**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 January 11, 2024 | 2:00 p.m. CT*

1. **Call to Order**

Mr. Charles Hansberry, Chair, called to order the Regular Meeting of the Louisiana Workers’ Compensation Second Injury Board on January 11, 2024, at 2:02 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. Tavares Walker, Assistant Secretary, Office of Workers’ Compensation Administration

**Absent**

Mr. Chris Kirby, representing the Secretary of the Department of Children and Family Services

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. Tamara Hardnett, SIB Program Compliance Supervisor; Ms. Chandra Cola, SIB Audit & Finance Supervisor; Ms. Shawndrika Moore, SIB Program Compliance Officer; Ms. Melissa Green, SIB Program Compliance Officer; Ms. Mylisha Robinson, SIB Program Compliance Officer; and Ms. Claudia Brumfield, Recording Secretary.

1. **Reading of minutes of previous meeting**

Mr. Hansberry asked for a motion to dispense with the reading of the November 2, 2023, and December 7, 2023, meeting minutes and approve the minutes as printed and distributed. The motion was made by Mr. Hawkland, seconded by Ms. Kirby, and passed unanimously.

1. **Hearing Requests**

None.

1. **Items 1 through 6 Recommended for Payment; Claim # 22-0906 to Claim #23-0640**

Staff recommended payment of the following 6 claims:

* 1. 22-0906 LUBA Casualty Insurance Company
  2. 22-0959 Bridgefield Casualty Insurance Company
  3. 23-0278 Lafayette Parish School Board
  4. 23-0284 LA Construction & Industry SIF
  5. 23-0554 LA Workers’ Compensation Corp.
  6. 23-0640 Lafayette Parish School Board

Upon motion of Mr. Hawkland, seconded by Ms. Kirby, the motion unanimously passed, and the afore-listed claims were approved for payment.

1. **Items 1 through 49 Recommended for Denial; Claim #22-0619 to Claim #22-0642**

Staff recommended denial of the following 49 claims:

1. 22-0619 LA Workers’ Compensation Corp.
2. 22-0676 LA Workers’ Compensation Corp.
3. 220-679 Office of Risk Management
4. 22-0706 - Unknown
5. 22-0709 Lafayette Parish School Board
6. 22-0736 Amtrust Ins. Co. of Kansas
7. 22-0739 City of New Orleans
8. 22-0742 - Unverified
9. 22-0745 Travelers Indemnity Company of Connecticut
10. 22-0748 - Unverified
11. 22-0751 Continental Indemnity Company
12. 22-0754 City of New Orleans
13. 22-0766 Indemnity Ins. Co. of North America
14. 22-0787 Retailers Casualty Insurance Company
15. 22-0793 Farmington Casualty Company
16. 22-0796 Bridgefield Casualty Insurance Company
17. 22-0799 Amguard Insurance Company
18. 22-0814 - Unknown
19. 22-0835 LA Workers' Compensation Corp.
20. 22-0838 LA Municipal Risk Mgmt. Agency
21. 22-0841 EBR Parish School Board
22. 22-0844 Office of Risk Management
23. 22-0853 Jefferson Parish Public School System
    1. 23-0156 Berkley National Ins. Co.
    2. 23-0190 Arch Insurance Company
    3. 23-0194 Great American Alliance Insurance Company
    4. 23-0200 St. Charles Parish School Board
    5. 23-0204 Lafayette Consolidated Government
    6. 23-0208 City of New Orleans
    7. 23-0210 LA Workers' Compensation Corp.
    8. 23-0212 Safety National Casualty Corporation
    9. 23-0214 LA Construction & Industry SIF
    10. 23-0216 AIU Insurance Company (AIG)
    11. 23-0218 Office of Risk Management
    12. 23-0222 Indemnity Ins. Co. of North America
    13. 23-0250 LUBA Casualty Insurance Company
    14. 23-0270 LUBA Casualty Insurance Company
    15. 23-0288 LA Municipal Risk Mgmt. Agency
    16. 23-0290 Cracker Barrel Stores, Inc.
    17. 23-0333 Acadian Ambulance Service, Inc.
    18. 23-0348 Lincoln Parish School Board
    19. 23-0351 Lincoln Parish School Board
    20. 23-0369 Unverified
    21. 23-0477 St. Charles Parish School Board
    22. 23-0537 - Unverified
    23. 23-0604 - Unknown
    24. 23-0606 LUBA Casualty Insurance Company
    25. 23-0624 City of Kenner
    26. 23-0642 Jefferson Parish

Upon motion of Mr. Hawkland, seconded by Ms. Kirby, the motion unanimously passed, and the afore-listed claims were approved for payment.

1. **Recommended for Approval of Partial Payments Due: Claim #00-0745 to Claim #99-0081**

Staff recommended payment of 111 partial payments in the total amount of $2,498,188.10 for Claim #00-0745 to Claim #99-0081.

Upon motion of Mr. Hawkland, seconded by Ms. Kirby, the motion unanimously passed, and partial payments in the total amount of $2,498,188.10 for 111 claims beginning with Claim #00-0745 to Claim #99-0081 were approved.

1. **Recommended for Approval of Quarterly Payments Due: Claim #00-0717 to Claim #97-1150**

Staff recommended payment of 89 partial payments in the total amount of $1,315,424.44 for Claim #00-0717 to Claim #97-1150.

Upon motion of Mr. Hawkland, seconded by Ms. Kirby, the motion unanimously passed, and quarterly payments in the total amount of $1,315,242.44 for 89 claims beginning with Claim #00-0717 to Claim #97-1150 were approved.

1. **Public Comments**

None.

1. **Executive Session – Discussion concerning Second Injury Board Litigation & Settlements**

Upon motion of Mr. Hawkland, seconded by Ms. Kirby, the motion unanimously passed, and the Board entered into Executive Session.

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

1. **Recommendation for Review of Settlements**

Staff recommended settlement to be reimbursed on a quarterly basis of the following 19 claims:

1. 14-0481
2. 15-0186
3. 18-0702
4. 19-0285
5. 19-0429
6. 19-0491
7. 20-0004
8. 21-0264
9. 21-0291
10. 21-0806
11. 22-0041
12. 22-0240
13. 22-0497
14. 22-0540
15. 22-0599
16. 22-0684
17. 22-0880
18. 22-0953
19. 23-0174

Upon motion of Mr. Hawkland, seconded by Ms. Kirby, the motion unanimously passed, and the 18 afore-listed claims were approved for settlement to be reimbursed on a quarterly basis.

Further, Staff recommended that reimbursement of Claim No. 15-0186 be made in a lump sum

Upon motion of Mr. Hawkland to accept the recommendation, seconded by Ms. Kirby, the motion unanimously passed.

1. **Second Injury Board Litigation**

Upon motion of Mr. Hawkland, seconded by Ms. Kirby, the motion unanimously passed, and legal counsel was authorized to proceed in the manner noted for the following claims that are currently in litigation:

1. 12-0515 Settlement Authority granted
2. 21-0023 Settlement Authority granted
3. 21-0353 Settlement Authority granted
4. 21-0723 Settlement Authority granted
5. 21-0855 Settlement Authority granted
6. 22-0061 Settlement Authority granted
7. 22-0523 Litigation to continue.
8. **Any other matters requiring attention:**

1. **2023 SIB Annual Assessment**

Ms. Trahant apprised the Board regarding the SIF collection of assessments. Ms. Trahant stated the assessment letters had been mailed, and as of January 10, 2024, SIF had collected 62% of the assessed funds, which totals $37,587,072.00, with approximately $22,000,000.00 to be collected.

1. **Lock Box**

Staff stated that an online system for checks will be updated and reported a plan for the removal of the lock box.

1. **Staff**

Ms. Trahant introduced Mylisha Robinson, a recently hired SIB Compliance Officer, to the Board.

1. **Next Meeting Date**

The Board’s next meeting is scheduled for February 1, 2024.

1. **Adjournment**

Upon motion of Mr. Walker, seconded by Ms. Kirby, the meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m.