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Commissioners Stephen M. Morelli, Chairman Charles F. Senich Michelle D. Truglia Scott A. Barton Peter C. Mlynarczyk Randy L. Cohen Jodi Murray Gregg Daniel E. Dilzer David W. Schoolcraft Brenda D. Jannotta Carolyn M. Colangelo William J. Watson III Maureen A. Driscoll Pedro E. Segarra Toni M. Fatone Soline M. Oslena

STATE OF CONNECTICUT WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSION

Commissioners' Meeting Minutes

March 6, 2020

9:30 AM – Office of the Chairman

The following Commissioners were in attendance:

Stephen M. Morelli, Chairman, Charles F. Senich, Michelle D. Truglia, Scott A. Barton, Peter C. Mlynarczyk, Randy L. Cohen, Jodi Murray Gregg, Daniel E. Dilzer, David W. Schoolcraft, Brenda D. Jannotta, Carolyn M. Colangelo, William J. Watson III, Maureen A. Driscoll and Soline M. Oslena.

The following Workers' Compensation Commission staff was in attendance: Nancy Bonuomo, Madeleine Lemieux, Terri Miro, Vincent Flynn and Richard Eighme.

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Stephen M. Morelli at 9:33 AM.

I. Introductions

Chairman Morelli welcomed everyone present.

II. Items for Review:

1. Rehabilitation Services

Chairman Morelli stated that Sharon Friedman was unfortunately unavailable but plans to give commissioners an overview of rehabilitation services in the future.

- Direct Pay vs. Use of Accrued Leave Chairman Morelli told the commissioners that there was a handout to review in their packets from the DAS Workers' Compensation Division regarding direct pay vs. use of accrued leave.
- 3. Computer System Update

Chairman Morelli updated commissioners on the new hardware and computer system which is anticipated to go live before the end of the year.

4. Personnel Changes

Chairman Morelli discussed the various personnel changes of the Commission.

5. District and Commissioner Moves

Chairman Morelli provided commissioners with an update on the leases for New Britain and Middletown. He discussed the commissioner redistricting which would take place in July.

6. Legislative Update

Chairman Morelli provided an update on SB 351 which is the Commission's Minor and Technical Legislation, SB 231, which would expand the PTSD benefits passed during last year's session to EMS, Corrections employees and dispatchers and HB 5268, which may be used for legislation on undue delay. He discussed some of the topics that have been brought up at the undue delay taskforce meetings.

- Security Issues at Hearings Chairman Morelli discussed security at hearings and how commissioners should respond to certain circumstances.
- 8. Attorneys Withdrawing from Claims Chairman Morelli reminded commissioners about the email that was sent on January 14, 2020 advising commissioners to hold a hearing when attorneys request to withdraw from claims.
- 9. Attendance

Chairman Morelli reminded Commissioners to submit their requests for time off as far in advance as possible. Rich Eighme discussed some minor changes to the administration of commissioner's attendance.

III. Other Business and Adjournment

Commissioner Jannotta discussed a claim she handled dealing with a Medicare set-aside.

There was brief discussion on attorney's fees. Chairman Morelli asked the commissioners to send him any information about claimant's attorneys charging clients inappropriately.

Chairman Morelli informed the commissioners that there were two documents in their packets for review from Attorney Shafner.

The next Commissioners' Meeting will be held on June 6, 2020 at 9:30 AM in the Office of the Chairman.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 AM.