



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

(O) 225-342-7561  
(F) 225-342-5665  
[www.laworks.net](http://www.laworks.net)

**Bobby Jindal**, Governor  
**Curt Eysink**, Executive Director

**Office of Workers' Compensation Administration**

**WORKERS' COMPENSATION ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Meeting Minutes  
July 19, 2012  
LABI Conference Center  
9:30a.m. – 12:00p.m.

**Members Present:**

Wes Hataway, Chair  
Ray Peters  
Chuck Davoli  
Dr. Mark Kruse  
Dr. Hank Eiserloh  
Michael Morris  
Dr. Dan Gallagher  
Clark Cosse  
Troy Prevot  
Julie Cherry

**Members Absent:**

Greg Hubachek  
Eddie Crawford  
Dr. Jim Quillin  
Denis Juge  
Dickie Patterson

Meeting started at 9:43 a.m.

Director Hataway announced the 2012 meeting dates with the Council. They are as follows:

August 2, 2012 at LABI  
September 6, 2012 – LWC- Auditorium  
October 4, 2012 – Alexandria Airport  
November 1, 2012 – TBD  
December 6, at LABI

\*Meetings for 2013 will be released at the December meeting.

**2012 Legislative Session – OWCA's Role**

SB 367-Act 235 – Goes into effect August 1, 2012. The OWC will be updating the Key Steps on our website. July 1<sup>st</sup> marks the one year anniversary of the OWC Medical guidelines going into effect. To date, Medical Director Dr. Chris Rich has reviewed 714 disputes with an average of 5 days per each case. Director Hataway stated that the 5 day turnaround is phenomenal. The trickle down effect of the medical guidelines is that IMEs have decreased about 50%. Form 1009 will be updated. This update will be submitted to the La. Register on August 10<sup>th</sup>. WC coverage can now be verified from the [www.laworks.net](http://www.laworks.net) website. Click on Businesses then click under Compliance, on Employers' Workers' Compensation Coverage Verification. A person can then type in the business name and the system should display the name of the company who provides the workers'

compensation coverage. The information is based on NCCI data. Most WC carriers and Self Insured WC funds update their data to NCCI on a daily or weekly basis.

HB 931-Act 141 – Larry White is currently working on the EDI Companion Guide. La. Purchasing should choose a vendor within the next week. The rules for Electronic billing for wc claims goes into effect on a voluntary basis on January 1, 2013. The mandatory implementation date is July 1, 2014.

HB 498 – Act 88 – Fraud Detection – working through process to define fields coming into the OWC. Effective dates are January 2013. NCCI will supply needed data. Rules need to be written and submitted through the La. Register. In the future will develop a phone app for NCCI Insurance information.

HR 133 (Filed with Secretary of State) – Councilmen Ray Peters and Greg Hubachek have scheduled to meet on Tuesday, July 24<sup>th</sup>. The deadline is December 31, 2012. They will have information to Council by the October or November Council meeting.

SB 763 – Act 860 – LABI’s bill. OWC’s role is to develop a process for preliminary Average Weekly Wage. Effective date is February 1, 2013. Form 1002 (Notice of Payment) is in the process of being updated.

### **OWCA Projects and Deadlines**

E-Billing Companion Guide – will be submitted to the La. Register on September 10, 2012. IAIABC guide is being used as a guide for a final proposal to be given to the Council by August.

MTS Review – The Medical Advisory Council (MAC) is in the process of reviewing the Spine Section. Proposed Rule change will be submitted to the La. Register by October 10, 2012.

UR Rules –Update of Forms – Form 1009 (Disputed Claim for Medical Treatment) will be submitted to the La. Register on August 10 2012. Director Hataway asked that if anyone has ideas or suggestions for updates to the Utilization Review forms or rules let him know as soon as possible.

Fee Schedule Update/CPT Code Update – OWC has contracted with a group to update the Fee Schedule. Final proposal will be brought to the Council at a later date. Intends to have something introduced to the legislature by next April 2013.

### **Vacancies on the W.C. Advisory Council –**

Director Hataway announced the departure of Councilmen Jim Patterson and Ken Hawkins. They are to be commended on their past services with the Council, and will be sorely missed. These two vacancies (Employer Attorney Rep. and Business Rep.) will hopefully be filled by August of this year.

### **Focus for 2012-2013**

Fee Schedule/CPT Code Update - #1 priority. Total completion by March 2013. OWC in house by December 2012.

Return to Work/Voc-Rehab – Will be re-forming task force with monthly updates to Council.

Pharmacy Fee Schedule – Forming Task Force with monthly updates to Council.

Second Injury Fund Sunset – Report on Claims to be submitted at the Council’s August meeting.

### **Special Projects**

- a. Obesity in the Workplace – Director Hataway would like to tackle Obesity in the workplace. He along with his staff will be will be working on this endeavor.
- b. Creativity and Innovation -

### **Public Comment**

Dale Cronin, Atty. -

Jill Breard, LWCC – In light of privacy laws, LWCC is trying to redact social security numbers. She recommended to the Council that the OWC only require the last four digits of a person’s social security number on the claim form. She also asked that they use a two page format rather than double sided forms because often times scanning systems do not detect the back page of a 2 sided form.

**\*Note** – Form was only 2 sided for Council meeting review. It will be 2 pages.

Other Business –

Carey Holliday, Special Assistant, has been charged with reviewing the District Courts. He has pulled 2 years back of files with judgments. He will review the reasoning, making sure it is within the law. Also reviewed are the oral decisions. He has 20-25 files to compare with Justware. Grades will be assigned to each file and each Judge’s casework under the following three subjects: 1. Volume of dockets; 2. Demeanor of Judge; 3. Court room control.

Adjourned at 11:29 p.m.