

OKLAHOMA WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 15, 2023 2:00 P.M.

STATEMENT OF OKLAHOMA OPEN MEETING ACT COMPLIANCE

Notice of this Regular Business Meeting was filed with the Secretary of State's office in compliance with the Open Meeting Act.

The agenda was posted at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting, in compliance with the Open Meeting Act. It was posted on the Commission website and at 1915 N. Stiles Ave., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, the Commission's principal office.

MINUTES OF THE JUNE 15, 2023, REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING OF THE
OKLAHOMA WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSION

The members of the Oklahoma Workers' Compensation Commission met at 1915 N. Stiles Ave., in the En Banc Courtroom, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, on June 15, 2023.

Members present: Chairman Jordan Russell, Commissioner Tilly and Commissioner Scott Biggs.

Others Present: Tava Jones, WCC; Ian Steedman, WCC; Alexander Watkins, WCC; Lauren Hammonds Johnson, WCC; Sharon Smith, WCC; Collin Fowler, WCC; Andrea Delling, WCC; Ian Steedman, WCC; Christopher Lindsey-Outlaw, LegisOK; and Hunter Jones.

Chairman Russell expressed appreciation for those in attendance. After the roll was taken, Chairman Russell found a quorum present and called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

1. **Discussion and Possible Action to Approve Minutes**

The drafted minutes of the May 18, 2023, Regular Meeting of the Commission will be considered for approval.

Commissioner Biggs moved to approve the Minutes of the May 18, 2023 Regular Meeting. Commissioner Tilly seconded the motion. Those voting aye: Chairman Russell, Commissioner Tilly, and Commissioner Biggs.

The motion carried.

2. **Discussion and Possible Action to Approve the Consent Agenda for Travel Vouchers Currently Outstanding and Continuing Education Reimbursement for Compliance Investigator Esparza**

Title 85A O.S. § 23 states, [a]ny Commissioner or employee of the Commission shall be entitled to receive his or her necessary traveling expenses as provided in the State Travel Reimbursement Act. The expenses shall be certified by the person who incurred them and shall be allowed and paid on presentation of vouchers approved by the Commission.”

All travel vouchers listed within the Consent Agenda were made available to each Commissioner prior to the meeting.

Commissioner Tilly moved to approve the travel vouchers and continuing education reimbursement for Compliance Investigator Dana Esparza. Commissioner Biggs seconded the motion. Those voting aye: Chairman Russell, Commissioner Tilly, and Commissioner Biggs.

The motion carried.

3. **Discussion and Possible Action to Approve Independent Medical Examiners and Independent Case Managers**

Title 85A O.S. § 112 requires the Workers’ Compensation Commission to create, maintain, and review a list of licensed physicians who shall serve as independent medical examiners (“IME”). The Commission shall, to the best of its ability, include the most experienced and competent physicians in the specific fields of expertise utilized most often in the treatment of injured employees. The period of qualification for physicians shall be two (2) years. Likewise, for case managers, 85A O.S. § 113 requires a list of qualified case managers be developed, maintained and periodically reviewed by the Commission.

The Commission considered approving the list of physicians and case managers presented at the meeting that have been vetted by the Commission’s Operations Director and recommended for approval.

Ian Steedman was recognized, presented, and answered questions of the Commission.

Commissioner Biggs moved to approve the list of independent medical examiners and independent case managers. Commissioner Tilly seconded the motion. Those voting aye: Chairman Russell, Commissioner Tilly, and Commissioner Biggs.

The motion carried.

4. **Discussion and Possible Action to Approve Commission’s FY2024 Operating Budget**

The Commission discussed and considered approval of its FY2024 Operating Budget, as proposed.

Commissioner Biggs moved to approve the Commission's FY2024 Operating Budget. Commissioner Tilly seconded the motion. Those voting aye: Chairman Russell, Commissioner Tilly, and Commissioner Biggs.

The motion carried.

5. **Discussion and Possible Action to Approve the Bid Quotation and Requisition with Russell Interiors to Replace the Window Blinds in the Renovated Areas of Floors 1 and 2 in the Denver Davison Building.**

The Commission discussed and considered approving the proposed bid quotation and the corresponding requisition between the Commission and Russell Interiors for new manual window blinds throughout the newly renovated 1st and 2nd floors of the Denver Davison Building. The base bid quotation was \$28,180 plus a contingency of \$2800 for a bid total of \$30,980. The actual installation work and expenditure will be incurred in FY2024.

Commissioner Tilly moved to approve the bid quotation and requisition with Russell Interiors. Commissioner Biggs seconded the motion. Those voting aye: Chairman Russell, Commissioner Tilly, and Commissioner Biggs.

The motion carried.

6. **Discussion and Possible Approval of Commission's 2022 Annual Report**

Pursuant to 85A O.S. § 101(A), on or before the first day of July each year the Commission shall prepare, make public, and submit a report for the prior calendar year to the Governor, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and each member of the Legislature. The report shall contain a statement of the number of awards made and the causes of the accidents leading to the injuries for which the awards were made, total work load data of the administrative law judges, including a detailed report of the work load and judgments written by each judge, a detailed statement of the expenses of the Commission, together with any other matter which the Commission deems proper to report.

In addition, 85A O.S. § 25 directs the Commission to publish annually, on an aggregate basis, information pertaining to the distribution of workers' compensation insurance premiums, losses, expenses, and net income to be compiled from reports required to be filed with the Insurance Commissioner or any similar information required to be filed by the Insurance Commissioner regarding workers' compensation insurance. The Commission shall also publish in the annual report information regarding aggregate workers' compensation benefit distribution to claimants, medical providers, and attorneys, if available.

Commissioner Tilly moved to approve the Commission's 2022 Annual Report. Commissioner Biggs seconded the motion. Those voting aye: Chairman Russell, Commissioner Tilly, and Commissioner Biggs.

The motion carried.

7. **CaseOK Update and Discussion**

Ian Steedman was recognized, presented, and answered questions of the Commission.

No action was taken.

8. **Legislative Update and Discussion**

Commissioner Biggs presented and answered questions.

No action was taken.

9. **New Business**

“[A]ny matter not known about or which could not have been reasonably foreseen prior to the time of the posting.” 25 O.S. § 311.

There was no new business.

ADJOURNMENT.....Chairman Russell

Commissioner Tilly moved to adjourn. Commissioner Biggs seconded the motion. Those voting aye: Chairman Russell, Commissioner Tilly, and Commissioner Biggs.

The motion carried, and the meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.