Maryland Workers' Compensation Commission Meeting Minutes Thursday, August 12, 2021

Call to Order: Acting Chair, Commissioner Maureen Quinn called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m.

Present: Acting Chair Commissioner Quinn and Commissioners Kathleen Evans, James Forrester, Morrisann Martin, Howard Metz, Ju Oh, Delia Schadt and Tracey Parker-Warren.

Staff members attending were Jerome Reichmister, M.D, Scott Curtis, Assistant Attorney General, and Amy Lackington, Acting Secretary.

Approval of Minutes: The Minutes of the July 22, 2021 Commission meeting were reviewed and, upon motion of Commissioner Forrester and second of Commissioner Oh, the Minutes were approved with a unanimous vote.

Chair's Report: Commissioner Quinn advised the Commissioners that that the EZ Pass system is approximately one year behind in processing invoices due to new management. Commissioner Quinn spoke with Frank Lipshultz about the upcoming MWCEA conference and was told that the Board is holding a meeting this upcoming Monday, August 16, to discuss if the Ocean City Convention will be held, along with other available options, due to COVID uptake. She also advised that when a Request for Emergency Hearing document is annotated as "Duplicate" that the annotation should be ignored because it may not be a duplicate filing. The "Duplicate" annotation is computer generated and the form must actually be reviewed by a commissioner. The pending hearing cases report was discussed.

Old Business: Commissioner Metz advised he is continuing work on the attorney fee schedule.

New Business: Commissioner Evans asked how many cases were to be set on the hearing dockets, noting that she was getting 25-30 cases on her general dockets and the other Commissioners agreed. Amy Lackington advised 20 cases are to be set for general dockets and 9 cases for SIF/UEF dockets and that she will look into this matter.

Commission Martin advised that the Kids Chance golf outing was a success and passed out flyers for a bowling fundraiser.

Discussion was held regarding masking requirements at the hearing locations. The Commissioners agreed to follow county guidelines when attending hearings.

Commissioner Schadt advised that two Bethlehem Steel cases did not settle; discussion was held regarding possible further appeals by the parties.

Medical Alerts: Dr. Reichmister discussed several medical alerts of interest to the Commissioners.

Adjournment: Upon a motion by Commissioner Forrester and second by Commissioner Evans and upon unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

Maureen Quinn, Acting Chair

Amy S. Lackington, Acting Secretary