

## **MINUTES FROM WC COUNCIL MEETING MAY 13, 2016:**

Recorded by Rosa Bava, in the absence of Secretary Tim Esper

ATTENDEES: Ella Parker, Rosa Bava, John Combs, Jeffrey Kirschner, Matt Conklin, Andrea Hamm, Chris Westgate, Phil Frame, George Wyatt, Danielle Brown

### **Minutes**

The secretary report was entered on a Motion by Matt Conklin. Second was Jeffrey Kirschner. By unanimous vote by all present this was accepted.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer's Report indicated that we had \$87,908.41 as of date of meeting. Phil Frame moved to have this entered with second from John Combs. Unanimous vote by all present to accept.

### **Director Mark Long**

Mr. Long was not present. The council was asked to solicit any topics for June meeting. Jeffrey Kirschner indicated that he would like Evidence Based Medicine and the need for it to be discussed. Rosa Bava requested Mr. Long or Magistrate Klaeren to discuss how the new computer system will impact us as a practice.

### **George Wyatt**

Commissioner Wyatt stated that there are 112 WC Appeals pending. There are 1150 Unemployment appeals pending. The new Commissioner is David DeGraw. He will be a full time WC commissioner at least to begin with.

Mr. Wyatt will not be attending the June meeting and Danielle Brown will represent the Appellate Commission. Mr. Wyatt indicated as a response to Chris Westgate that 7 decisions were rendered this year from January to April 2016. There was a question as to how long is the average appeal decided. Mr. Wyatt explained how the panel works. He explained it is too hard to determine an average. Phil Framed indicated one of his appeals took 26.7 months. It was noted that hearing fraud regarding unemployment benefits seems to be the number one reason for taking the time on WC appeals.

### **Chief Magistrate Klaeren**

Mag. Klaeren was not there. Topics the council would like addressed:

- Uniformity with hearings. Some magistrates take 45 minutes to one hour for redemption. This was expressed by Andrea Hamm.
- New current rules regarding pretrials and scheduling conferences. Magistrates handle the requirements very differently. This was expressed by Jeffrey Kirschner.

### **Legislative Update**

No one gave any updates.

### **Summer Meeting**

Ella Parker and Chris Rabideau have details. Room rates are going up if you have not booked.

Speakers are:

- Steve Boringer to discuss No Fault and WC
- Mike Reinholm for update on law
- Danielle Brown
- Mark Long
- Lisa Klaren

All will get two drink tickets. There will be a breakfast buffet on Friday morning 7 to 11 AM. Cocktail is Thursday 5:30 to 7PM. Dinner 7:30 PM. Tips are included.

Section Council meeting is at 4PM Thursday.

Tee Time is finalized 3 days before.

Chris Westgate had motion to have council fund a cocktail/dinner on Friday. This was seconded by Andrea Hamm. This was tabled after further discussions with resort to see what there is available.

### **Hall of Fame**

This will occur Friday night.

### **Past Year Chairperson Golf Outing**

Chris Westgate graciously covered the bill for the Outing. By electronic vote, on motion from

### **Nominating Committee for 2016-2017**

The following is the council:

Ella Parker-chair

Time Esper-Vice Chair

Dennis Flynn-Secretary

Andrea Hamm-Treasurer

Motion made by Chris Westgate and seconded by Andrea Hamm to accept. Passed by unanimous vote.

Further discussion from George Wyatt to persuade legislature to get a 9<sup>th</sup> commissioner.

Ella Parker and Andrea Hamm are attending the Bar Association Leadership Conference.

### **Motion to Adjourn**

By Phil Frame. Seconded by Andrea Hamm. Passed unanimously.

**ROSA BAVA**

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