

**MINUTES OF THE WORKERS'
COMPENSATION SECTION EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE
February 10, 2023**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Frost called the meeting to order at 12:01 pm. Attendance was taken and introductions were made as follows:

Member	Present	Absent
Christine Coffelt Frost (Chair)	X	
Martin M Fisher (Chair-Elect)		X
Andrea K Knight (Treasurer)	X	
Ian T Brown (Secretary)	X	
Spencer S Aldrich (Member)		X
Nicholas D Cordes (Member)	X	
Trisha Loitz Fleischman (Member)	X	
Heidi M Havercroft (Member)	X	
Elyse M Lopez (Member)	X	
Martie L McQuain (Member)	X	
Craig Thomas Miller (Member)	X	
Karli L Olson (Member)	X	
Jovanna Patrick (Member)	X	
Christo J de Villiers (Member)	X	
John C Young (Member)	X	
Tria Vang (Bar Liaison)		X
Logan Stewart (substitute Bar Liaison)	X	

II. MINUTES

January 13, 2023, minutes were approved unanimously.

III. CHAIR REPORT

- Possible Legislation

The legislative and rules committee was disbanded. The Bar forwarded information about potential legislation. Three bills of note:

- HB 3150 Removes limits on duration of medical service and number of visits and certain areas of practice for chiropractic physicians serving as attending physicians in workers' compensation claims.
- SB 213 Updates reporting requirements for worker leasing companies providing workers' compensation coverage to client employers.
- SB 418 Requires subject employers to adopt policy allowing subject workers paid time off during shift to receive medical services related to worker's compensable injury or occupational disease.

IV. TREASURER REPORT (Andrea Knight)

The January 2023 financial statement was e-mailed to the EC. There were no surprises. Notable events were section membership fee revenue (\$5,375), and expenditures for OSB Support Service Assessment (\$2,147, paid based on membership) and Zoom. Membership is down from last year (currently at 215 paying members and 226 total members), with a corresponding decrease in member fees.

Discussion continued from the previous meeting regarding increasing section membership fees to address the expected deficit of roughly \$5,000. The earlier description of the deficit as \$16.17 per member was a quick estimate that assumed a larger membership, so the actual number is higher. Our section dues have been \$25 for a few years. Several other sections are at \$30, and two (Business Law and Debtor-Creditor) are at \$35. Even raising our dues to \$35 would not solve the deficit, but could give us time so we're not deer caught in the headlights of the oncoming train.

Discussion began regarding whether Bench-Bar should charge or remain free. Karli noted that Salishan used to be free too. Craig suggested looking to three sources, Bench-Bar, Salishan, and dues, for additional revenue. Chris agreed, but noted Bench-Bar might be more controversial because of its history.

Jovanna posed whether an online-only Bench-Bar might save money, given low attendance numbers. Nick cautioned against forecasting attendance based on 2020-22. Andrea noted that there might be higher costs to hosting Bench-Bar virtually. Craig favors the social component even if there is a cost. Karli suggested charging and adding perks to encourage in-person attendance.

There was no representative of the Bench-Bar committee present. Chris intends to reach out to Bench-Bar committee regarding whether they would consider charging registration or asking about it in a survey.

Discussion began regarding whether the EC could raise dues or needed a section vote. Logan confirmed that the EC can raise fees, subject to BOG approval. The increase would be effective for 2024, so it will not help in 2023. Karli moved to increase dues by \$10, seconded by Christo. The motion passed unanimously.

Andrea noted that our budget will need to be submitted earlier this year because dues are changing, October 15. Logan will help alert the BOG so they can approve it. Salishan will have an announcement to alert everyone to the financial situation.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Access to Justice (Jovanna)

Sydney Montanaro will be taking over as chair. Committee needs more people. If anyone knows anyone who might be interested, let Jovanna know.

In December, the EC had voted to ask the Bar's permission to ask WCD to form an advisory committee to study access to doctors and MCOs. The Bar had raised questions regarding *Keller v. State of California*, 499 US 1 (1990), which were discussed at the January EC meeting. The Access to Justice committee then discussed the Bar's *Keller* memo and concluded that the request for an advisory committee is within the mission of the Bar and consistent with *Keller*.

Chris will try to get the question well-framed to move forward at the March meeting.

B. Bench-Bar Forum

N/A.

F. Going Forward

N/A

C. Professionalism Award (Jovanna)

Survey going out, open until March 7. The committee will meet on March 8 or 9 and may recommend one recipient or may present multiple recommendations. We need a quorum at the next EC meeting.

D. Salishan/Annual Meeting (Karli)

The tentative agenda was e-mailed to the EC. Some things might get changed but it's basically ready to go.

Karli will raise the survey issue with the committee.

E. Nominations (N/A)

Nominations has no chair and no liaison to EC.

Chris will update the list of subcommittee members.

VI. ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING

The EC meeting adjourned at 12:41 pm.

The next meeting will be noon on March 10.