

**MINUTES OF THE ILLINOIS WORKERS' COMPENSATION
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
HELD ON MARCH 17, 2025 at 11:00 AM
69 W WASHINGTON, 9TH FLOOR, CHICAGO and VIA WEBEX**

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
Whitney Martin, Research and Education Manager (Via WebEx)
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, March 17, 2025, at 11:01 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. Stott, seconded by Mr. Prince, the minutes of the December 9, 2024 Board Meeting were unanimously approved as presented.

As to Old Business, Chairman Brennan congratulated Commissioners Doherty, Harris, Mathis, Simpson, and Wesley on their reappointments. Chairman Brennan also stated that the list of 19 (p) Arbitrators discussed at the last meeting has been posted on the IWCC website.

As to New Business, Chairman Brennan relayed that the Senate budget meeting last week went well, and the Commission's budget is essentially flat. Next Wednesday is the House budget meeting. Chairman Brennan stated that of the 35,000 cases at the Commission last year, almost all were resolved expeditiously indicating there is no backlog. There were 28,000 contracts approved last year.

Chairman Brennan stated that he has no complaints about access to pretrials or trials, and this statement was echoed by the attorneys on the Board.

Chairman Brennan also stated that he held a meeting with the new board members of WCLA, and there were no complaints except by clerks regarding the change in call sheet format. The IWCC has hosted trainings to address this issue.

With no New Business or further business to discuss, and no members of the public at the meeting, Mr. Knell moved to Adjourn the Meeting, Mr. Drea seconded the Motion and the Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11:10 AM.