

**MINUTES OF THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION SECTION  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
SEPTEMBER 11, 2015**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Keith Semple called the Executive Committee (EC) to order at 12:10 p.m.

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		X		
Semple, Keith	X			
Smitke, Ray	X			
Wren, Geoffrey		X		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>		

Tom Kranovich, past chair of OSB, thanked us for our services. He informed us that the OSB Board made a policy decision to: (1) offer more on-line CLEs, because the market has changed and because of other CLE competition; and (2) charge more for certain CLEs. The primary reasons for the policy decision were that the CLE Department runs in the red; and weighing keeping cost down by subsidizing CLEs vs. CLEs making money.

Dani Edwards, OSB staff member, explained how this policy decision will affect our section. Changes take effect the beginning of 2017. If a CLE is 3 hours or less, we would be required to use the OSB CLE Seminars Dept.'s registration services (which we already do). If a CLE is >3 credit hours, then a co-sponsorship model is used—OSB CLE Seminars Dept. assists in contract negotiations for facility, insurance, registration, compiling of CLE materials, registration check-in at event, price structure different

(which will be subject to change when new computer system in)—rather than the current per person rate. The new model will be based on attendance. For example: subtract expenses (costs for location, catering, printing costs, and brochures) and then a percentage split of overall profit. Advantages include members able to use credit cards; 24/7 registration; linked with central OSB calendar to prevent conflicts with other CLEs; CLE Dept. already has established relationships with facilities. We are welcome to provide feedback to Dani or to Suzanne. We, thus, suggested changing threshold to 4 CLE credit hours.

OSB is also changing Section websites. OSB wants a unified look and unified accessibility. Its goal is to have all Section websites transition to the OSB format by July 2016. OSB would host the Section website. OSB will not charge for transition to its platform; will not charge for hosting; and will not charge to train a person to maintain the website; but it will charge \$40 to update the website. We would still have the option to have an outside person update the website. OSB has an Accessibility Coordinator, who can provide assistance in meeting accommodation requirements. Regarding our member directory, OSB sees liability issues if attorney information is not accurate on our website. The BOG had concerns that the directory would be available for public use, (*i.e.*, replace or compete with LRS). Thus, it is unknown whether we can add additional fields, such as any specialty or claimant/defense designation, if that information would be available to the public.

Other concerns OSB is looking at:

- (1) Whether it will continue to subsidize membership cost if there is a large fund balance.
- (2) Whether smaller Sections should transfer to a forum or other format, or combine with another Section. There are 42 Sections, which is more than a lot of other states.

## **II. MINUTES**

A motion passed to approve the EC Minutes of the 7/10/15 meeting.

## **III. Chair Report**

Chair Semple reported that our website OSBWC.org/temp is up. The website committee is still working on content. The goal is to have the website up and running by the Bench/Bar Forum.

Chair Semple commented that, given OSB's website requirements, it looks doubtful that we can make our website member directory available to the public. ALJ Jacobson indicated she had spoken to Board Chair Somers and PALJ Dougherty, and they indicated the Board would welcome a member directory, but probably would not favor having ALJs print out such a directory and provide it to unrepresented claimants..

## **IV. Treasurer Report**

Ron Bohy reported that, as of Aug 31, 2015, the balance is \$26,138. Major expenses are the website and Bench/Bar Forum. He is hoping to have the proposed budget by the Bench/Bar Forum, to have it approved. We have net revenue of \$2,939. Total section membership is 338.

## **V. Committee Reports**

### **A. Salishan**

No report

### **B. Professionalism Award**

ALJ Jacobsen stated that the announcement for nominations is due in October.

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

Bin reported they are still working on the translation project. Dale Johnson, Access to Justice member, wants to create subcommittees within Access to Justice to brainstorm more projects.

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

Tom reported the agenda is finalized. Brochures have gone out.

### **E. Going Forward**

Steve reported they are meeting on Sept. 16.

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

Chair Semple reported that a September 15 meeting is scheduled to discuss whether further WCB member appointments should be attorneys, and to discuss whether to eliminate the box on the 827 Form for new/omitted medical condition claims.

Chair Semple also advised that the advisory meetings have been held regarding the WCD OAR 436-60 rules. Information is available on the WCD website

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

Chair Semple reported difficulties coming up with content for the Section newsletter. He is looking for proposals on ways to come up with content. We discussed whether to put content on the Section website rather than doing a separate newsletter. Keith will follow-up with Rob Guerrasi regarding the content for this year's final newsletter.

#### **H. Nominations**

No report

#### **VI. Old Business**

None

#### **VII. New Business**

None

#### **VIII. Adjournment and Next Meeting**

The Executive Committee Meeting adjourned at approximately 1:35 p.m.

The next meeting will be on Friday, October 23, 2015 prior to the Bench/Bar Forum at the Salem Convention Center.