

MINUTES OF THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION SECTION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OF:

FEBRUARY 19, 2010

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Matthew M. Fisher called the Executive Committee (EC) meeting to order at 12:15 p.m. at the Oregon State Bar offices in Tigard, Oregon.

Present in person were: Matthew Fisher (Chair), Chuck Mundorff (Chair-Elect), Dale Johnson (Secretary), and Members-at-Large Rob Guarrasi, Dennis VavRosky, Ron Bohy, Steve Schoenfeld, and OSB liaison Suzanne Cushing. Karen Lee, Manager of OSB Seminars Department, attended as a guest presenter.

Present by telephone were: Julie Masters (Treasurer), and Members-at-Large Jim Edmunson, Kate Donnelly, Nick Sencer, Keith Semple and Jennifer Roumell.

Absent were: Matt Roy (Past-Chair), and Members-at-Large Adam Stamper, Norm Cole, Jackie Jacobson, and BOG liaison Derek Johnson.

II. MINUTES

A motion was made to approve the Minutes of January 15, 2010. The motion was seconded and passed.

III. CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Fisher reminded the committee that the rest of the meetings for this year are scheduled for the second Friday of the month. In addition, a Nominating Committee report will be added to the agenda at future meetings. The initial Workers' Compensation Section report has been completed and is available from Chair Fisher. A section CLE report is due on April 15, 2010 and a date for the Bench/Bar Forum will be needed to complete the report. Donnelly will notify Fisher of that date. Fisher appointed Guarrasi as the New Technologies committee chair and liaison. Art Stevens will continue as a consultant to the committee. Fisher will appoint a new chair for the Going Forward committee and Sencer will serve as liaison. Johnson, Bill Replogle and Bob Yanity are working on a policy for section obituaries.

IV. TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Masters reported. The final fund balance was \$14,116, as of December 31, 2009. This figure was greater than the projected balance for 2009, and represented only a \$544.00 decrease from 2008. The Section membership stands at 377 which includes 20 complimentary memberships.

V. SPECIAL PRESENTATION: OSB Seminars Department

Karen Lee, Manager of the OSB Seminars Department made a presentation. She invited the Section to co-sponsor an OSB MCLE event this year. The last time the Section had co-sponsored a Basics in Workers' Compensation event was in 2004. The Section would be responsible for speaker selection and the content of the seminar. The Bar would provide the location, food, publication of materials, and promotion of the event. The Section would need to designate a contact person.

A motion was made, seconded and passed that the Workers' Compensation Section will co-sponsor an MCLE event on the fundamentals of Workers' Compensation with OSB, with one member of the Going Forward committee as the contact person with the OSB Seminars Department.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Salishan

Jacobson was absent, but informed the EC prior to the meeting that the Salishan Conference committee was moving ahead with its plans for the May conference and that its chair, Sally Curey, had everything under control.

B. Daughtry Award

Roy was absent, but informed Fisher that the committee met to select a recommended award recipient. EC members tabled discussions for the March EC meeting to review the nomination documentation provided to the Daughtry Award committee.

C. Communication

Masters reported. It was suggested that section members should be informed through the section listserv to contact the members of the Nominating Committee if section members are interested in serving on the EC or on section standing committees.

D. Legislative / Rules

Roumell reported. The committee co-chairs for 2010 will be Chris Moore and Thad Hettle. Bob Webber has resigned from the committee. The committee is looking for another claimant's attorney to fill the vacancy. Karli Olson will temporarily replace Linh Vu.

E. Access to Justice

Johnson reported. The committee met on February 8, 2010. The committee has been in contact with WCD, the Ombudsman's office and MLAC with regard to hearings on rules for medical services interpreters. The rule-making hearings are expected soon. The committee will try to send committee members to provide input. Miranda Plummer has resigned from the committee. The committee is balanced at this time and will not look to replace Plummer.

F. Bench / Bar Forum

Donnelly reported. Jill Riechers will remain on the committee. Other members serving with Donnelly will be Scott McNutt, Jr., Charisse Dickson, Tom Harrell, and Roger Cassol. The committee is working on a final date for the Forum.

G. Nominating Committee

Fisher will contact Riechers to start the process. Other members are Phil Garrow and Dean Lederer.

H. New Technologies

Guarrasi reported. The committee members are Holly Somers, Masters, and Ray Smitke. The committee met during the second week of February and is working on a mission statement. Guarrasi will make a paperless presentation to the EC at an upcoming meeting this year. Guarrasi has been in touch with WCB to determine what postage costs could be saved with email notification.

I. Going Forward

Fisher reported. The committee liaison will be Sencer. The committee members are Betsy Wosko, Rodger Hepburn, Julene Quinn, Guarrasi, and Jacobson.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

Recognition for EC members upon leaving the EC was raised by Roy at the January, 2010 EC meeting and was tabled until Roy is present.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

Fisher indicated that the only new business was the co-sponsorship with OSB of a MCLE program this year. (See discussion above).

The Executive Committee Meeting was adjourned by Chair Fisher at 1:38 p.m.

The time and place for the third meeting of 2010 will be Friday, March 12, 2010, at noon, at the Oregon State Bar offices.