

WORKERS' COMPENSATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING JANUARY 19, 2023 9:00 A.M.

AGENDA

I. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes for December 2022 Board of Directors Meeting	Nick Kouklis
B. Report of Claims for the Month of December 2022 in the Amount of \$1,683,052.59 Bakersfield City School District Claims in the Amount of \$181,120.50 Kern High School District Claims in the Amount of \$190,771.47 and Ratification of Payment of these Amounts	Nick Kouklis

Moved_____2nd_____

Yes____No____Abstain____Roll Call Vote_____

II. Public Comment

III. Closed Session- Workers' Compensation Liability Claims

The board may be required to adjourn to closed session for discussion of matters regarding a claim for the payment of tort liability losses, public liability losses, or workers' compensation liability, authorized by Government Code 54956.95.

District	File Number	Claimant
Kern County Superintendent of Schools By Cheryl Slomian	2019034718	Mae Foots
Kern County Superintendent of Schools By Cheryl Slomian	2020037441	Alfonso Goicoechea
Kern County Superintendent of Schools By Cheryl Slomian	2021039750	Janine Golden
Panama Buena Vista Union School District By Michelle Carmona	2020036482	Cheryl Freeman

IV. <u>Reconvene To Open Session</u>

A. Reports from Closed Session, if Required

V. Action Items

A.	Financial Report – Presentation of Fi of December 2022 Will Be Submitted	Kim Sloan	
	Moved	2 nd	
	YesNoAbstain	Roll Call Vote	
В.	Approval of Increasing the Special Ca	se Threshold from \$20,000 to \$25,000	Nick Kouklis
	Moved	2 nd	
	YesNoAbstain	Roll Call Vote	
VI	Information and Discussion	Items	
A.	Update on the Work Group/Gatekee	eper Network	Rich Cameron
В.	SISC I Risk Management Services Re	Matt Scott	
C. List of Special Cases Not Requiring Board Approval			Nick Kouklis
D. Comments from the Board of Directors Will Be Heard			Nick Kouklis
E.	Next Meeting: Thursday, February 23, 2023 9:00 a.m. Room 204, 2 nd Floor – Larry E. Reider 2000 K Street, Bakersfield, CA 93302		Nick Kouklis
F.	Adjournment		Nick Kouklis
	Moved2 nd 2		
	Yes No Abstain	Roll Call Vote	

Any materials required by law to be made available to the public prior to a meeting of the Governing Board of the SISC I JPA can be inspected at the following address during normal business hours at: 2000 K Street, Bakersfield, CA. 93301

For more information regarding how, to whom, and when a request for disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, may be made by a person with a disability who requires a modification or accommodation to participate in the public meeting, please contact Kristy Comstock at 661-636-4682 or krcomstock@siscschools.org

*The number of Board Members needed to form a quorum for this meeting is six

Workers' Compensation Terminology

1. All alleged claims are questioned and reviewed. They are then classified as either:

a. Admitted - This means the claim is not being disputed and is accepted as a work related injury or illness.

b. <u>Alleged Injury</u> - this means the claim is questioned further to determine compensability. The claim is then either accepted (admitted) or denied in full, depending on the outcome of the workers' compensation process pursuant to the laws of the state.

2. AME – Agreed Medical Examiner

3. AOE/COE - Injury Arises Out of Employment/Course of Employment.

4. **Apportionment** - A portion of permanent disability (P.D.) that is due to a pre-existing condition, whether industrial or non-industrial, may be subtracted from the total amount of the permanent disability. Therefore, the total amount is "apportioned" between the injuries or conditions.

5. **Confidence Level** – The statistical certainty that an actuary believes funding will be sufficient. For example, an 80% confidence level means that the actuary believes funding will be sufficient in eight years out of ten.

6. Expected Confidence Level – This corresponds to approximately a 55% confidence level. Amounts above expected are prudent.

7. The seven areas of payment:

- 1. **Medical** Treatment to cure or relieve the effects of the injury.
- 2. <u>Temporary Disability (TD)</u> To compensate the injured worker for lost wages.

3. <u>Permanent Disability (PD)</u> – To compensate the injured worker for the permanent loss of physical or mental function that can be measured by a physician, as a result of the injury. The PD may or may not interfere with that individual's ability to perform their usual work activities.

4. <u>Supplemental Job Displacement Benefit (SJDB)</u> – A nontransferable voucher for education related retraining or skill enhancement or both at a state approved or accredited school.

5. Death Benefits

6. Medical/Legal - Costs to determine or resolve compensability and/or level of permanent disability.

7. Legal - Cost for outside counsel to handle litigated cases.

8. Three Types of Claim Settlements

1. When the parties can't agree, the case is then tried and the judge issues the Findings and Award.

2. **Stipulation with Request for Award (Stips)** - All parties agree and stipulate to the period of temporary disability (T.D.), any permanent disability (P.D.), and if there is, or is not, the need for future medical treatment. The claimant has the right to reopen this case within five years from the date of injury if he/she experiences any "new and further" disability that is directly related to the original injury.

Compromise and Release (C&R) - All parties agree to a settlement amount and a lump sum payment is made. A C&R may close all issues or may leave open certain agreed-upon issues.

9. Additional Terminology

ACOEM – American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine - These are the medical guidelines used to establish appropriate medical diagnostics and treatment, and are presumed on the extent and scope of medical treatment regardless of the Date of Injury (DOI). AMA – American Medical Association - sets forth the medical evaluation protocols and rating procedures to determine the extent of an

individual's impairments.

<u>DRE – Diagnosis-Related Estimate</u> - One of two methods a physician uses to determine spinal impairment. It is the preferred method over Range of Motion (ROM).

DFEC- Diminished Future Earning Capacity -A component of the 2005 Permanent Disability Rating Schedule (PDRS), used in calculating the level of permanent disability sustained due to an industrial injury, taking into consideration one's resulting diminished future earning capacity.

<u>MMI – Maximal Medical Improvement –</u> Formerly known as Permanent and Stationary; defined as the point in time when the injured workers' condition is well stabilized and unlikely to change substantially in the next year with or without medical treatment.

<u>MPN- Medical Provider Network-</u> is a group of health care providers set up by an insurer or self-insured employer and approved by DWC's administrative director to treat workers injured on the job.

<u>WPI – Whole Person Impairment –</u> A loss, or loss of use, or derangement of any body part, organ system, or organ function. Impairment is considered permanent when it has reached Maximum Medical Improvement (MMI)