

**Maryland Workers' Compensation Commission**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, March 09, 2023**

**Call to Order:** Acting Chair, Maureen Quinn, called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

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

Staff members attending were Mary Ahearn, Scott Curtis, Amy Lackington (by telephone), Jerome Reichmister, M.D. and Stacey L. Roig, Secretary.

Guests attending: Several members of the public attended this meeting and they are listed on the attached page, which is part of these Minutes.

**Approval of Minutes:** The Minutes of the February 23, 2023 Commission meeting were reviewed. Upon the motion of Commissioner Metz and second of Commissioner Forrester, the Minutes were approved with a unanimous vote.

**Acting Chair Report:** Acting Chair Quinn opened the meeting with thanks to Commissioner Martin for organizing the Commissioners attendance at the Kids' Chance bowling fundraiser on March 8<sup>th</sup>. Acting Chair Quinn also announced that several office switches are happening and the office of our new Commissioner, Asha Jefferson, is being set up for her arrival on March 14, 2023. Acting Chair Quinn offered thanks to David Jones for his work with DGS and the landlord to settle a dispute regarding access to the building and security. Acting Chair Quinn also noted that when a medical emergency arises, we must call 911 from the landlines in the courtrooms or anywhere in the building because the use of the landline notifies David Jones and his team, including security personnel. A recent medical emergency brought this to light. In addition, it became clear that additional defibrillators are needed, and AED's will now be available on all five floors at 10 E. Baltimore Street, in addition to all regional sites.

**Old Business:** Acting Chair Quinn asked Commissioner Metz to discuss the final approval of the proposed changes to COMAR 14.09.04 – Attorney Fees. Acting Chair Quinn then turned the meeting over to Commissioner Metz to discuss public comments and a proposed change to the Statement of Purpose and a clarification to 14.09.04.03(B)(a)(i). Commissioner Metz discussed his thoughts and opinions on each item. Commissioner Metz then made a Motion to accept the proposed changes to COMAR 14.09.04, as clarified and presented at this meeting. Commissioner Oh seconded the motion and the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Commissioner Kittleman asked for a discussion to determine if there will be a one tier or two-tiered calculation of fees based on the date that the claim was filed. The Commissioners debated the advantages and disadvantages of a one tier versus a two tier fee structure. After discussion, Acting Chair Quinn made a motion that was later amended to read as follows:

All fee calculations in a claim will be governed by the fee regulations in place on the date of the filing of the claim, which would adopt a two-tiered calculation of fees. Commissioner Kittleman seconded the motion.

The vote was as follows: Commissioner Evans – nay, Commissioner Kittleman – aye, Commissioner Metz – nay, Commissioner Parker-Warren – aye, Commissioner Oh – nay, Commissioner Martin – aye, Commissioner Forrester – aye, Commissioner Schadt – aye, Acting Chair Quinn – nay. The vote was 5-aye and 4-nay. The ayes have it and the motion passed.

**New Business:** Commissioner Martin discussed an incident in a courtroom involving a SWAT Officer and possible threatening behavior. Commissioner Martin requested that the committee implementing enhanced security discuss whether officers should leave their guns in their cars and not bring them into the building.

**Medical Alerts:** Dr. Reichmister provided 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 10:32 a.m.

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Maureen Quinn, Acting Chair

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Stacey L. Roig, Secretary