

**MINUTES OF THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION SECTION  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
January 9, 2015**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Keith Semple called the Executive Committee (EC) to order at 12:06 p.m. at the offices of the Oregon State Bar.

EC Committee members attending or absent were:

<b>Exec Board Member</b>	<b>Present in Person</b>	<b>Present by Phone</b>	<b>Absent</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Bohy, Ronald		X		
Caldwell, Katherine	X			
Chen, Bin	X			
Conratt, Linda	X			
DiCicco, Alana	X			
Frost, Christine		X		
Harrell, Tom	X			
Jacobson, Jacqueline	X			
Lesh, Allison			X	
Ogawa, Jenny	X			
Olney, Kathryn	X			
Oswald, John	X			
Parks, Carol			X	
Schoenfeld, Steve				
Semple, Keith	X			
Smitke, Ray	X			
Wren, Geoffrey			X	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	

**II. MINUTES**

A motion passed to approve the EC Minutes of 12/12/14 meeting

**III. CHAIR REPORT**

Chair Semple welcomed new members ALJ Ray Smitke, Linda Conratt, and Alana DiCicco. Chair Semple also expressed his thanks to former Chair Jackie Jacobson for her leadership.

Since 2011, there has been a reduction of panelists participating in the LRS from 90 to 41. This information may be useful regarding the LRS fee issue.

Motion to approve the contract “as is” with Appaloosa Business Services for the redesign and maintenance of the section’s website was passed. Chair Semple will contact Amber Hollister, who does contracts for OSB, for approval of the contract.

Chair Semple reported that the 2015 Initial Section Report for the OSB will indicate that the section will conduct two CLEs, (Salishan and Bench Bar Forum), and will explore avenues to increase membership and access to justice. The EC 2015 meeting schedule is: 1/9, 2//13, 3/13, 4/10, 5/8, 6/12, 7/10, 8/14, 9/11, 10/9, 11/13, and 12/11.

#### **IV. TREASURER REPORT**

Treasurer Bohy reported there were no updated expenses. The ending balance is about \$21,000. OSB is doing the final accounting. The Bar Finance Committee is in the process of approving our budget.

Treasurer Bohy provided copies of the reimbursement policy and of the reimbursement report. Reimbursement requests have to be in by the end of the month. Send reimbursement requests to Ron. Vendor invoices should be sent directly to the Bar.

#### **V. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

##### **A. Salishan**

No report

##### **B. Professionalism Award**

Jackie reported that nominations went out this week. Nominations are due on 2/13/15.

##### **C. Access to Justice**

ALJ Keith Kekauoha will serve as chair.

For the February BOG meeting regarding the LRS referral fee, Aron Yarmo presented the following proposal from the Access to Justice Subcommittee:

1. Complete exemption; or
2. (a) Establish a threshold amount under which no referral fee would be owing to the LRS; recommended \$5000 fee threshold. The threshold would apply to each separate fee earned. (b) Reduce the 12% referral fee to 10%. (c) Establish a 2-year time limit on referral fees. This would limit the payment of referral fees to those fees awarded and/or collected within the first 2 years

after the referral is made by the LRS. (d) Allow dollar for dollar reduction for unreimbursed costs.

Motion passed to adopt the second proposal and that Chair Keith Semple and ALJ Geoff Wren serve as presenters to BOG. Motion passed to add Kate Caldwell, as defense representative, also as a presenter.

#### **D. Bench/Bar**

Kevin Barrett remains the chair. Tom Harrell is liaison.

Motion passed to adopt the 10/23/15 date for the Bench Bar Forum, if there is no conflict with the WCB CLE.

#### **E. Going Forward**

Steve reported there is a lunch at the Multnomah Courthouse on 3/14/15 for new lawyers

#### **F. Legislative and Rules**

Keith reported that no subcommittee meeting has been scheduled yet.

There is an upcoming road show regarding the WCB portal.

#### **G. New Technologies/Communications**

Chair Semple will coordinate reinstating the prior schedule regarding submitting articles for the section newsletter.

#### **H. Nominations**

No report

#### **VI. OLD BUSINESS**

Chair Semple will obtain from the Bar the list of members to see who has discontinued their membership.

#### **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

None

#### **VIII. ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING**

The EC meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

The next meeting will be at 12:00 p.m. on February 13, 2015 at the offices of the Oregon State Bar.