

*Medical Services Review Committee /
Workers' Compensation Board
Special Joint Meeting
Meeting Minutes*

August 10, 2018

I. Call to order

Workers' Compensation Director Marie Marx called the MSRC and Board to order at 10:00 am on Friday, August 10, 2018, in Anchorage, Alaska.

II. Roll call

Director Marx conducted roll call of the Board. The following Board members were present, constituting a quorum:

Pamela Cline	Chuck Collins	Bronson Frye	Jacob Howdeshell
David Kester	Sarah Lefebvre	Justin Mack	Linda Murphy
Donna Phillips	Amy Steele	Robert Weel	Lake Williams

Members Austin, Stubbs, Evans, Letuligasenoa, Shaw, and Traini were excused.

Director Marx conducted a roll call of the MSRC. The following Committee members were present, constituting a quorum:

Vince Beltrami	Dr. Mary Ann Foland	Jennifer House
Tammi Lindsey	Pam Scott	Misty Steed
Dr. Christopher Twiford		

Member Hall was excused.

III. Agenda Approval

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

IV. Approval of MSRC July 27, 2018 Meeting Minutes

A motion to adopt the minutes from the July 27, 2018 meeting was made by member Beltrami and seconded by member Steed. The minutes were approved unanimously.

V. Approval of joint Board/MSRC August 4, 2017 Meeting Minutes

A motion to adopt the minutes from the August 4, 2017 special joint meeting of the Board and MSRC was made by member Murphy and seconded by member Weel. All members who were in attendance at the prior meeting unanimously voted to adopt the minutes.

VI. MSRC's Presentation of Recommendations to Board

The MSRC presented its recommendation to the Board. Director Marx explained the reasoning behind the 5% conversion factor reduction for surgery, radiology, and

pathology and laboratory. The intent of the MSRC is to bring all conversion factors to one or two conversion factors.

Director Marx stepped through the fee schedule and noted all of the significant changes.

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

LeeAnn Carothers – representing Alaska Physical Therapy Association

- Opposition to MSRC decision not to take action to allow 100% coverage of physical therapy 97xxx codes.
- Reiterated concern that this could result in decreased access to care if clinics are unable to meet cost per visit.
- Current RBRBS already takes into consideration whether or not PT codes are provided by a physician or physical therapist.
- Requested that this issue be added to the 2019 MSRC Action Items list.
 - o Director Marx added this issue to the 2019 list.

VIII. MSRC’s Presentation of Recommendations to Board Cont.

The MSRC continued its presentation of its recommendation to the Board. Director Marx described the data that was used to reach a decision on hearing aids, and the reasoning behind the decision. Under the section “Hearing Aids,” the Board and MSRC members recommended changing “manufacturer’s or supplier’s invoice” to “manufacturer/supplier’s invoice.”

The Board and MSRC members recommended adding language to the draft fee schedule stating, “For a list of critical access hospitals in Alaska, please contact the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Health Care Services.”

IX. Proposed Regulation Changes

Amend 8 AAC 45.083(a), relating to fees for medical treatment and services. Member Frye moved to approve the amendment of 8 AAC 45.083(a), as amended. Member Murphy seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

X. New Business

Director Marx reminded the Board members the next regular board meeting is October 4-5, 2018. This will be an in-person meeting.

The MSRC has scheduled the following meetings in 2019: June 21, July 26, and August 9. The June 21 meeting will be in-person, and the July 26 and August 9 meetings will be telephonic for those outside of Anchorage.

The next special joint MSRC/Board meeting was scheduled for August 23, 2019. It will be an in-person meeting.

Meeting Adjourned 11:38am