

**MINUTES OF THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION SECTION  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
March 16, 2018**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair John Oswald called the Executive Committee (EC) to order at 12:08 PM.

EC 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>
John Oswald (Chair)	X			
Kate Caldwell (Chair-Elect)	X			
Jenny Ogawa (Past Chair)	X			
Linda Conratt (Treasurer)	X			
Bruce Smith (Secretary)			X	
Bin Chen		X		
Phil Garrow	X			
Keith Semple		X		
Geoffrey Wren		X		
Joe DiBartolomeo		X		
Martin Fisher			X	
Christine Coffelt Frost		X		
Colin Rockey Hackett			X	

John Klor	X			
Allison Lesh		X		
Jovanna Patrick	X			
Carrie Wipplinger	X			
Colin George Andries (BOG)			X	
Christine Ford (Bar Liaison)	X			
TOTAL	9	6	4	

## II. MINUTES

The February minutes were approved.

## III. CHAIR REPORT

### Section website

Chair John Oswald reported that the section website was temporarily corrupted, but the issue has now been fixed.

### EC members for 2019

Members up for renewal who which to continue on the committee are: John Oswald, Katherine Caldwell, Jenny Ogawa and Linda Conratt. New nominees to replace departing members are: Vincci Lam, ALJ Mark Mills and Heather Holt. Officers for next year are: Katherine Caldwell (chair), Bruce Smith (chair-elect), Linda Conratt (treasurer) and John Oswald (past chair). The committee voted to approve the entire slate of officers, renewals and new members.

### OSB swearing in ceremony

The spring swearing in ceremony takes place on May 17<sup>th</sup> in Salem. There will be an informative postcard about the workers' compensation section available for new

admittees, as in past years. Christine Ford will confirm that the postcard is updated with current section information.

#### **IV. TREASURER REPORT**

Treasurer Linda Conratt provided the monthly reports for January and February 2018.

The section balance as of the end of February 2018 was \$22,071. The section is at 319 members.

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

##### **A. Professionalism Award**

The award committee received nominations and, after review, made a recommendation to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee voted on the nominees and Barb Woodford was named as this year's recipient, receiving 14 Aye votes and 0 Nay votes.

Chair Oswald will let Barb know about the award and ask who she would like to introduce her.

Linda Conratt will find out from Ron Bohy where the plaque gets ordered from and will order one for Barb and one to recognize Past Chair Jenny Ogawa.

##### **B. Access to Justice**

Bin Chen reported that the two rule concepts AtJ has been working on for some time – translation of forms and notices and translation of written evidence – are currently in committee. AtJ members will participate in those meetings to answer questions and assist with continuing to move those issues forward.

A representative from the AtJ committee plans to speak at the next Bench Bar Forum to discuss the Bar's Modest Means program and encourage more claimants' attorneys to participate. Currently only about 2-4 attorneys are regularly using it.

Bin also announced that the AtJ committee is currently in search of two additional defense members to balance its ratios. The committee also continues to work on issues regarding access to vocational treatment. The next meeting is scheduled for 3/26.

##### **C. Salishan**

Geoff Wren confirmed with Sally Currey that there is a room available for the EC meeting at 10:30am on Friday morning, May 11<sup>th</sup>.

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

Allison reported that there were no updates, but that by April the BBF committee would likely have a date for the CLE and likely topics.

#### **E. Going Forward**

John Oswald reported that the next meeting is scheduled for April. The Going Forward committee will likely set up another joint social with the Young Lawyers Division in the spring or summer. They will likely also reach out to ALJ Pardington, who teaches the WC class at Lewis and Clark, and Larry Schucht, who teaches the WC at Willamette, to see about making any presentations. John Klor reported that he was recently a guest speaker at the Lewis and Clark class. Jovanna Patrick will reach out to the Employment Section regarding the upcoming WC CLE she is organizing on 4/25/18 in Portland.

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

No report

#### **VI. OLD BUSINESS**

John Klor reported that the Ethics Committee had no further questions regarding the issue raised last month.

#### **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

The committee discussed whether it would be appropriate to present an award to Roger Pearson at Salishan to mark his years of service before he retires. Chair Oswald will discuss this with Sally Curey.

#### **VIII. ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING**

The EC meeting adjourned at 1:06 pm.

The next meeting will be at noon on 4/13/18 at the OSB offices.