

**MINUTES OF THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION SECTION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
October 21, 2016**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Tom Harrell called the Executive Committee (EC) to order at 10:36 a.m.

Committee members attending or absent were:

Exec Board Member	Present in Person	Present by Phone	Absent	Comments
Bohy, Ronald	x			
Caldwell, Katherine	x			
Chen, Bin			x	
Conratt, Linda	x			
DiCicco, Alana			x	
DiBartolomeo, Joe			x	
Frost, Christine	x			
Garrow, Phil	x			
Harrell, Tom	x			
Lesh, Allison			x	
Ogawa, Jenny	x			
Olney, Kathryn			x	
Oswald, John	x			
Schoenfeld, Steve			x	
Semple, Keith	x			
Smith, Bruce			x	
Wren, Geoffrey			x	
TOTAL				

II. MINUTES

A motion passed to approve the EC Minutes of the September 9, 2016 meeting.

III. Chair Report

Tom Harrell reported that SAIF has been looking at the issue of interpretation services. As of November 1, 2016, SAIF will provide interpretation services. Moreover, SAIF will support the interpretation of documents submitted for hearings that are not in English and SAIF will agree to bear the cost of interpretation of documents for the initial submission of documents.

SAIF has been out to visit the 3 law schools in Oregon. Lewis & Clark invited the Going Forward committee to visit next year.

The next regularly scheduled EC meeting falls on Veterans Day (Nov. 11). Therefore, the EC meeting has been moved to Monday, November 14th at noon at the offices of the Bar. The EC will be voting on its budget at the November meeting.

IV. Treasurer Report

Ron Bohy reported that as of September 30, 2016, the workers' compensation section had a balance of \$25,272. He proposes no increase for Bench/Bar fees next year. The Bar has been looking at reserves held by sections. The workers' compensation section of the Bar seems to have reserves in line with Bar expectations.

V. Committee Reports

A. Salishan

No report.

B. Professionalism Award

Open nominations start in October and run through the deadline in February, 2017.

C. Access to Justice

Access to Justice is seeking the EC's approval of language it drafted for a legislative proposal. The proposal requires a one-page notice in Spanish, Russian, Vietnamese and Chinese be attached to documents sent to injured workers which includes a brief paragraph advising the worker of the importance of the document and where to turn for assistance. Access to Justice learned that the Employment Department only has documents translated into Spanish, Russian and Vietnamese.

The EC needs to vote on the language drafted for the legislative proposal so it can be sent to the Public Affairs Committee. The EC moved to adopt the language drafted for the legislative proposal and send it to Public Affairs. The motion was seconded and passed.

D. Bench/Bar

No report.

E. Going Forward

The committee will be sent information for the Lewis & Clark law crawl. The University of Oregon is planning to have its class for workers' compensation held every other year instead of every year. Willamette University offers a workers' compensation class.

F. Legislative and Rules

No report.

G. New Technologies/Communications

No report.

H. Nominations

No report.

VI. Old Business

None.

VII. New Business

A question was brought up whether the section should contact Holly Somers regarding the new WCB website and inquire about the status of any "fixes" that are in the works to make the website more user friendly and efficient. A number of section members have expressed trouble with legal research not functioning well on the new WCB website, as well as other problems using the new website. It was agreed the EC should reach out to Holly Somers to try to get an update so section members can be informed of any progress to improve the WCB website.

VIII. Adjournment and Next Meeting

The Executive Committee Meeting adjourned at approximately 11:01 a.m.

The next meeting will be at 12:00 p.m. on Monday, November 14, 2016 at the offices of the Oregon State Bar.