



**MINUTES OF THE  
CLAIMS COMMITTEE MEETING  
November 14, 2018  
9:30 A.M.**

A teleconference meeting of the Claims Committee was held on November 14, 2018.

**Members Present**

Vicki Cross, Chair	Glendora
Sergio Ibarra	Bell
Alison Stevens	Hawthorne
Sara Nazir	Lynwood

**Members Absent**

Yvette Garcia, Vice Chair	Downey
Michael O'Kelly	Fullerton

**Others in Attendance:**

RPA	Beth Lyons
	Jennifer Achterberg
	Bob May
Johnson Schachter & Lewis	Luther Lewis
Carl Warren & Company	Dwight Kunz
	Rose Nuno

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Vicki Cross, Glendora, called the meeting to order at 9:41 a.m.

**2. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM/INTRODUCTIONS**

Introductions took place and it was determined a quorum was present.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AS POSTED OR AMENDED**

*Motion was made by Alison Stevens, Hawthorne, and seconded by Sara Nazir, Lynwood, to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.*

**5. CONSENT CALENDAR**

*A motion was made by Alison Stevens, Hawthorne, and seconded by Sara Nazir, Lynwood, to approve the minutes of September 5, 2018, and direct staff to finalize, and to review and file the 2018/19 Claims Committee Attendance Record. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.*

## 6. OPEN SESSION

### A. Liability Defense Panel Review

Mr. Dwight Kunz discussed two surveys sent to the current listing of the Liability Defense Panel earlier in the year. The surveys collected information from attorneys regarding the ICRMA member agencies they work with, types of cases, closing rates, and a confirmation to abide by the Litigation Management Policies and Procedures. Based on the responses, several attorneys were identified for removal, or for further follow-up by the program manager. Mr. Kunz informed the Committee he is compiling information regarding each attorney's area of specialty.

The Committee noted work is being performed by Royce Jones, Colin Tanner, and Laura Kalty. The Committee requested the Liability Program Manager follow-up with those attorneys as well as several others before removal is recommended.

*A motion was made by Alison Stevens, Hawthorne, seconded by Sergio Ibarra, Bell, to recommend the Board: 1) remove 35 of 38 the listed attorneys (excluding Royce Jones, Colin Tanner, and Laura Kalty until more research is performed), and 2) approve the Liability Program Manager's request to add eight attorneys: Scott Grossberg and Laurel Hoehn of Grossberg & Hoehn; Jeffrey Thompson of Declues, Burkett & Thompson; Keith Bremer and Rachel Mihai of Bremer, Whyte, Brown & O'Meara; Elizabeth Kessel and Armineh Megrabyan of Kessel & Associates; and Steven Taylor of McCune & Harber to the Liability Defense Panel. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.*

### B. Review Proposed TPA Performance Standards revisions

During the most recent ICRMA liability claim audit by Risk Management Services, the auditors recommended multiple revisions to the Standards. The most substantive change was the addition of "check list" items at the end of each section. Other revisions were either language clean-up or reorganizing the flow of the verbiage. Specific clarifying language was added to the section regarding investigations to ensure TPA adjusters (not attorneys) are performing investigations, and noting on-scene investigations should be performed for claims involving serious injury.

*A motion was made by Alison Stevens, Hawthorne, seconded by Sergio Ibarra, Bell, to recommend Board approval of the proposed TPA Performance Standards revisions. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.*

**7. CLOSED SESSION**

The Committee convened in closed session at 10:34 a.m.

**8. REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION**

The Committee convened in open session at 11:09 a.m. Interim General Counsel Luther Lewis reported the Committee granted authority in *Carrera v. Bell*, and took no action in the *Gomez v. South Gate* and *Barragan v. South Gate* matters.

**9. CLOSING COMMENTS**

Ms. Lyons provided a brief recap of the Defense Panel Symposium, which was held on Monday, November 12, 2018.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 11:15 a.m.