



1001 North 23rd Street
Post Office Box 94040
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9040

(O) 225-342-7561
(F) 225-342-5665
www.laworks.net

Bobby Jindal, Governor
Curt Eysink, Executive Director

Office of Workers' Compensation Administration

WORKERS' COMPENSATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

November 16, 2010
LABI Conference Center
9:30a.m. – 12:00p.m.

Members present:

Chair, Larry White
Troy Prevot
Jim Patterson
Michael Morris
Chuck Davoli
Dickie Patterson
Ken Hawkins
Greg Hubachek
Denis Juge

Members Absent:

Dr. Dan Gallagher
Dr. Mark Kruse
Dr. Joe Laughlin
Eddie Crawford
Dr. Jim Quillin
Cherie Pinac

Meeting started at 9:48 a.m.

Larry White begins the meeting by announcing the resignation of Chris Broadwater. Larry has been appointed Interim Director until the Administration hires a Director.

Updates from Task Forces:

Undocumented Workers – Chair, Chuck Davoli-

No meeting scheduled yet. Proposes to meet with private group before the end of the year. Problem with return to work, not sure illegal immigrants can go through voc-rehab.

Vocational Rehabilitation – Chair, Jim Patterson-

First meeting was held in October. Second meeting will be this evening. Two goals for this task force are: 1. Find a way to address physicians and voc-rehab. and 2. Work on Re-training initiative and find funding. There will be a presentation from Voc-Rehab. at today's meeting.

Electronic Medical Billing – Chair, Troy Prevot-

First meeting was held 10-21-10. they are moving forward with a firm timeline. The date of 1-1-2012 may be to be pushed back. Legislation may have to be passed. The larger group will meet and work with the smaller group. Next meeting will be 11-30-10 at LUBA.

2nd Injury Fund Study Group – Chair, Michael Morris-

Task force has not met yet. First meeting had to be cancelled because of a family emergency with the Chair. A meeting will be scheduled in the next few weeks.

Proposed Hearing Rules (latest draft) - Sheral Kellar -

Sheral reviews changes made to the Hearing Rules, per recommendations from the Council at the October meeting. All changes and suggestions were approved by all Council members present.

Other Business - Medical Guidelines

Chuck states that the LOA is planning training in December for Medical Guidelines.

Denis Juge is concerned that what had been developed is not evidence based guidelines and not in accordance with the statute.

Larry White states that the guidelines will be promulgated per the November Register timetable and will be in place January 1, 2011. There will be an emergency rule published in December. The proposed guidelines are posted on the website at www.laworks.gov, under the business/workers compensation tab. There have been some requests of changes to the guidelines. These groups will have until November 29 to submit said changes/suggestions to OWCA.

Public Comment -

Cindy Bishop has suggested changes to the medical guidelines and will email them to Larry.

Ward Blackwell, Executive Director, LDA, brings notice to the Council that in 2004 the Legislature passed the bill to promulgate rules for the dental reimbursement schedule. As of today, no rules have been promulgated to correspond with the statute. Mr. Blackwell would like for the OWCA to address this issue and to assist in promulgating the rules. Larry stated that the Council will address this issue and work with Mr. Blackwell to see that the rules are promulgated.

Next meeting will not be held December 2, but will take place December 9, 2010, 9:30 -12:00 here at LABI. The Executive Council will meet on December 2, 2010, 10:00 a.m.

Chuck Davoli motions to adjourn. Jim Patterson seconds the motion, meeting adjourned.