

**Maryland Workers' Compensation  
Commissioners' Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, May 27, 2021**

**Call to Order:** Chairman R. Karl Aumann called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

**Present:** Chairman Aumann and Commissioners Kathleen Evans, James Forrester, Allan Kittleman, Morrisann Martin, Howard Metz, Ju Oh, Maureen Quinn, Delia Schadt and Tracey Parker-Warren.

Staff members attending were Mary Ahearn, Steven Jones, Scott Curtis, Amy Lackington, Jerome Reichmister, M.D. and Stacey L. Roig, Secretary of the Commission.

**Closed Session:** At 9:31 a.m., upon motion of Commissioner Martin and second of Commissioner Quinn and upon unanimous vote, pursuant to GP §§3-305(13), LE §§9-402, 9-403, 9-405, 9-406 and 9-1104, and COMAR 14.09.13.12, the Commission entered a closed session for the purpose of discussing self-insured employers' financial information.

Steven Jones, Director of the Insurance, Compliance & Regulation Division reported that Cecil County, Maryland has requested an increase in retention. After discussion and a motion from Commissioner Parker-Warren with a second from Commissioner Evans, and unanimous consent, the motion was approved.

**The meeting was reopened at 9:33 a.m., upon motion of Commissioner Quinn and second of Commissioner Martin and upon unanimous vote.**

**Approval of Minutes:** The Minutes of the May 13, 2021 Commission Meeting were reviewed and two corrections were noted. Upon motion of Commissioner Quinn and second of Commissioner Kittleman, the Minutes as amended were approved with a unanimous vote.

**Chairman's Report:** The Chairman reported that the August calendar will include 20 cases per Commissioner without specific scheduled times per case. The first hearing will start at 9:30am. The ability to schedule more cases each day should significantly help with the backlog of cases. The schedule will be flexible, and changes can be made as needed. The Chairman discussed two legislative mandates that involve the Commission; one is a UEF study and the second is a study of PTSD related stress claims for 911 Emergency Personnel. The Chairman also reported that the Commission will have several people attending the SAWCA and WCI conferences this year with approval from DBM. The MWCEA program is developing, including Breakfast with the Commissioners. The Chairman asked the Commissioners to let him know the topics they would like to cover at the Breakfast. The Enterprise Modernization Project is progressing, and changes are coming soon.

**New Business:** Scott Curtis, AAG and General Counsel, discussed the Regulation Review that is required to be completed by all state agencies every eight years. This review is an opportunity to make changes to regulations at one time. Scott Curtis discussed an Executive Summary of the proposed changes that was provided to the Commissioners in their meeting packages. All details were sent by email to the Commissioners for their individual review. Mr. Curtis asked the Commissioners to be prepared to vote on the changes at the meeting on June 10, 2021.

**Old Business:** Mary Ahearn reported that the Strike Appearance form has been updated on the website and that the IT Department is currently reviewing the online form. CompHub has already been programmed in accordance with the Regulations.

**Medical Alerts:** Dr. Reichmister provided a primer to assist the Commissioners with some common medical questions. Dr. Reichmister also discussed the structures of the knee and common injuries.

**Adjournment:** Upon a motion by Commissioner Forrester and second by Commissioner Evans and upon unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 10:29 a.m.:

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R. Karl Aumann, Chairman

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Stacey L. Roig, Secretary