

**MINUTES OF THE ILLINOIS WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSION
WORKERS' COMPENSATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
HELD VIA WEBEX ON December 14, 2020 at 11:00AM**

Present via WebEx:

Chairman Michael J. Brennan

Aaron Anderson

Mark Denzler

Karen Harris

Mitchell Horwitz

Robert Karr

Jill Kastner

Denne Knell

Sean Stott

David Weaver

Tim Drea

Mark Prince

IWCC staff present via WebEx :

Ronald Rascia, General Counsel

Annette Roti, Confidential Assistant to the Chairman

Cole D. Garrett, Deputy General Counsel

Michele Kowalski, Research and Education Manager

Cecelia Kasmierski, Associate General Counsel

On December 14, 2020 at 11:00AM, Chairman Michael J. Brennan called the meeting to order. Chairman Brennan verified that a quorum was present. Chairman Brennan asked for a motion to approve minutes from the September 21, 2020 Board meeting. Mr. Knell so moved, Mr. Stott seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

As to old business, Chairman Brennan advised that suspended hearing requirements for arbitrators will continue in January. The Chairman discussed the move from the JRTC, with the hearing rooms moving to the Daley Center and the administrative offices to 69 West Washington. Chairman Brennan advised that the next phase of CompFile would roll out at the end of January. The Chairman advised that Insurance Compliance is combining with the Department of Insurance which will lead to a greater number of employees in the field. The Chief Judge in Will County has invited the IWCC to move from New Lenox into the Will County Courthouse. Mr. Denzler asked for an update on the number of reported CoVid cases for workers' compensation. The Chairman advised that he would get that information to him.

As to new business, Chairman Brennan advised the next item on the agenda concerned the Board's interview of candidates for Commissioner. Chairman Brennan asked for a motion to dissolve into closed session pursuant to Sections 2(c)(1) and (3) of the Open Meetings Act. Mr. Stott so moved, Mr. Prince seconded the motion, and the motion to dissolve into closed session carried unanimously.

Mr. Drea moved to arise from closed session, Mr. Denzler seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

Next, the Chairman advised that after the employer and employee groups of the Board caucus, the Board would reconvene in the next couple of weeks in open meeting and make recommendations. Mr. Denzler asked about more candidates coming in later. The Chairman advised that if more candidates need to be interviewed, the Board would get some dates after the first. Chairman Brennan advised that there are five Commissioners up for reappointment and one vacancy to replace Commissioner McCarthy.

Chairman Brennan noted that there was no public comment.

Having no further business to discuss, Chairman Brennan asked for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Drea so moved. Mr. Denzler seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 12:48PM.