

**MINUTES OF THE ILLINOIS WORKERS' COMPENSATION
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
HELD ON MARCH 11, 2024 at 11:00 AM**

Board Members Present via Webex:

Mark Denzler
Tim Drea
Karen Harris
Mitchell Horwitz
Jill Kastner
Denne Knell
Louise Medina
Mark Prince
Sean Stott

Not Present:

Aaron Anderson
Robert Karr

IWCC Members Present in Person:

Michael J. Brennan, Chairman
Ronald Rascia, General Counsel
Annette Roti, Chief of Staff
Michele Kowalski, Secretary of the Commission
Whitney Martin, Research and Education Manager
Cole Garret, Deputy Legal Counsel (Via WebEx)

On Monday, March 11, 2024 at 11:00 AM, Chairman Michael J. Brennan called the Workers' Compensation Commission Advisory Board meeting to order. Michele Kowalski took roll and verified that a quorum was present.

Upon Motion by Mr. Drea, seconded by Mr. Denzler, the minutes of the December 11, 2023 were unanimously approved as presented.

As to Old Business, Chairman Brennan updated the Board on the Yellow Freight matter stating that the claims continue to be paid, now through the TPA Helmsman.

Next, the Chairman stated that the Medical Fee Advisory Board is still investigating a reimbursement rate for Shirley Ryan Ability Lab, no final numbers have been set. Also, the Medical Fee Advisory Board has sought and received comments regarding the fee schedule for ASC. Commissioner Carolyn Doherty will organize the subcommittee and hold a public meeting about the issue soon.

Discussion ensued regarding the Shirley Ryan Ability Lab and how its reimbursement rates compares to hospital reimbursement rates and other rehabilitation centers.

As to New Business, Chairman Brennan confirmed that Raychel Wesley has now been appointed a Commissioner by the Governor.

As to further new business, Chairman Brennan stated that he was just made aware that there is a \$1.7 million shortfall in the IWCC FY 24 operations budget. Also, the Rate Adjustment Fund is projected to have a shortfall in FY26. Chairman Brennan will need to ask for raises for both. He will be in contact with everyone, and draft legislation to address the shortfalls.

Board Member Denne Knell announced that members of the College of Worker Compensation Lawyers will be in Chicago this weekend for a CLE and an event inducting Chairman Brennan to the organization.

Chairman Brennan asked the members if members of the public had any comments. There was a question about whether funds were being swept from the operation funds, which Chairman Brennan answered were not happening.

Having no further business to discuss, Mr. Drea moved to Adjourn the meeting, Mr. Denzler seconded the Motion and the Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11:32 AM.