

**Maryland Workers' Compensation Commission**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, February 8, 2024**

**Call to Order:** Chairwoman Maureen Quinn called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

**Present:** Chairwoman Quinn and Commissioners Kathleen Evans, James Forrester, Asha Joseph-Jefferson, Allan Kittleman, Morrisann Martin, Howard Metz, Ju Oh, Delia Schadt and Tracey Parker-Warren.

Staff members attending were Mary Ahearn, Scott Curtis, Amy Lackington, on the telephone, Dr. Jerome Reichmister and Stacey L. Roig, Secretary of the Commission.

**Approval of Minutes:** The Minutes of the Commission meeting on January 25, 2024, were reviewed by the Commissioners. Upon motion of Commissioner Kittleman and second by Commissioner Forrester, the Minutes were approved with a unanimous vote.

**Chair's Report:** Chairwoman Quinn announced that Elizabeth Fletcher has accepted the position of Secretary of the Commission and will be starting on February 21, 2024. Chair Quinn also discussed the Court Reporter job posting, which generated 14 applicants and interviews will begin soon. Chairwoman Quinn thanked everyone for their flexibility and fast action when all dockets had to be cancelled due to the recent downtown Baltimore fire. Mary Ahearn reported that there are changes being made to the web server to move everything to the Cloud. A Baltimore power outage is out of our control but, we learned a lot from the emergency. Ms. Ahearn also asked that the Commissioners allow their Assistants to take care of the dockets in an emergency situation so they can act quickly, allowing the docketing team to get started with rescheduling cases. Chairwoman Quinn also announced a construction delay to the Comfort Inn in LaVale. Mary Aheran announced that she is delaying her retirement 30 days until June 1, 2024. Theresa Cornish will be in full training, effective immediately. Chairwoman Quinn will be writing an article for the Maryland Association for Justice Newsletter in support of CompHub. There was also discussion regarding the John Hopkins subpoena situation.

**Old Business:** Commissioner Parker-Warren asked about the best method to submit suggestions to improve CompHub. A discussion was held regarding CompHub and notes, comments, and annotations in claims. Chairwoman Quinn reminded the Commissioners that Average Weekly Wage ("AWW") cannot be "subject to verification" after the first hearing. The Commission must decide the AWW at the first hearing. A Document Correction Form may be filed later if the amount is incorrect. Commissioner Evans reported that she also had two days where people came for their hearings with notices in hand and they were not listed on a docket. Mary Ahearn reported that she reported the problem to the EM Team after the last meeting and they are working on the problem.

**New Business:** Commissioner Martin reminded the Commissioners about the Kids' Chance Bowling Night on March 13<sup>th</sup>. Commissioner Martin also asked the Commissioners to be sure that all Non-Insured Employer Orders are directed to IC&R for follow-up.

**Medical Alerts:** Dr. Reichmister provided several Medical Alerts of interest to the Commissioners, including a special report on corporate influence on health and healthcare, carpal tunnel association with many activities beyond computers, eye strain and workplace harassment.

**Adjournment:** Upon a motion by Commissioner Forrester and second by Commissioner Martin and upon a unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 10:18 a.m.

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Maureen Quinn, Chairwoman

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Stacey L. Roig, Secretary