

Maryland Workers' Compensation Commission
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, October 27, 2022

Call to Order: Chairman, R. Karl Aumann called the meeting to order at 9:37 a.m.

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

Staff members attending were Mary Ahearn, Steven Jones, Scott Curtis, Dr. Jerome Reichmister and Stacey L. Roig, Secretary.

Approval of Minutes: The Minutes of the October 13, 2022 Commission meeting were reviewed. Upon motion of Commissioner Metz and second of Commissioner Quinn, the Minutes were approved with a unanimous vote.

Closed Session: At 9:33 a.m., upon motion of Commissioner Parker-Warren 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 Commissioner entered into a closed session for the purpose of discussing self-insured employers' financial information.

ICR Report: Steven Jones, Director of the Insurance, Compliance and Reporting Division, reported on the need for an increase in security deposit for FedEx Ground Package Systems, Inc. After discussion and motion by Commissioner Quinn and second of Commissioner Evans, and with a unanimous vote, the motion was approved.

Open Session: At 9:37 a.m., upon a motion from Commissioner Forrester and second from Commissioner Quinn and upon unanimous vote, the Commission re-opened the meeting.

Chair's Report: Chairman Aumann discussed several election questions on the ballot this year. One question would change the names of the appellate courts in Maryland. The Chairman discussed the prescription drug payment dockets that he hears regularly. The hearings are structured differently and with the Chairman's retirement, Commissioner Forrester will be taking these dockets. The Chairman expressed the need for consistency in the hearings. The Chairman discussed the upcoming SAWCA conference in November.

Old Business: Principal Counsel Scott Curtis and Commissioner Howard Metz presented and discussed proposed changes to attorney fee calculation in the Regulations. After discussion, Commissioner Forrester made a motion to approve the proposed regulation changes subject to non-substantive corrections for style and consistency. Commissioner Evans seconded the motion, and, after unanimous vote, the motion was approved. Commissioner Metz will plan to meet with the Commissioner Assistants to discuss the changes and new calculations.

New Business: Commissioner Martin asked about "Medical Provider" information being a required field in CompHub. Mary Ahearn explained that this is not a required field because it is not currently mandated data that we are required to collect.

Commissioner Parker-Warren discussed a case that she had with the Cherokee Nation as the subcontractor of a large construction company. The Cherokee Nation was claiming sovereign nation status but, they carried workers' compensation insurance, so she kept the insurer in the case.

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

Adjournment: Upon a motion by Commissioner Forrester and second by Commissioner Parker-Warren and upon unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 10:41 a.m.

R. Karl Aumann, Chairman

Stacey L. Roig, Secretary