

**Maryland Workers' Compensation Commission**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, October 12, 2023**

**Call to Order:** Chairwoman Maureen Quinn called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

**Present:** Chairwoman Quinn and Commissioners Kathleen Evans, James Forrester, Asha Joseph-Jefferson, Allan Kittleman, Morrisann Martin, Howard Metz, Ju Oh and Tracey Parker-Warren.

Staff members attending were Mary Ahearn, Dr. Jerome Reichmister, Adeyemi Adeyemo and, via telephone, Stacey L. Roig, Secretary.

**Approval of Minutes:** The Minutes of the Commission meeting on September 21, 2023, were reviewed by the Commissioners. Upon motion of Commissioner Metz and second by Commissioner Kittleman, the Minutes were approved with a unanimous vote.

**Closed Session: At 9:35 a.m., upon motion of Commissioner Kittleman and second of Commissioner Metz 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 into a closed session for the purpose of discussing self-insured employers' financial information.**

**ICR Report:** Adeyemi Adeyemo of the Insurance, Compliance and Reporting Division, reported on the restructuring Anne Arundel Medical Center (AAMC) and the merger with Doctors' Hospital (DH), which was acquired by Luminis Health, Inc. Approval of the merging of the two separate self-insurance programs of AAMC and DH under the parent as Luminis Health, Inc is being requested. The IC-1 Report for 2023 required that the payroll be reported in the total of the two hospitals through the parent where payroll is managed and reported. The information was reviewed and discussed. After a motion by Commissioner Martin and second of Commissioner Forrester, the motion was approved with a unanimous vote.

Stacey Roig, Director of Insurance, Compliance & Reporting reported that the Yellow Transportation surety holder had approved release and payment of the security and payment is expected by the following week. Commissioner Forrester discussed the management of the funds.

**Open Session: At 9:46 a.m., upon a motion from Commissioner Kittleman and second from Commissioner Martin and upon unanimous vote, the Commission re-opened the meeting.**

**Chair's Report:** Chairwoman Quinn reminded the Commissioners that Open Enrollment for health benefits begins October 16<sup>th</sup> and continues until November 9<sup>th</sup>. Chair Quinn also discussed the MWCEA conference, which was a great success. The new format of the Breakfast with the Commissioners was much better without a planned topic and the open forum for questions and answers. It also allowed the Commissioners to enjoy breakfast with attendees and not up on stage, which everyone enjoyed. Chair Quinn discussed the Budget Advisory meeting, which is today (October 12<sup>th</sup>) with Heather Krauss still chairing the committee and several new appointees to the committee. The Medical Data discussion with NCCI is scheduled for next week.

**Old Business:** No Report

**New Business:** Commissioner Martin announced that Kids Chance MD raised \$10,000 from the "sign-up board" at the MWCEA. A bowling event will take place in College Park, MD on November 8, 2023. There are many attorneys from the College Park area who came to the event in Timonium and Kids'

Chance would like to make the event convenient for as many as possible. Commissioner Martin asked the Commissioners to bring the flyers about the event to the hearing sites to make them available in all locations.

Commissioner Kittleman discussed the Medical Fee Guide Committee meeting on October 26<sup>th</sup> at 12:00PM. This will be an “in-person only” meeting. The meeting will focus on a discussion of a Prescription Fee Guide for everyone and not to stop doctors from dispensing.

Commissioner Evans discussed the small dockets that all the Commissioners are seeing. Mary Ahearn will discuss with IT and the EM Team to see what may be causing the smaller dockets.

**Medical Alerts:** Dr. Reichmister discussed several medical alerts of interest to the Commissioners, including new studies regarding the use of medical cannabis, as well as recreational use of cannabis.

**Adjournment:** Upon a motion by Commissioner Forrester and second by Commissioner Martin and upon a unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 10:14 a.m.

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Maureen Quinn, Chairwoman

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Stacey L. Roig, Secretary