

Workers' Compensation Board

Meeting Minutes

May 3-4, 2018

Thursday, May 3, 2018

I. Call to order

Workers' Compensation Director Marie Marx called the Board to order at 9:04 am on Thursday, May 3, 2018, in Anchorage, Alaska.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll call

Director Marx conducted roll call. The following Board members were present:

| | | |
|--------------------|--------------|----------------|
| Brad Austin | Pamela Cline | Bronson Frye |
| Jacob Howdeshell | David Kester | Sarah Lefebvre |
| Togi Letuligasenoa | Justin Mack | Linda Murphy |
| Donna Phillips | Nancy Shaw | Amy Steele |
| Brett Stubbs | Rick Traini | Lake Williams |

Director Marx noted that Members Evans and Weel were excused. Member Collins was absent. Quorum was established.

Director Marx welcomed Justin Mack and Bronson Frye to the Board. Member Mack was appointed effective January 29, 2018. Member Frye was appointed effective March 1, 2018.

Director Marx introduced senior staff present.

IV. Agenda Approval

A motion to approve the agenda was made by member Frye and seconded by member Murphy. The agenda was approved by unanimous vote.

V. Approval of Meeting Minutes

A motion to adopt the minutes from the January 11, 2018 regular Board Meeting was made by member Murphy and seconded by member Philips. The minutes were adopted without objection.

VI. Director's Report

Administrative Officer Alexis Newman provided an overview of Division staffing, the various budget components within the Division, and the FY18 budget performance year-to-date.

Chief of Adjudications Soule reviewed the list of board designees. A motion to approve the list of Board Designees as Commissioner's Designees was made by member Kester and seconded by member Stubbs.

Director Marx briefly discussed the upcoming legislative session and the current pending legislation related to workers' compensation.

Break 10:00am-10:19am

VII. Public Comment Period 10:15am- 11:15am

No public comment

VIII. Old Business

The Division has purchased laptops for board member use at hearings.

IX. New Business

If HB 79 passes, the Board will have a major regulatory project to undertake. This will likely require a special meeting.

The Board reviewed Board Resolutions 13-01 and 17-01, noting areas that have already been completed and areas that are still pending.

The Board discussed establishing a Board Resolution regarding statutory establishment of a Workers' Compensation Ad Hoc Committee.

Director Marx provided an update on the Alaska Medical Fee Schedule and Medical Services Review Committee (MSRC). This was followed by a general discussion of MSRC action items.

X. HIPAA and Workers' Compensation: Bill Soule, Chief of Adjudications

Chief of Adjudications Bill Soule provided information on how HIPAA intersects with workers' compensation.

Lunch Break 12:00pm-2:53pm

XI. Training Session: Maria Bahr, Ethics Attorney, Alaska Department of Law

Maria Bahr, Ethics Attorney with the Alaska Department of Law, conducted a hearing officer and board member ethics training workshop.

A motion to adjourn was made by member Cline and seconded by member Frye. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned 4:18pm

Friday, May 4, 2018

I. Call to order

Director Marx resumed the Alaska Workers' Compensation Board meeting at 10:01 am on Friday, May 4, 2018, in Anchorage, Alaska. The following Board members were present:

| | | |
|--------------------|--------------|----------------|
| Brad Austin | Pamela Cline | Bronson Frye |
| Jacob Howdeshell | David Kester | Sarah Lefebvre |
| Togi Letuligasenoa | Justin Mack | Linda Murphy |
| Donna Phillips | Nancy Shaw | Amy Steele |
| Brett Stubbs | Rick Traini | Lake Williams |

Director Marx noted that Members Evans and Weel were excused, and Member Collins was absent. Quorum was established.

II. New Business Continued

The Board continued discussion of a Board Resolution regarding statutory establishment of a Workers' Compensation Ad Hoc Committee. Member Kester provided a history of the Ad Hoc committee. The Board declined to take action on the issue at this time.

Break 10:48am-11:00am

III. Training Session: Dr. Jared Kirkham, Anchorage Fracture & Orthopedic Clinic

Dr. Jared Kirkham, with Anchorage Fracture & Orthopedic Clinic, conducted training on chronic pain versus chronic pain syndrome.

Lunch 12:33pm-2:01pm

IV. New Business Continued

The Board discussed some hearing scheduling issues. Chief of Adjudications Soule will work to resolve the issues.

Director Marx reminded Board members the next regular board meeting is October 4-5, 2018. The meeting will be in-person and the division will be presenting its annual report to the Board.

The annual joint MSRC/Board meeting is August 10, 2018, and will also be in-person.

Motion to adjourn was made by Member Traini and seconded by Member Murphy. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned 3:01pm