

**Workers' Compensation Section Executive Council Meeting
Orlando World Center Marriott
Orlando, FL
August 8, 2017**

Meeting convened at 1:32PM

I. Welcome, Presiding - Alan Kalinoksi, Immediate Past Chair

A. Immediate Past Chair Remarks

- Thanks to everyone for their support over the past year. One of the greatest honors of Chair Kalinoksi's life to be the Chair of the WC Section

B. Presentation of Awards

- i. Joanne Prescott - Secretary
- ii. Richard Manno - Technology Chair
- iii. Richard Chait - Efforts and involvement for his legislative efforts
- iv. Dawn Traverso - CLE Chair
- v. Leo Garcia - WC Forum Chair
- vi. Willie Mae Shepard - Program Administrator

C. Passing of the gavel to Paul Anderson, Section Chair

II. Call to Order, Paul Anderson, Chair

- Alan has been inclusive and least demanding, he always asks for input and advice, he always listens to opinions. The Section was in very good hands because of Alan. An eagle statute was gifted to Alan.

A. Welcome - Introduction of Guests

- i. Tracey Hyde, newest member from Panama City
- ii. Lorna Brown- Burton , Board of Governors/The Florida Bar
- iii. Rosemary Eure, Jeff Jacobs replacement to the Executive Council

B. Presentation by WCCP, Stacey Hosman

- Keep up the good work! WCCP is thrilled with the relationship with the WC Section. Stacey delivered a check for \$37,540.68, which is the Section's cut of the proceeds from the WC Forum.

III. Approval of Minutes

- Motion to Correct Minutes to reflect the outcome of the meeting to terminate term limits made by Richard Chait, seconded by Michael Rudolph. Motion carried.

IV. Treasurer's Report, Phil Augustine

- The balance is \$152,767.

V. Chair's Report, Paul Anderson, Chair

VI. Committee Reports

A. Board Certification Committee, Mark Touby/Paul Anderson

- Cut off for applicants is October 31

- Four Attorneys passed the exam last time
- B. Section CLE, Dawn Traverso
- Learn At Lunch program is moving along with JCCs volunteering to fill the dates for the first part of the season
 - WC Winter Retreat will be at the Silverado Lodge in Park City, Utah from February 26, 2018 through March 1, 2018
- C. Legislative Committee, Fausto Gomez
- Thanks to those who came up to Tallahassee during the last legislative session. It was a team effort. The profession is under attack. The policy makers in Tallahassee are listening to interest groups that are outright attacking the entire profession. The legislature is proposing the elimination of Carrier paid fees. We will continue to advocate for giving the JCCs a salary increase. The rate increase is very concerning, we are going to have significant issues legislatively. What can we do? Be active, going out in the interim between now and January, meeting the office holders in our respective areas, keeping in constant communication with them. When you approach a representative or the senators, you cannot go on behalf of the Section, you have to go on your own. You need to form a relationship with the representatives and senators in order to make an impact. Fausto will circulate some introductory materials that we can use in order to reach out.
 - Paul would like a standalone bill to address the JCC salary increase issue. We want quality and qualified attorneys applying for the JCC positions.
- D. News & 440 Report
- Phil Augustine will help Tracey Hyde and Richard Berman for the next publication
 - Rick Thompson has people who can write articles
- E. Membership, Timothy Dunbrack/Sean McCormack
- 231 new members, 16% increase
 - Top 5 reasons to join the WC Section
- F. Forum Committee, Leo Garcia/Mark Touby
- Attendance has been stable for the past three years.
 - The past year, they opened up the room block to us because another conference was not able to fill their rooms, which benefited us this year, and we may not have this benefit next year.
 - Mark Touby will be Leo Gomez's co-chair this coming year to have both a Claimant and a Defense attorney co-chairing the event.
 - There is a small chance we will be able to get the 1st DCA to come to the WC Forum.
 - Hopefully, one day we will be able to hold "this" meeting at the WC Forum.
- G. Rules Committee, Richard Chait
- Tracey and Paolo just joined. Mark Touby just termed out. Paul Doolittle and Rosemary Eure already term limited off. Kevin Murphy is the new chair.
 - There are some outdated bylaws need to be updated.
 - A drafting committee was also developed
- H. Judiciary Committee, William Rogner
- We are going to try to get a raise for our JCCs.
- I. Sponsorship & Advertising, Lizzette Francisco
- Thank you to Geoff Bichler for purchasing a sponsorship for the website.
 - Traffic needs to be driven to the website to promote.

- Paul wants to get a sponsor for the welcome reception and/or the dinner at the WC Retreat.

J. Technology Committee, Richard Manno

- Need to have 2.5 CLE for technology.
- We get boosts around events.

K. Gender Bias & Diversity, Karen Cullen

L. Constitutional Revision Committee, Robert Strunin

- Spoke with Sandra Diamond chairing the Constitutional Revision Committee. The revisions are coming out and will be on The Florida Bar website. They are looking for people who will be trained to be part of the speakers group.

VII. Chair Elect Report, Leo Garcia (none)

VIII. Unfinished Business

- Amendment to the Bylaws, will be voted upon at the meeting tonight. We had a term limits issue and it needed to be addressed. We eliminated term limits and have created an Emeritus role on the WC Executive Council.

IX. New Business

A. CLE Carry Over Proposal - Rollover of CLE, BOG is looking for our Section's input on their suggestion to a possible rollover amendment, after discussion, that Motion to Oppose Rollover of CLE made by Rick Morales, seconded by Leo Garcia. This was a unanimous decision of the WC Executive Council because we believe in the highest standards of education and professionalism.

B. Renewal of Fausto Gomez's contract as Section Lobbyist - Motion to approve contract made by Richard Chait, seconded by Paolo Longo.

C. Election of New Officers:

- Chair Elect Leo Gomez, Treasurer Phil Augustine, Secretary Joanne Prescott. Motion to approve made by Mark Touby, seconded by Michael Rudolph.
- Glen Wieland was nominated to be Chair of the Section after Leo Gomez. Rick Morales moved to nominate Glen Wieland as Chair of the Section after Leo Gomez. Seconded by Tim Dunbrack. Motion carried unanimously.
- Jeff Jacobs needs to be replaced since he is becoming a JCC. Rosemary Eure was nominated to replace Jeff's position on the Executive Council. Lizette Francisco moved to approved Rosemary as Jeff's replacement. Seconded by Glen Wieland. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Annual Meeting at WC Forum - discussion was held regarding moving the Annual WC Executive Council meeting to the WC Forum and to no longer have our meeting at the WCI Convention. The meeting and the elections and everything to the WC Forum. Motion was made by Glen Wieland to move the Annual meeting and the elections to the WC Forum to the WC Forum date. Seconded by Michael Rudolph. Motion carried.

E. Excused Absences - Karen Cullen, Geoff Bichler, Keith Pallo, Chris Smith - all of whom have very good excuses for not attending today. Richard Manno moved to approve by Richard Manno. Seconded by Rick Morales. Motion carried.

X. Upcoming CLE Programs

XI. Future Meetings

- A. Executive Council Meeting, January 26, 2018, Joe's Stone Crab
- B. 34th WC Winter Retreat, February 25, 2018 - March 1, 2018
- C. 2018 Forum, April 11-13, 2018, Omni ChampionsGate
- D. Long Range Planning meeting & Retreat - still remains TBD

XII. Motion to Adjourn made by Mark Touby, seconded by Richard Chait. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 3:40pm.

Attendees:

Philip Augustine
Jeffrey Appel
Richard Berman
Geoffrey Bichler
Richard Chait
Timothy Dunbrack
Rosemary Eure
Lizzette Francisco
Albert Garcia
Leo Garcia
Tracey Hyde
Alan Kalinoski
Paolo Longo
Richard Manno
Sean McCormack
Rick Morales
Joanne Prescott
Bill Rogner
Mike Rudolph
Robert Strunin
Brian Sutter
Richard Thompson
Mark Touby
Dawn Traverso
Tom Vecchio
Glen Wieland
Mike Winer

Lorna Brown-Burton
Fausto Gomez
Stacy Hosman
Willie Mae Shepherd