

MINUTES OF THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION SECTION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OF:

MARCH 12, 2010

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Matthew M. Fisher called the Executive Committee (EC) meeting to order at 12:22 p.m. at the Oregon State Bar offices in Tigard, Oregon.

Present in person were: Matthew Fisher (Chair), Chuck Mundorff (Chair-Elect), Matthew Roy (Past-Chair), Dale Johnson (Secretary), Julie Masters (Treasurer), and Members-at-Large Rob Guarrasi, Ron Bohy, Norm Cole, Kate Donnelly, and Nick Sencer and OSB liaison Suzanne Cushing.

Present by telephone were: Members-at-Large Jim Edmunson, Keith Semple and Jackie Jacobson.

Absent were: Members-at-Large Dennis VavRosky, Adam Stamper, Jennifer Roumell and Steve Schoenfeld.

**II. MINUTES**

A motion was made to approve the Minutes of February 19, 2010. The motion was seconded and then passed.

**III. CHAIR'S REPORT**

Chair Fisher reported that he had spoken with Dean Lederer and that the Going Forward Committee presently has no chairperson. Nick Sencer is the EC's liaison. Sencer will call a meeting of the committee and ask for a volunteer to chair the committee. EC member Jacobson who serves on Going Forward will follow-up with Lederer to reconstruct the committee's objectives. The committee will work with OSB MCLE [Karen Lee (*See*, Minutes of 2-19-2010)] and will name a committee contact person.

Fisher announced that April 1, 2010 is the deadline for submission of suggested law changes. These would go through Roumell, as liaison for the Legislative/Rules

committee. April 13, 2010 is the Oregon State Bar meeting for the sponsorship of legislation.

#### **IV. TREASURER'S REPORT**

Treasurer Masters reported. The fund balance for January, 2010 did not reflect much change from December, 2009. There was a credit of approximately \$600 from OSB.

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

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

Jacobson reported. Everything is moving forward as planned. A registration brochure has not been printed, but will be soon.

##### **B. Communications**

Masters reported. No new information.

##### **C. Legislative / Rules**

Roumell submitted her report prior to the meeting. The committee welcomed new members Allison Lesh and Randy Elmer.

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

Donnelly reported. No new information.

##### **E. Access to Justice**

Johnson reported. The committee did not meet in March. WCD rulemaking for Division 009 and 010 was postponed to April. The committee is monitoring those changes that include rules governing the use of and payment for interpreters at medical examinations. The committee will meet on April 12, 2010.

##### **F. Going Forward**

As noted above, the committee is in the process of restructuring.

##### **G. New Technologies**

Guarrasi reported. Claim Disposition Agreement (CDA) approval is now available online. The Board is seeking input from the Section on whether to make hearing transcripts available online, as part of a pilot project. *See*, the Board's February News and Notes. A representative of the WCB reported to Guarrasi that annual postage expenses are \$43,855.

Guarrasi discussed with the EC the prospect of adding another claimant's attorney to the committee. Current members are Masters (SAIF), Ray Smitke (Liberty) and ALJ Somers. EC approved that request by consensus.

Guarrasi will meet with SAIF Legal Services Director, Nancy Marque, to discuss the indexing of medical billings and medical reports as part of electronic discovery, as some personal injury insurers have done.

New Technologies committee will report by November, 2010 with regard to recommendations and resources.

Guarrasi will make a presentation at a future EC meeting on how easy it is to move to a paperless system.

#### **H. Nominating Committee**

Discussion was led by Fisher with regard to openings on the EC next year. He will contact the Nominating Committee prior to presenting the slate to EC for approval prior to the Annual Meeting at Salishan on May 14, 2010.

#### **I. Daughtry Award**

Roy reported. Roy presented and explained the Daughtry Award committee's recommendations. Discussion followed. Secret ballot voting took place. Fisher announced that former ALJ Donna Garaventa was selected to receive the 2010 Daughtry Award. Jacobson will arrange for the traditional plaque.

### **VI. OLD BUSINESS**

New Technologies presentation was postponed for a future meeting.

### **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

The Executive Committee meeting was adjourned by Chair Fisher at 1:40 p.m.

The time and place for the fourth meeting of 2010 will be Friday, April 9, 2010, at noon, at the Oregon State Bar offices in Tigard, Oregon.