

**MINUTES OF THE ILLINOIS WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSION  
WORKERS' COMPENSATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING  
HELD VIA WEBEX ON DECEMBER 13, 2021 at 11:00AM**

**Present via WebEx:**

Chairman Michael J. Brennan  
Mark Denzler  
Tim Drea  
Karen Harris  
Mitchell Horwitz  
Jill Kastner  
Denne Knell  
Mark Prince  
Sean Stott  
David Weaver

**Not Present:**

Mark Prince  
Aaron Anderson

**IWCC staff present:**

Ronald Rascia, General Counsel  
Annette Roti, Confidential Assistant to the Chairman  
Michele Kowalski, Secretary of the Commission  
Whitney Martin, Research and Education Manager

On December 13, 2021 at 11:02AM, Chairman Michael J. Brennan called the meeting to order and after roll call verified a quorum was present. Chairman Brennan asked for a motion to approve minutes from the September 13, 2021 Board Meeting. Mr. Drea so moved, Mr. Denzler seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

As to old business, the Chairman announced some Commission statistics. Chairman Brennan stated that since the pandemic began until September 2021, there have been approximately 1,200 final decisions in arbitration cases. In October there were 121 cases and November an additional 95 cases. Since May there have been 355 cases on Review. And in 2021, there were 33,850 new cases filed. These numbers show that the Commission business continues to move forward and is on pace to exceed the number of cases filed from last year.

Mr. Knell commented that the Workers' Compensation Lawyers Association continues to work with the Commission and that the system is working.

Mr. Denzler inquired about Covid decision numbers and the Chairman stated there were two final decisions rendered, and that he would ask for additional information from the IT department.

As for new business, the Chairman announced that a small working group has been formed to address needed rule changes. The Chairman emphasized that these modifications were technical in nature and would not have significant impact on the Commission.

Chairman Brennan next opened the meeting to public comment. Without any public comment and having no further business to discuss, Chairman Brennan asked for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Drea so moved. Mr. Weaver seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11:19 AM.