

**Maryland Workers' Compensation Commission**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, January 9, 2020**

**Call to Order:** Acting Chairperson Maureen Quinn called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m.

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

Staff members attending were Jerome Reichmister, M.D, Scott Curtis, Assistant Attorney General, Mary Ahearn, Chief Executive Officer, Steven Jones, Director of Insurance, Compliance & Reporting, Amy Lackington and Stacey L. Roig, Secretary.

**Approval of Minutes:** The Minutes of the December 19, 2019 Commission meeting were reviewed and, upon motion of Commissioner Metz and second of Commissioner Forrester, the Minutes were approved with a unanimous vote.

**Chairman's Report:** Acting Chairperson Quinn reported that the Chairman is attending a SAWCA meeting. She also reported that the 2020 General Assembly is now in session in Annapolis.

**Closed Session: At 9:34 a.m., upon motion of Commissioner Parker-Warren 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 a closed session for the purpose of discussing self-insured employers' financial information.**

**IC & R Report:** Steven Jones reported on behalf of the Insurance, Compliance and Reporting Division that Montgomery General Hospital requires an increase in security deposit. The matter was discussed, and upon motion of Commissioner Parker-Warren seconded by Commissioner Evans, the increase in security deposit was approved.

At a previous meeting, Mr. Jones reported that Coca Cola Refreshments USA, Inc. requested a decrease in security deposit. The matter was further discussed along with the status of claims filed with the Commission and, upon motion of Commissioner Forrester seconded by Commissioner Parker-Warren, the decrease in security deposit was denied.

**The meeting was reopened at 9:47 a.m., upon motion of Commissioner Evans and second of Commissioner Martin and upon unanimous vote.**

**Old Business:** Assistant Attorney General, H. Scott Curtis presented COMAR 14.09.13.07 – Individual Employer Self-Insurer – Excess Insurance for final approval. After a brief discussion and a motion by Commissioner Forrester and a second by Commissioner Martin, COMAR 14.09.13.07 was approved.

**New Business:** Commissioner Kittleman discussed a Circuit Court decision regarding an attorney fee for a lump sum advance. Scott Curtis will look into the matter  
The Commissioners discussed attorneys refusing to represent claimants where the claim has become a medical only claim.

Mary Ahearn discussed programming for the new system regarding the latest date that Issues can be filed before a hearing. The Commissioners agreed that it is not a problem if the issues are filed right up to the hearing date. The Commissioners preferred the discretion to decide on all the issues at the hearing.

The Commissioners also discussed disfigurement cases where the disfigurement is below the shoulders on a woman or below the waist on a man.

Commissioner Parker-Warren requested that the Commissioners be watchful of their language because some of the Assistants have expressed their discomfort with foul language.

**Medical Alerts:** Dr. Reichmister discussed several medical alerts of interest to the Commissioners and led a detailed discussion of the knee and common knee injuries.

**Adjournment:** Upon a motion by Commissioner Forrester and second by Commissioner Evans and upon unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 10:47 a.m.

---

Maureen Quinn, Acting Chairperson

---

Stacey L. Roig, Secretary