

## Wisconsin Association of Workers Compensation Attorneys

# November 2, 2007 Annual Membership Meeting Minutes

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- 1. Call to Order.** Chuck Hanson, President, called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. at the Stevens Point Country Club in Stevens Point, Wisconsin, during the luncheon at the Association's Annual Ethics Seminar. Chuck briefly described the activities of the Association and the benefits of membership, including the Association's website, annual summer and fall seminars, and law school scholarship programs.
- 2. Treasurer's Report.** John Griner, Treasurer, reported that the Association's current account balance is \$12,178. This balance includes receipts from the November 2, 2007 Ethics Seminar, but does not include outstanding expenses of the seminar.
- 3. Annual Election of Officers & Directors.** Elections were held for all Officer positions (President, President-Elect, Immediate Past President, Treasurer and Secretary) and for the positions of District 2, 3 and 4 Directors. Per the by-laws, Officers are elected for one-year terms and Directors are elected for 3-year terms. John Jokela and Mark Parman were nominated to replace Bill Wulf as District 2 Director. Immediately prior to the Annual Membership Meeting, the election for District 2 Director was held by ballot, and John Jokela was elected. The following members were the only members nominated for their respective positions: Bill Wulf (President-Elect); John Griner (Treasurer); Barry Stern (Secretary); John Edmondson (District 3 Director); and Patricia Janka Sandoz (District 4 Director). All of the nominations were seconded and elected by unanimous vote. The election results are as follows:
  - A. President: Cathy Lake (replacing Chuck Hanson).
  - B. President-Elect: Bill Wulf (replacing Cathy Lake).
  - C. Immediate Past President: Chuck Hanson (replacing Tom Bertz).
  - D. Treasurer: John Griner (re-elected).
  - E. Secretary: Barry Stern (re-elected).
  - F. District 2 Director: John Jokela (replacing Bill Wulf).
  - G. District 3 Director: John Edmondson (replacing Jennifer Edmondson).
  - H. District 4 Director: Patricia Janka Sandoz (replacing Mike Kulkoski).

All of the above elected Officers and Directors will begin their terms on January 1, 2008.

- 4. By-Law Changes.** Chuck Hanson reported that at its September 14, 2007 meeting, the Board of Directors adopted several amendments to the by-laws. Chuck briefly described the by-law changes and the reasons for the changes. These include:

Increasing annual membership dues from \$20.00 to \$30.00.

Changing the dates of the future annual membership meetings and elections from fall to summer, so that the meetings can be held at the annual summer seminar.

Eliminating the position of chairperson of the Board, because the chairperson served the same function as the Board President.

Limiting the terms for directors to two consecutive three-year terms, limiting the terms for the offices of President, President-Elect and Immediate Past-President to one consecutive one-year term unless needed to fill the vacancy of one of the other of those offices, and limiting the terms for the offices of Secretary and Treasurer to no more than three consecutive one-year terms.

Adding language stating that the Immediate Past President shall be an advisor to the President.

Adding language to clarify that no form of illegal discrimination will be represented in the by-laws.

A motion for the membership to approve the by-law changes was seconded and unanimously approved.

**5. Presentation of Award to Ed Falkner.** Tom Bertz presented ALJ Ed Falkner with a plaque to honor Ed for his service to the Association. Ed is the founder of the Association's fall ethics seminar and has coordinated all of the previous fall ethics seminars, which were held in Appleton.

**6. Other Business.** Chuck Hanson noted that the Association will be looking for a new Webmaster in the future. Phil Lehner has been the Webmaster for the past several years, but because Phil recently retired from his law practice, he is planning to gradually phase out his role as Webmaster. Anyone interested in becoming the new Webmaster should contact Chuck or Phil.

**7. Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

Date: November 2, 2007

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Barry Stern, Secretary

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