

**MINUTES OF THE ILLINOIS WORKERS' COMPENSATION
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
HELD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2024 at 11:00 AM
69 W WASHINGTON, 9TH FLOOR, CHICAGO**

Board Members Present via Webex:

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

Not Present:

Aaron Anderson
Robert Karr
Jill Kastner
Mark Prince

IWCC Members Present in Person:

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

On Monday, September 9, 2024 at 11:03 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.

Several meeting minutes were approved:

Upon Motion by Mr. Horwitz, seconded by Mr. Drea, the minutes of the June 3, 2024 Board Meeting were unanimously approved as presented. Upon Motion by Mr. Denzler, seconded by Mr. Drea, the minutes of the July 9, 2024 Board Meeting were unanimously approved as presented. Upon Motion by Mr. Drea, seconded by Ms. Medina, the minutes of the July 16, 2024 Board Meeting were unanimously approved as presented. Upon Motion by Mr. Horwitz, seconded by Mr. Drea, the minutes of the August 9, 2024 Board Meeting were unanimously approved as presented.

As to Old Business, Chairman Brennan stated that the proposal for a rate increase for the Shirley Ryan Ability Lab would be presented later today at the Medical Fee Advisory Board Meeting, and later for a full commission vote. Mr. Denzler inquired if this affected only one lab, and Chairman Brennan explained that other labs did not ask for a rate increase because it appears they are under hospital management systems and using hospital rates.

Chairman Brennan further stated that the Medical Fee Subcommittee studying ASC rates would present their recommendation to modify the Frequently Asked Questions, thus giving additional guidance to the parties. Mr.

Denzler inquired whether this would solve the problem and Chairman Brennan stated that this was a first best step to solving the issue.

Next, Chairman Brennan stated that Dan Swanson, a newly appointed arbitrator started today, and Luana Montoya will start September 16th. Arbitrator Friedman has retired, and he wished him well. Chairman Brennan stated that they are awaiting a third appointment, if any.

Next, Chairman Brennan relayed that the short-term funding increase will carry through to the end of the year and he will have more information about this after the first quarter.

Next, Chairman Brennan stated that the office is on track for a small increase in the number of worker compensation claims and settlement contracts this year.

Finally, Chairman Brennan stated that he was invited to speak at an IL Workers' Compensation program by Gallagher Bassett --- and conveyed that the company is making great efforts in settling and closing files.

With no New Business or further business to discuss, and no comment from a member of the public at the meeting, Mr. Stott moved to Adjourn the Meeting, Mr. Horwitz seconded the Motion and the Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11:16 AM.