

**MINUTES OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION SECTION**  
**Annual Section Business Meeting**  
**May 11, 2018**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Executive Committee Chair John Oswald called the annual Section meeting to order at 12:35 p.m.

**II. CHAIR REPORT**

Chair Oswald gave a brief report concerning Section activities during the past year, summarizing activities of the subcommittees, including Access to Justice, Bench-Bar Forum, Going Forward, and Legislative & Rules. Oswald urged Section members to volunteer to serve on committees, and invited them to contact him or subcommittee chairs with their questions.

The slate of nominees for the 2019 Executive Committee positions was read. Nominated as officers (Terms ending December 31, 2019) were: Chair, Katherine M. Caldwell; Chair Elect, Bruce D. Smith; Treasurer, Linda Conratt; Secretary, Jovanna Patrick; and Past Chair, John Oswald.

Nominated as new Members-at-Large (Terms ending December 31, 2020) were: Heather Holt, Vincci W. Lam, Mark Mills.

Nominated as continuing Members-at-Large (Terms ending December 31, 2020) were: Philip Harry Garrow, and Jenny Ogawa.

A motion to approve the slate of EC candidates was made and seconded, and passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Chair Oswald presented immediate Past Chair Jenny Ogawa with a plaque in appreciation of her service.

### **III. TREASURER REPORT**

Treasurer Linda Conratt presented her report on the Section's finances for the 12-month period ending December 31, 2017. (See attached, Ex. A.)

Treasurer Conratt reported that 2017 operating expenses had exceeded revenues; and indicated that the EC is looking into ways to avoid having to tap into reserves to meet future operating expenses.

### **IV. PRESENTATION OF THE PROFESSIONALISM AWARD**

Barbara Woodford was awarded the Professionalism Award for 2018, which was presented by Ray Smitke and Kathryn Olney.

### **V. BOARD CHAIR REPORT**

Board Chair Connie Wold gave a report summarizing Board activity during the past year.

Chair Wold reported that an advisory committee will be meeting to discuss two rule concepts proposed by the Access to Justice Committee: one concerning translation of non-English documents presented at hearings; and the other concerning an important document notice which would accompany certain documents mailed to injured workers, alerting them of time limitations.

Chair Wold indicated that the Board is undertaking its biennial review of attorney fees as required by ORS 656.388(4) and (5).

Chair Wold reported that the Board is working on developing recorded phone messages in multiple languages to serve injured workers who are not able to read printed documents.

Chair Wold reported statistics regarding requests for hearing and total hearing sets for 2012-2107, noting that in 2017 both requests for hearing and hearing sets were slightly down from 2016. She also reported that during the past year in the ALJ corps has experienced a modest degree of retirement-related attrition.

Chair Wold reported statistics on hearing sets per location, noting that in 2017 half of the hearings statewide had been set for hearing at the Portland Hearings Division. She noted that in 2017 97 percent of opinion and orders were timely.

Chair Wold reported statistics on mediations for 2012-2107, noting that in 2017 a total of 315 mediations were completed, with an 89 percent settlement rate. She noted that requests for board review have continued on a five-year decline, dropping from 492 in 2012 to 311 in 2017.

Chair Wold reported that the Board will soon be adding a new Portal function, which will allow practitioners to file requests for extension of briefing deadlines. She showed a pie chart illustrating that 52 percent of the Portal activity for 2017 involved submission of settlements; 38 percent involved requests for hearing; 7 percent dealt with filing of appearance and response to issues; and the remaining 3 percent involved requests for Board review.

Finally, Chair Wold reported briefly concerning the new unstaffed Hearings Division facility in Ontario.

The Annual Meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

**OREGON STATE BAR**  
**Workers' Compensation - 830**  
**Statement of Revenue and Expense**  
**For the Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2017**

Description	December 2017	YTD 2017	Budget 2017	% of Budget	December Prior Year	YTD Prior Year
<b>REVENUES</b>						
Annual Event		\$29,917	\$30,500	98.1%		\$30,456
Membership		8,200	8,275	99.1%		8,300
Sponsorship		1,850	1,850	100.0%		1,850
Registrations -		145	100	145.4%		112
<b>Total</b>		<b>40,112</b>	<b>40,725</b>	<b>98.5%</b>		<b>40,718</b>

**EXPENSES**

Annual		27,674	32,000	86.5%		28,758
Committee -	82	778	1,300	59.8%		256
Computer -			200	0.0%		146
Conferences /		8,193	7,000	117.0%	1,450	7,995
Contributions		200	150	133.3%		
Contributions -		500	500	100.0%		500
Contributions -		500	500	100.0%		500
Gifts &		241	200	120.4%		161
Telephone -	80	416	420	99.2%	75	506
OSB Support		2,728	2,720	100.3%		2,760
<b>Total</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>41,230</b>	<b>44,990</b>	<b>91.6%</b>	<b>1,525</b>	<b>41,582</b>

<b>Net</b>	<b>(162)</b>	<b>(1,118)</b>	<b>(4,265)</b>		<b>(1,525)</b>	<b>(864)</b>
<b>Beginning</b>		<b>17,986</b>				
<b>Ending Fund</b>		<b>16,868</b>				

<b>Section</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>332</b>
<b>Section</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Section</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>349</b>

**EXHIBIT** A