

Maryland Workers' Compensation Commission
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, June 9, 2022

Call to Order: Acting Chair Quinn called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Present: Acting Chair Maureen Quinn and Commissioners Kathleen Evans, James Forrester, Allan Kittleman, Morrisann Martin, Ju Oh and with Delia Schadt and Tracey Parker-Warren participating by telephone.

Staff members attending were Mary Ahearn, Steven Jones, Scott Curtis, Jerome Reichmister, M.D., Amy Lackington by telephone and Stacey Roig, Secretary.

Approval of Minutes: The Minutes of the May 26, 2022 Commission meeting were reviewed and upon motion of Commissioner Evans and second of Commissioner Kittleman, the Minutes were approved with a unanimous vote.

Closed Session: At 9:31 a.m., upon motion of Commissioner Kittleman and second of Commissioner Martin 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 sole purpose of discussing self-insured employers' financial information.

ICR Report: Steven Jones, Director of the Insurance, Compliance and Reporting Division, presented the application by Frederick County to enter the self-insurance program. After a brief discussion and questions from the Commissioners, Acting Chair Maureen Quinn motioned to table the discussion for a brief period during the meeting to allow Mr. Jones to gather some additional information for the Commissioners. **Commissioner Evans then made a motion to open the meeting to continue with the agenda. Commissioner Martin seconded that motion and upon a unanimous vote, the meeting reopened at 9:40am.**

Acting Chair Report: Acting Chair Quinn reported that COVID struck the Commission with more than one Commissioner at the same time. Commissioner Quinn thanked Amy Lackington for all of her hard work to move dockets and she thanked all the Commissioners who pitched in and took extra cases and, in some cases, extra dockets to avoid cancelling dockets. Commissioner Quinn also discussed the 25th Anniversary Gala for Kids Chance on July 23, 2022 and asked those planning to attend to confirm as soon as possible so that we have the right number of tables reserved for the event. Commissioner Quinn will be joining a panel discussion for MidAtlantic BONES, a professional development association for orthopedic practice executives in MD, PA and DE. The panel discussion is scheduled for August 25, 2022 in Annapolis as part of the annual meeting of the association.

Commissioner Quinn presented the proposed program for the MWCEA Convention in September. Commissioner assignments were finalized with Commissioner Forrester joining the SIF panel on September 20th. Mary Ahearn will confirm with the Program Chair that all Commissioner assignments are accepted.

Old Business: No Report

New Business: Commissioner Forrester praised the professionalism of one of the Spanish interpreters who was assigned to the Beltsville hearing site on June 8, 2022. Stacey Roig provided an update on the Paint and Carpet project, which has been postponed until September when carpet will be delivered. Principal Counsel, Scott Curtis discussed a recent US Supreme Court decision where the Court ruled that

Medicaid can seek reimbursement from settlement funds regardless of how the settlement is structured. Commissioner Forrester discussed independent contractors vs. employees in the Amazon Flex program.

Closed Session: At 10:12 a.m., upon motion of Commissioner Forrester and second of Commissioner Evans 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 re-entered a closed session for the sole purpose of discussing self-insured employers' financial information.

The ICR Report continued with additional information provided by Commissioner Forrester. After further discussion, Commissioner Martin made a motion to admit Frederick County into the self-insurance program under terms discussed in the meeting. Commissioner Forrester seconded the motion, and with a unanimous vote, the motion carried.

The meeting was reopened at 10:13 a.m., upon motion of Commissioner Martin and second of Commissioner Forrester and after unanimous vote.

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

Adjournment: Upon a motion by Commissioner Forrester and second by Commissioner Evans and upon unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 10:18 a.m.

Maureen Quinn, Acting Chairman

Stacey L. Roig, Secretary