

MINUTES OF 9/16/16 WC COUNCIL MEETING

Ella Parker called the meeting to order at 9:00. Attendees included Ella, Rick Lovernick, George Wyatt, Mark Long, Matt Conklin, Jayson Chizick, Danielle Brown, John Combs; by phone: Jeff Kirchner, Phil Frame, Lisa Klaeren. Upon motion by Conklin, seconded by Chizick, the minutes of the June WC Council meeting and Annual membership meeting were adopted unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Andrea Hamm was not present. Her submitted report showing a balance of \$78,365.49. Discussion was held about decreasing membership, good stewardship, and trying to get more WC practitioners to join. The report was adopted unanimously (Chizick motion, Conklin second).

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mark Long reported that pure premiums were down again. He projects ~2% drop in cases pending for 2016. The First Responders fund has been funded at \$3 million. No coverage for medical marijuana. On redemption reviews, don't order transcripts until a hearing date is set—many cases are resolved informally. He hopes to have a new computer system up and running by year end.

CHIEF MAGISTRATE'S REPORT

Lisa Klaeren reported there were 69 decisions issued in '15. In '16, YTD is 43. Average 21 days to decision. She wants to reduce the average time to redemption from its current 19 months from initial pretrial. If all parties are present at initial pretrial, she uses it as scheduling date; if not she sets a scheduling date within 4 weeks. Her view is that CD's are for the parties. She is seeking consistency among all magistrates on scheduling orders.

MCAC REPORT

George Wyatt reported that with Dave DeGraw now onboard, they have 3 panels exclusively working on WC appeals. The volume of UIA appeals continues to be high, with Federal funding rules requiring giving them a priority.

WINTER/SUMMER MEETINGS

Winter meeting is Dec 9 at Crown Plaza West, 925 Creyts Rd; Summer meeting is at Mackinac Island June 22-23, with co-organizers Rick Lovernick and John Combs.

PAST PRESIDENTS GOLF OUTING

Due to lack of participants, discussion was held about dropping the golf, but continuing a luncheon or dinner event. Tim Esper is to handle it, with assistance from Chris Westgate.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Nothing new per Combs/Chizick. A Senate bill in response to the 6th Circuit Max Trucking case re: trucking/courier employers was introduced, It would treat workers as employees unless strict criteria are satisfied.

KID'S CHANCE

A decision on approving our 2016 contribution was deferred until the November meeting. A motion to adjourn was made by Combs, second by Lovernick, unanimously approved.

Tim Esper

Acting Secretary (in the absence of Dennis Flynn)

10/29/16