

**Workers' Compensation Insurers' Task Force
November 5, 2008
Minutes**

Members present

Rob Rangel; Broadspire
Meg Kasting; SFM
Dave Clark for Dennis Ballinger, Western Nat'l
Mary Abraham, Westfield Ins.
Karen Clayton Ebert; MCIT
Gary Westman, MN Dept of Administration
Nancy Ross; City of Minneapolis
Cindy Van Eyll; General Casualty
Charlie Bierman, Mayo
Claire McCoy; GAB Robins
Jana Johnson for Ken Gildow; RTW

Members excused

Laurie Simonsen; Travelers
Jodie Connor; Wausau
Bob Johnson; Insurance Federation

Members absent

Bruce Baker; Liberty Mutual
Dave Oertli; Sedgwick
Robert Farber; BRAC

Staff members present

Penny Grev
Ralph Hapness
Steve Hernick
Julie Klejewski
Patricia Todd
Jana Williams

Visitors present

None

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m. by chairperson Gary Westman. Members and visitors introduced themselves. The agenda was accepted as presented.

4) Updates

Workers' Compensation Advisory Council workgroups

Assistant Commissioner Patricia Todd gave a status report on the workgroups that were established by the commissioner, as a result of last year's legislative initiatives, to continue working on major reform within the workers' compensation area. At this point, two of the groups do have some general recommendations, while the other two groups continue to meet. The workgroups will present their recommendations to the WCAC at its next meeting, scheduled for early December. For more detailed information on the workgroups, please visit our Web site at: www.dli.mn.gov/wcac.asp.

Treatment parameters

Currently the MSRB is continuing to work on rule updates dealing with medication treatment parameters. The goal is that those rules will be in place by April of next year. They are also working on some updates in regard to the PPD schedule, which are to codify previous court decisions to make sure they are actually current in the PPD rules.

Other changes are updating the fee schedule in a cost neutral manner.

A reminder that the treatment parameters are online and the layout has changed. The link to the treatment parameters is www.dli.mn.gov/WC/HealthCareProv.asp.

5) New business

2009 meeting dates

Westman reminded everyone of the 2009 WCITF meeting dates: March 18, May 20, Sept. 16, Nov. 4. He asked members to bring forth suggestions and agenda items they would be interested in discussing or having a presentation given by the department on a specific topic. Members can feel free to contact the co-chairs, Rob Rangel and Gary Westman, at any time.

Overview of the independent contractor exemption certificate (ICEC)

Steve Hernick, assistant director of the Construction Codes and Licensing Division, gave a presentation on the ICEC. Members had also received an actual application packet in their folders to review. For detailed information on the ICEC, including the fact sheet, brochure and PowerPoint presentation, please visit the following link: www.dli.mn.gov/CCLD/ICEC.asp.

6) Future agenda items

- March 18, 2009
 - Overview of the Workers' Compensation System Report, 2006 – available online at www.dli.mn.gov/RS/WcSystemReport.asp
- May 20, 2009
 - Overview of the Workplace Safety Report, 2006 – available online at www.dli.mn.gov/RS/WorkplaceSafety.asp
- Sept. 16, 2009
 - Industry implementation of the worker identification (WID) number

7) Reports/meeting schedule

The following schedule is available online:

- The WCITF meeting schedule, agenda and minutes are available online at www.dli.mn.gov/Boards.asp.

The meeting adjourned at 10:13 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Klejewski

Executive Secretary