

**MINUTES OF THE ILLINOIS WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSION  
WORKERS' COMPENSATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

**JAMES R. THOMPSON CENTER, 100 WEST RANDOLPH ST., ROOM 8-275 CHICAGO, IL**

**HELD ON March 4, 2021 at 9:30AM**

**Present at the meeting:**

Chairman Michael J. Brennan

**Present by Webex:**

Mitchell Horwitz  
Mark Denzler  
Jill Kastner

Tim Drea  
David Weaver

Aaron Anderson  
Rob Karr  
Charles Denne Knell

**IWCC staff present at the meeting:**

Ronald A. Rascia, General Counsel  
Cole D. Garrett, Deputy General Counsel (by Webex)  
Annette Roti, Confidential Secretary to the Chairman (by Webex)  
Michele Kowalski, Research and Education Manager (by Webex)  
Cecelia Kasmierski, Associate General Counsel (by Webex)

On March 4, 2021 at 9:31AM, Chairman Michael J. Brennan called the meeting to order and verified a quorum was present. Chairman Brennan advised that at previous meetings, the Board had interviewed and discussed candidates for possible term renewals or open Commissioner positions in closed session pursuant to Sections 2(c)(1) and (3) of the Open Meetings Act. Chairman Brennan asked for a spokesperson from each of the Board's representative groups to communicate the groups' recommendations. Consistent with past practice, practicing attorney members of the Board were afforded an opportunity to vote "present." Board member Jill Kastner voted "present" and did not take part in making any recommendation.

Tim Drea spoke on behalf of the Labor/Employee members. The Labor/Employee members recommended Barbara Flores and Carolyn Doherty for Public member; Thomas Tyrrell for Employee/Labor member; and Steven Mathis and Christopher Harris for Employer member.

Mark Denzler spoke on behalf of the Employer Members. The Employer members recommended Deborah Baker or Molly Mason for appointment to fill the unexpired term of Douglas McCarthy; Deborah Simpson and L. Elizabeth Coppoletti for Employer member; Steven Mathis and Barbara Flores for Public member; and R. Mark Cosimini for Employer member or Public member.

On behalf of the Employer members, Mr. Denzler voiced his dissatisfaction with the departure from past practice in terms of the process by which Commissioner candidates were being vetted and recommended by the Board. Mr. Denzler further requested that the Governor be advised that, in the past, the Labor/Employee and Employer caucuses would make only recommendations as to their own constituencies, only, and seek consensus as to the Public members. The Employer members expressed concern that the Labor members sought to nominate candidates for Employer vacancies.

Chairman Brennan then indicated that the Commission would prepare a letter communicating the Board's recommendations and comments to Governor Pritzker. Having no further business to discuss, Chairman Brennan asked for a motion to adjourn. At 9:46AM, the motion to adjourn carried unanimously.