ILLINOIS SELF-INSURERS ADVISORY BOARD
ILLINOIS WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
July 1, 2025
Chicago, IL 11:00 am

Board Attendees:
Chicago office: Chairman Michael Brennan, Shuaib Ahmed, Michael Castro, Gina Koenig,
Webex: David Taylor

Staff Attendees:
Chicago office: Michele Kowalski, Ron Rascia, Annette Roti, Maria Sarli-Dehlin, Wendy Wiley
Webex: Wendy Keithley, Kevin Leach, Kristopher Tharp

Public Attendees: none

Chairman Brennan called the meeting to order at 11:04 am. A quorum was present. A previously prepared and posted agenda was distributed; a copy of which is attached.

I. Minutes
Upon motion by Michael Castro and seconded by Gina Koenig, the minutes of the Board meeting held on 4/11/2025 were unanimously approved as presented.

II. Chairman's Report
Chairman Brennan announced there was no legislation in the General Assembly and no increase to the operation fund surcharge. He stated there were sufficient assets thru FY2026. The Chairman also reported twelve arbitrators up for reappointment were interviewed by the Workers' Compensation Advisory Board. Further, for the vacant Commissioner position, a recommendation was sent to the Governor. He further reported Arbitrator Magda Derisma-Oyewole was appointed to the Springfield docket and Arbitrator Lee will be assisting arbitrators in Zone 1. The Chairman added that CompFile can track timeliness of decisions and for the past 14 weeks all arbitration decisions were submitted on time.

III. Manager's Report
A. Security Fund Forecast 3/31/2025
Maria Sarli-Dehlin presented the Security Fund forecast as of 3/31/2025, including a 12-month projection for operating expenses and claim benefit payments that indicated a positive fund balance.

B. FY2026 Budget / Security Fund Summary 3/31/2025
Maria Sarli-Dehlin presented the proposed FY2026 budget for the Self-Insurers Security Fund. Prior to the Board meeting, she discussed the proposed budgets with the Commission's CFO Paul Fichtner.

Upon motion by Michael Castro, seconded by Gina Koenig, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the FY2026 budget for the Security Fund in the amount of $994,161.

Maria Sarli-Dehlin presented the Security Fund Summary report that included the number of self-insured companies, expenditures, revenue, and fund balances for past fiscal years. As of FY2025's 3rd quarter, 66% of the operation's budget was spent.

IV. New Business
None

At 11:20 am, upon motion by Shuaib Ahmed, seconded by Michael Castro and unanimously carried, the Board convened in closed session.

At 11:45 am, after discussion in closed session, and upon motion by Shuaib Ahmed, seconded by Michael Castro and unanimously carried, the Board reconvened in open session.

A verbatim audio-video recording of the closed meeting was made within the Webex application and will be maintained by the Commission.

IX. Public Comment
None

X. Vote

1. Claim Administration Fees
The Board unanimously agreed to the deduction of the fees as proposed.

There being no further business, upon motion by Shuaib Ahmed, seconded by Michael Castro, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 11:47 am.