

Council on Worker's Compensation
Meeting Minutes – Virtual Meeting (WebEx)
201 E. Washington Avenue
GEF-1 Building
Madison, Wisconsin
November 17, 2021

The Department of Workforce Development (DWD) provided public notice of the meeting under Wis. Stat. § 19.84.

Members present by telephone or by video: Ms. Bloomingdale, Mr. Buchen, Ms. Frank, Mr. Fugina, Mr. Kent, Ms. Johnson, Mr. Large, Mr. Peters (Chairperson), Mr. Schwanda, Mr. Streff, Mr. Tindall and Ms. Ver Velde

Excused: Mr. Nettum and Ms. Quigley Knackert

Staff Present: Mr. Brockman, Ms. Brown, Mr. Dipko, Ms. Lake, Mr. Moreth, Ms. McCormick, Mr. O'Malley, Ms. Przybylo and Ms. Weinberger

1. **Call to Order/Introductions:** Mr. Peters convened the Worker's Compensation Advisory Council (WCAC) meeting at approximately 2:00 p.m. in accordance with Wisconsin's open meetings law and called roll of the WCAC members.
2. **Approval of the Minutes:** A motion was made by Ms. Bloomingdale to approve the minutes of the November 11, 2021 meeting. Mr. Buchen seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved without correction.
3. **Correspondence:** Mr. O'Malley stated that no correspondence had been received since the last WCAC meeting.
4. **Motion to Caucus:** A motion was made by Ms. Bloomingdale to go into a closed session under s. 19.85 (1) (eg), Wis. Stats., to deliberate items on the agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Buchen. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Peters announced the closed session, statutory authority and the nature of business to be considered. The members went into closed session at approximately 2:20 p.m. The members reconvened in open session at 5:40 p.m.
5. **Labor & Management Proposals:** Ms. Bloomingdale and Mr. Buchen announced that an agreement had been reached for an Agreed Upon Bill. A motion was made by Mr. Tindall to adopt the following proposals as part of the Agreed Upon Bill:
 - In recognition of the fact that the permanent partial disability (PPD) benefit rate has not increased since 2017, the WCAC proposed an increase in the PPD rate in 2022 to \$415 per week. In 2023, the rate would increase to \$430 per week.
 - A change to s. 102.11, Wis. Stats., to address the manner in which the average weekly wage is calculated for part time employees. This proposal is in recognition that some part time employees have their wages expanded to full time rates, even though their intention is to be a part time employee. The proposal offers a more streamlined and fair process for calculating the average

weekly wage. The proposed changes allow for wage expansion in some circumstances.

- Adoption of the DWD proposals as set forth at prior WCAC meetings.

Ms. Bloomingdale seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Bloomingdale thanked all members of the WCAC for working through the traditional process of producing an Agreed Upon Bill and noted that the worker's compensation system is a good place for employees and a fair place for employers.

6. Other Business of the Council: None

- 7. Adjournment:** Mr. Kent moved to adjourn the meeting for the day. The motion was seconded by Mr. Tindall. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:00 p.m.