

MINUTES OF THE ILLINOIS WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSION
BOARD MEETING HELD ON MARCH 17, 2025 at 10AM
69 W WASHINGTON, 9th FLOOR, CHICAGO, IL 60602

Board Members Present In Person

Chairman Michael J. Brennan
Commissioner Kathryn Doerries
Commissioner Carolyn Doherty
Commissioner Christopher Harris
Commissioner Stephen Mathis (via WebEx)
Commissioner Marc Parker (via WebEx)
Commissioner Maria Portela
Commissioner Amylee Simonovich
Commissioner Deborah Simpson
Commissioner Raychel Wesley

IWCC Staff Present In Person

Ron Rascia, General Counsel
Annette Roti, Chief of Staff
Michele Kowalski, Secretary of the Commission
Whitney Martin, Manager Research and Education (via Webex)
Kris Tharp, Confidential Assistant to the Chairman (via Webex)

On March 17, 2025, at 10:01 AM, Chairman Michael J. Brennan called the Workers' Compensation Commission Meeting to order. Michele Kowalski took roll and verified a quorum was present. Upon Motion by Commissioner Simpson and seconded by Commissioner Doherty, the Minutes of the Board Meeting held on December 16, 2024 were unanimously approved as presented.

As to Old Business, Chairman Brennan congratulated Commissioners Doherty, Harris, Mathis, Simpson Wesley on their reappointments and relayed that Senator Murphy appreciated their preparedness and organization in the process.

As to New Business, 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.

Further, Chairman Brennan relayed that the budget hearing in the Senate Committee went well, and the Commission's budget is essentially flat. The IWCC is asking for a one percent increase, and is not filling nonessential positions such as the two vacant AA positions. The House budget hearing is scheduled for next Wednesday.

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.

Discussion ensued about the beneficial trainings by IICLE and the upcoming Workers' Compensation College.

There being no members of the public on the call who wished to comment, Commissioner Portela Motioned to Adjourn, Commissioner Doerries seconded the Motion, and the Motion was approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 10:46 AM.