [www.wfoa.org](http://www.wfoa.org). Just click on the Excellence Award Application Form link on our [home page](#). The application form is simple to fill out, once you're done, just click submit!

## THANK YOU TO OUR 2020 CONFERENCE GOLD LEVEL SPONSORS



KeyBanc Capital Markets



## WFOA Board Nominations



In the June 2021 newsletter, we sought nominations to fill future Board positions. Thank you to everyone who applied. The Nomination Committee is pleased to present the following list of individuals who have already provided many years of service to WFOA and are willing to serve in Board-level positions. These positions will be presented for the WFOA general membership to vote on at our virtual business meeting in September at our annual conference.

<u>WFOA Board Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Entity</u>	<u>Term</u>
President	Jack Broyles	Woodinville Water District	1 year
President Elect	Dan Legard	City of Kennewick	1 year
Vice President	Stacie Tellers	State Auditor's Office	1 year
Treasurer	Forrest Smith	Yakima County	1 year
Secretary	Sandi Roberts	Graham Fire & Rescue	1 year
2023 Conference Chair	Michelle Hughes	City of Spokane	3 year
Education Committee Co-Chair	Debbie Booher	City of Poulsbo	3 year
Professional Rules and Operations Standards Board	Bret Brodersen	City of Centralia	3 year

The WFOA Bylaws state the current Board President will succeed the Past President without further election and the President-Elect will succeed the President without further election. The slate of the nominees will be presented and voted on during the annual business meeting September 23, 2021. We sincerely appreciate the willingness of all nominees to serve our Association and we thank them.

This has been another very challenging year, but for many years Dale Hough has dedicated his time, mentored other members and represented WFOA and our state at GFOA. His commitment to WFOA and our membership will be felt for many years to come. Please help us during this conference by joining in thanking Dale for his leadership as he transitions from President to Past President!

## WFOA Receives Clean Audit Report for 2020!



By **DAN LEGARD**  
WFOA Vice President

At its July 2021 Board meeting, the WFOA Board of Directors approved the Association's audited financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2020. Northwest CPA Group, PLLC (NWCOPA) performed the audit and issued an unmodified (clean) audit opinion on the financial statements. A copy of the Independent Auditor's Report and audited financial statements for 2020 is now located on the WFOA website and can be found at the following link - [WFOA 2020 Audited Financial Statements](#). I encourage everyone to take a moment to review these important items.

Those who do review this information will likely notice some changes from prior years. Beginning in 2020, the WFOA Board approved a change to the Association's basis of accounting for financial reporting to report on a modified cash basis of accounting, rather than the full accrual basis of accounting. A modified cash basis of accounting allows the Association to continue accounting for significant deposits for future conferences and other WFOA events as an asset rather than a current year expense, and also better aligns the Association's basis of accounting for financial reporting purposes with the basis of accounting used for budgeting and other financial and operational decisions made by the Board. As the result of this change, the Independent Audit Report for the Association now includes a reference to the new modified cash basis of accounting and Note 1 to the financial statements now reflects the change. Finally, because this was the first year of reporting and completing an audit under a new basis of accounting, the 2020 Financial Statements include only a single year presentation. In future years, the financial statements will return to a two-year presentation.

I am happy to be able to share these positive audit results and that the Association maintained a very solid financial position in 2020, despite the many challenges the COVID-19 pandemic brought to all of us during the year. On behalf of the WFOA Board of Directors, I want to thank everyone that contributed to the success of the Association last year!

### THANK YOU TO OUR 2020 CONFERENCE SILVER LEVEL SPONSORS



## Plenty of Opportunities for Non-Conference Training



By **DEBBIE BOOHER**  
Education Committee Co-Chair

**M**any things have been changing with the non-conference training section. As we continue through the pandemic and restrictions for live training, webinar offerings are growing. We have offered several training sessions over the past months and are proactively creating new options. At this time we are working on [new webinar classes](#) offered in the fall from the Washington State Auditor's Office for BARS and Federal Awards (Grants) classes.

There were some very successful classes offered and are looking to offer these again in the following year. The Excel classes were a hit with many requesting more time and more classes. Fleet Management was spread over two days and still ran short of time to present the large amount of information. An investment series of classes helping to explain in easy terms items helping managing your entities portfolios. Suggestions and details to explain, update and implement an indirect allocation plan. An economic update from a state representative who provided data specific to the State of Washington. We were able to have GFOA present at no cost to members the latest updates regarding the new American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds distributed by the US Treasury regarding distribution timelines, reporting requirement and allowable uses. As always the State Auditor's Office will continue to provide its exceptional training on BARS and Federal Awards (Grants). The Committee is working hard for new options and finalizing the detail for additional classes. Continue to check our website for when these will become available for registration.

WFOA is continuing their relationship with California State Municipal Finance Officer's (CSMFO) for training offered at no cost to WFOA members. These include the classes they offer to their members at no cost. The organization does have several governmental accounting classes scheduled, but please be aware these are provided at a cost. The free classes will not provide CPE to WFOA members. We are exploring the option of offering CPE but still need to work through details before this can be provided. A change you will see when registering for non-conference training sessions is a discounted rate for WFOA members – another added benefit when you belong!

We have all struggled for some sense of normalcy in 2020 and 2021. Our goal is to continue to offer webinars as the amount of training we can provide covers statewide at a lesser cost and allows agencies and individuals to save travel expenses, but we have heard from several members they are excited for live training sessions to return. We will continue to look for opportunities to provide live training when we are able to provide the sessions in a safe manner.

The Education Committee is always looking for volunteers and ideas as we create our sessions for both the conference and non-conference training. If you have a class you would like to coordinate, please join us in our monthly meetings or reach out with an email to [Deb Booher](#) or [Beth Wright](#). Our monthly meetings held via ZOOM Platform. It is a nice way to share ideas and touch base with our fellow peers.

## Streamline Your Hiring Process

**W**OW, what a year. So many retirements, dropping the work experience to zero and your current team scurrying to keep up – and there are vacations to fit in. Procedures help, but when were they last updated? What to do, what to do? Your solution is an intern! Interns are ready to help you and to gain experience and knowledge from you and your team. At a minimum, an intern can update your procedures while performing necessary work. I can hear you now, "but the time it takes" – well, you don't have much time now. The quicker you add an intern the quicker the work can be completed.

An intern is eager to help. They are looking for essential skills development, developing a network of mentors and peer groups, as well as experiencing the wonderful world of governmental finance. DON'T DELAY apply for a WFOA Internship \$5,000 grant to get you started. Additional information and applications are on the [WFOA webpage](#) - Internship/Scholarship Program | Washington Finance Officers Association (wfoa.org).

### THANK YOU TO OUR 2020 CONFERENCE BRONZE LEVEL SPONSORS





## From the Professional Rules and Operational Standards (PROS) Committee



By **BRET BRODERSEN**

Professional Rules and Operational Standards Chair

### **GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS (GFOA) 26TH Annual GAAP Update**

The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) has announced the dates of their annual GAAP update webinar. The annual webinar will provide an update on the recent developments in accounting and financial reporting for state and local governments. The 4-hour webinar provides 4 CPE credits and registration is open to GFOA Members and Non-Members. Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) will offer its 2021 GAAP Update on November 4, 2021, with encore presentations on December 9, 2021, and January 13, 2022, using GFOA's online learning management system (LMS). For more information, including dates and pricing, please visit [2021 GAAP Update](#) for more information.

### **GOVERNMENTAL ACCOUNTING STANDARDS BOARD (GASB) PROJECTS**

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) has several current projects that may impact financial statement preparers.

**Prior-Period Adjustments, Accounting Changes, and Error Corrections—Reexamination of Statement 62**

The objective of this project is to improve the accounting and financial reporting for prior-period adjustments, accounting changes, and error corrections in Statement No. 62, Codification of Accounting and Financial Reporting Guidance Contained in Pre-November 30, 1989 FASB and AICPA Pronouncements. The project will fully reexamine the existing standards to address issues related to (1) inconsistency in practice, (2) confusion about and difficulty applying regarding the requirements, and (3) the usefulness of the related disclosures.

**Communication Methods in General Purpose External Financial Reports That Contain Basic Financial Statements: Notes to Financial Statements—an amendment of GASB Concepts Statement No. 3**

This proposed Concepts Statement would supersede paragraphs 35–39 of Concepts Statement No. 3, Communication Methods in General Purpose External Financial Reports

That Contain Basic Financial Statements, which address the communication method of disclosure in notes to financial statements.

This proposed Concepts Statement describes the purpose of notes to financial statements and the users of those notes. It also defines the criteria for disclosing information items in notes to financial statements, including:

- The types of information disclosed in notes to financial statements
- The types of information that are not appropriate for notes to financial statements
- The degree of importance that information disclosed in notes to financial statements should possess

### **Omnibus 20XX**

The objectives of this proposed Concepts Statement are to enhance comparability in accounting and financial reporting and to improve the consistency of authoritative literature by addressing (1) practice issues that have been identified during implementation and application of certain GASB Statements and (2) accounting and financial reporting by governments that extend exchange or exchange-like financial guarantees. The practice issues addressed by this proposed Statement include:

- Classification and reporting of derivative instruments within the scope of Statement No. 53, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Derivative Instruments, that do not meet the definition of either an investment derivative instrument or a hedging derivative instrument
- Clarification of provisions in Statement No. 87, Leases, related to the determination of the lease term, classification of a lease as a short-term lease, recognition and measurement of lease liabilities and lease assets, and identification of lease incentives
- Clarification of provisions in Statement No. 94, Public-Private and Public-Public Partnerships and Availability Payment Arrangements, related to (a) the determination of the public-private and public-public partnership (PPP) term and (b) recognition and measurement of installment payments and the transfer of the underlying PPP asset
- Clarification of provisions in Statement No. 96, Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements, related to the subscription-based information technology arrangement (SBITA) term, classification of a SBITA as a short-term SBITA, and recognition and measurement of subscription liabilities
- Extending the period during which the London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) is considered an appropriate benchmark interest rate for the qualitative evaluation of the effectiveness of an interest rate swap that hedges the interest rate risk of taxable debt
- Accounting for the distribution of benefits as part of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Disclosures related to nonmonetary transactions
- Pledges of future revenues when resources are not received by the pledging government
- Clarification of provisions in Statement No. 34, Basic Financial Statements—and Management's Discussion and Analysis—for State and Local Governments, related to the focus of the government-wide financial statements
- Terminology updates related to certain provisions of Statement No. 63, Financial Reporting of Deferred Outflows of Resources, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Net Position.

All of these exposure drafts have open comment periods with different due dates. The PRO committee of WFOA will be having sessions posted on the news tab of the WFOA website. If you are interested in serving on the PRO committee please contact [Bret Brodersen](#).