

**Maryland Workers' Compensation
Commissioners' Meeting Minutes
Thursday, June 10, 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, Morrisann Martin, Howard Metz, Ju Oh, Maureen Quinn, Delia Schadt and Tracey Parker-Warren.

Staff members attending were Scott Curtis, Jerome Reichmister, M.D. and Stacey L. Roig, Secretary of the Commission. No members of the public attended this meeting.

Approval of Minutes: The Minutes of the May 27, 2020 Commission Meeting were reviewed, and with a motion made by Commissioner Martin and second by Commissioner Evans, to accept the Minutes, the Minutes were approved with a unanimous vote.

Chairman's Report: The Chairman expressed his condolences to the family of Commissioner Allan Kittleman on the death of his mother. The Chairman also announced that the MWCEA Conference agenda is tentatively set with tentative assignments. The Chairman reminded the Commissioners that all conference attendance requires advance approval by the Department of Budget and Management. Recruitments for two positions of retiring staff have been advertised, with a third position opening this week with the departure of Derry Pemberton in Fiscal Services. Derry has been with the Commission for 20 years and is leaving to take a position with the MD Transportation Authority.

Old Business: Scott Curtis, Principal Counsel, presented the proposed changes and updates to the regulations under the required 8-year Regulation Review process. Discussion was held regarding consent to Video Remote Hearings (VHR). An adjustment to the regulation was proposed by Mr. Curtis to leave the decision to approve or reject the request for a VHR at the discretion of the Commission. Mr. Curtis explained that most of the changes were stylistic changes and to bring the regulations in line with the changes we will see with CompHub.

The Chairman called for a motion to approve the proposed changes to the regulations. Commissioner Parker-Warren motioned to approve the proposed changes to the regulations and Commissioner Evans seconded the motion. After discussion, the motion was approved with a unanimous vote.

The Chairman asked Commissioner Metz to discuss proposed adjustments to attorney fees and how they are calculated. Discussion was held on the calculation methods and a complete proposal will be presented at the Commission meeting on July 8, 2021. Scott Curtis and Commissioner Metz will work on that full proposal.

New Business: Commissioner Martin discussed the Kids' Chance Gala, which is now scheduled for Saturday, April 30, 2022, from 6:30-10:00pm at the B&O Museum. Commissioner Martin asked the Commissioners to put the date on their calendars and plan to attend. Kids' Chance Maryland will be honoring the Chairman at the event. Commissioner Quinn noted that the Court Reporters are requesting full-time telework. The Chairman stated that the new Director will be tasked with making telework

decisions for the Court Reporting Division. The Chairman announced that the hearing rooms will be modified to meet updated policies for in-person hearings. The rooms will be adjusted on a hearing room by hearing room basis. Tables for each Counsel will be separate, and the Court Reporters' tables will remain where they are currently located.

Medical Alerts: Dr. Reichmister provided several medical alerts and information of interest to the Commissioners.

Adjournment: Upon a motion by Commissioner Forrester and second by Commissioner Quinn and upon unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

R. Karl Aumann, Chairman

Stacey L. Roig, Secretary