

Workers' Compensation Board

Meeting Minutes

February 23, 2023

Thursday, February 23, 2023

I. Call to Order

Workers' Compensation Director Charles Collins called the Board to order at 9:03 am on Thursday, February 23, 2023. The meeting was held in Anchorage, Alaska, and by video conference.

II. Roll call

Director Collins conducted a roll call. The following Board members were present:

Matthew Barth	Randy Beltz	Pamela Cline	Micheal Dennis
Bronson Frye	Anthony Ladd	Sarah Lefebvre	Nancy Shaw
Marc Stemp	Robert Weel	Lake Williams	

Director Collins noted that Members Bradley Austin and Sara Faulkner were excused. A quorum was established. Director Collins introduced the senior staff present.

III. Agenda Approval

A motion to approve the agenda was made by member Stemp and seconded by member Weel. A unanimous vote approved the agenda.

IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes

A motion to adopt the minutes from the October 13-14, 2022 Board Meeting was made by member Beltz and seconded by member Frye. The minutes were adopted without objection.

V. Director's Report

Director Collins discussed active legislation, new board members and upcoming board member term expirations, provided an update of Division staffing and presented the 2022 Oregon Workers' Compensation Premium Rate Ranking.

Director Collins reviewed the list of Board Designees and noted a mistake in the meeting packet that Grace Morfield was listed as a Board Designee although she had left State employment. A motion to accept the board designees as amended was made by member Frye seconded by member Beltz. The motion passed unanimously.

Break 10:00am-10:15am

VI. Public Comment Period 10:15 am- 11:15 am

Jackie Doerner – representing rehabilitation specialists

- Commented on rehabilitation regulation proposals.

Barbara Williams – Barb Williams Consulting

- Commended the Board and Director Collins on recent staffing, form and regulation updates, and improved ADA responses.

VII. WCRI Presentation

Vennela Thumula and Sebastian Negrusa with the Workers’ Compensation Research Institute gave a presentation on behavioral health care.

Lunch Break 12:16 pm - 1:30 pm

VIII. Old Business

Amend 8 AAC 45.025, 040(j)(4), 050(b)(4), and 072, relating to forms, parties, pleadings and venue. Member Stemp moved to approve the amendments and member Frye seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

IX. Reemployment Benefits Update

Reemployment Benefits Administrator Stacy Niwa provided an update of the Rehabilitation Specialist Stakeholder Meetings.

X. New Business

No new business was discussed.

Director Collins reminded the Board members that the next regular board meeting is May 18-19, 2023.

Motion to adjourn was made by member Cline and seconded by member Stemp. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned 2:09 pm