

**LOUISIANA WORKERS' COMPENSATION SECOND INJURY BOARD
MINUTES**

*Louisiana Workforce Commission
Executive Conference Room, First Floor, Annex Building
1001 North 23rd Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804
Thursday August 8, 2024 | 2:00 p.m. CT*

I. Call to Order

Mr. Charles Hansberry, Chair, called to order the Regular Meeting of the Louisiana Workers' Compensation Second Injury Board on August 8, 2024, at 2:01 p.m.

Present

Mr. Charles Hansberry, Chair, representing the Commissioner of Insurance
Mr. Steve Hawkland, representing the Secretary of State
Ms. Kayla Kirby, representing the State Treasurer
Mr. Chris Kirby, representing the Secretary of the Department of Children and Family Services
Mr. Brian Blackwood, Assistant Secretary of the Office of Worker's Compensation Administration

Absent

Quorum was met.

Also, participating in the meeting were: Ms. Meridith Trahant, SIB Director; Mr. Karl Scott, Assistant Attorney General; Ms. Shana Veade, Attorney; Ms. Ta-Tanisha Youngblood, Attorney; Ms. Devionne Butler, Attorney; Ms. Chandra Cola, SIB Audit & Finance Supervisor; Ms. Tamara Hardnett, SIB Program Compliance Supervisor; Ms. Melissa Green, SIB Program Compliance Officer; Ms. Mylisha Robinson, SIB Program Compliance Officer; and Shawndrika Moore, SIB Program Compliance Officer.

II. Reading of minutes of previous meeting

On motion of Mr. Steve Hawkland, seconded by Mr. Kirby, the Board dispensed with the reading of the July 11, 2024, meeting minutes.

III. Hearing Requests

None

IV. Items 1 through 16 Recommended for Payment; Claim # 22-0883 to Claim #24-0406

Staff recommended payment of the following 16 claims:

1. 22-0883 LA Workers' Compensation Corp.
2. 23-0391 Old Republic Insurance Company
3. 23-0535 Travelers Indemnity Company of Connecticut
4. 23-0626 North Oaks Medical Center
5. 23-0696 Louisiana Restaurant Association
6. 23-0794 Continental Indemnity Company
7. 23-0831 Gray Insurance Company
8. 23-0863 Louisiana Restaurant Association
9. 23-0893 LA Automobile Dealers Assn.
10. 24-0011 LA Workers' Compensation Corp.
11. 24-0012 LA Workers' Compensation Corp.
12. 24-0162 LUBA Casualty Insurance Company
13. 24-0285 LA Municipal Risk Mgmt. Agency
14. 24-0312 Lafayette Parish School Board
15. 24-0390 Brookshire Grocery Company
16. 24-0406 Monroe City School Board

On motion of Mr. Hawkland, seconded by Mr. Kirby, the Board approved payment of the afore-listed claims.

V. Items 1 through 27 Recommended for Denial; Claim #20-0335 to Claim #24-0348

Staff recommended denial of the following 27 claims:

1. 20-0335 LUBA Casualty Insurance Company
2. 23-0161 AIU Insurance Company (AIG)
3. 23-0410 LA Workers' Compensation Corp.
4. 23-0462 LA Construction & Industry SIF
5. 23-0509 City of Monroe
6. 23-0513 LA Workers' Compensation Corp.
7. 23-0516 LA Workers' Compensation Corp.
8. 23-0622 LUBA Casualty Insurance Company
9. 23-0680 Ace American Ins. Co
10. 23-0741 National Union Fire Insurance - Pittsburgh, PA (AIG)
11. 23-0762 Safety National Casualty Corporation
12. 23-0766 City of Opelousas
13. 23-0770 LA Home Builders Assn.- SIF
14. 23-0796 Capital Area Transit System (Formerly Capital Transportation

15. 23-0800 Bellsouth Telecommunications
16. 23-0802 Great American Insurance Company
17. 23-0828 LUBA Casualty Insurance Company
18. 23-0836 Pacific Employers Insurance Company
19. 23-0843 - Unverified
20. 23-0858 Travelers Casualty & Surety Co.
21. 24-0085 Louisiana Hospital Association
22. 24-0096 LA Health Care- Self Ins. Fund
23. 24-0115 Bridgefield Casualty Insurance Company
24. 24-0215 Office of Risk Management
25. 24-0293 - Unknown
26. 24-0322 Louisiana Hospital Association
27. 24-0348 Louisiana Hospital Association

On motion of Mr. Hawkland seconded by Mr. Kirby, the Board denied payment of the afore-listed claims.

VI. Recommended for Approval of Partial Payments Due: Claim #00-1046 to Claim #99-1104

Staff recommended payment of 145 partial payments in the total amount of \$2,160,322.58 for Claim No. #00-1046 to Claim No. #99-1104.

On motion of Mr. Hawkland, seconded by Mr. Kirby, the Board approved partial payments in the total amount of \$1,813,925.69 for 145 claims (Claim #00-1046 to Claim #99-1104).

VII. Recommended for Approval of Quarterly Payments Due: Claim #07-0921 to Claim #96-0018

Staff recommended payment of 59 quarterly payments in the total amount of \$1,064,000.00 for Claim #07-0921 to Claim #96-0018.

On motion of Mr. Hawkland, seconded by Mr. Kirby, the Board approved quarterly payments in the total amount of \$1,064,000.00 for 59 claims (Claim #07-0921 to Claim #96-0018).

VIII. Public Comments

Attorney Andrew Barr and Mr. Tommie Parish with Envoc were present at the meeting to discuss electronic signatures. Mr. Barr also indicated that he is starting a private practice called Second Injury Management services to assist employers in completing the Second

Injury forms more accurately and complete. He also advised that he was attempting to discuss getting SIB to have a digital platform, and that he invited Mr. Parish with Envoc to discuss how to digitize documents of behalf of the State. They explained that they were there to provide us information on what they will be attempting in the future.

IX. Executive Session - Discussion concerning Second Injury Board Litigation & Settlements

On motion of Mr. Hawkland, seconded by Mr. Kirby, the Board entered into entered into Executive Session.

The Board concluded Executive Session and reconvened into its regular meeting.

X. Recommendation for Review of Settlements

A. Staff recommended settlement to be reimbursed on a quarterly basis of the following 14 claims:

1. 11-0081
2. 12-0305
3. 17-0555
4. 18-0013
5. 18-0373
6. 20-0357
7. 20-0450
8. 20-0534
9. 20-0593
10. 20-0640
11. 21-0856
12. 21-0917
13. 23-0034

On motion of Mr. Hawkland, seconded by Mr. Kirby, the Board approved payment of the afore-listed claims for settlement to be reimbursed on a quarterly basis.

B. Staff recommended that reimbursement continue on an on-going basis for the following claims:

1. 19-0826

On motion of Mr. Hawkland, seconded by Mr. Kirby, the Board approved continuation of reimbursement of the afore-listed claims on an on-going basis.

XI. Second Injury Board Litigation

On motion of Mr. Hawkland, seconded by Mr. Kirby, the Board authorized legal counsel to proceed in the manner noted for the following claims that are currently in litigation:

1. 21-0787 Settlement Authority granted
2. 22-0549 Settlement Authority granted
3. 22-0583 Settlement Authority granted
4. 22-0901 Settlement Authority granted
5. 23-0276 Settlement Authority granted
6. 23-0580 Settlement Authority granted
7. 23-0873 Settlement Authority granted

Mr. Brian Blackwood recused himself from voting on claim number 23-0276.

XII. Any other matters requiring attention:

Ms. Trahant presented a request to the Board that SIB accept electronic signatures and that it is retroactive to March 2019. On motion Mr. Hawkland, seconded by Mr. Kirby, the Board approved electronic signatures and made it retroactive to March 2019.

XIII. Next Meeting Date

The Board's next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 12, 2024.

XIV. Adjournment

On motion of Mr. Hawkland, seconded by Mr. Kirby, the meeting was adjourned at 2:42 p.m.