Medical Services Review Committee / Workers' Compensation Board Special Joint Meeting Meeting Minutes

August 22, 2025

I. CALL TO ORDER

Workers' Compensation Director Charles Collins called the MSRC and Board to order at 10:03 am on Friday, August 22, 2025. This meeting was held in person in Anchorage, Alaska, and by Zoom video conference.

II. ROLL CALL

Director Collins conducted a roll call for the board. The following Board members were present, constituting a quorum:

Brad Austin	Randy Beltz	Pamela Cline	John Corbett
Mike Dennis	Sara Faulkner	Bronson Frye	Anthony Ladd
Sarah Lefebvre	Debbie White	Lake Williams	Brian Zematis

Director Collins conducted a roll call for the MSRC. The following Committee members were present, constituting a quorum:

Jeff Gilbert	Susan Kosinski	Valerie Mittelstead
Jeff Moore	Pam Scott	Misty Steed

Members Mary Ann Foland and Mason McCloskey were excused.

III. AGENDA APPROVAL

Member Lefebvre motioned to approve the agenda, which was seconded by member Zematis. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. APPROVAL OF MSRC AUGUST 8, 2025 MEETING MINUTES

Member Kosinski motioned to adopt the minutes from the August 8, 2025 meeting, which was seconded by member Moore. The motion passed unanimously.

V. APPROVAL OF JOINT BOARD/MSRC AUGUST 24, 2024 MEETING MINUTES

A motion to adopt the minutes from the August 24, 2024, special joint meeting of the Board and MSRC was made by member Beltz and seconded by member Lefebvre. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD 10:15 AM - 11:15 AM

No public comment was made.

VII. MSRC'S PRESENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS TO BOARD

Director Collins presented the Director's MSRC Report. Member Lefebvre observed that the MSRC list included Industry and Labor designations for MSRC members, which are not supported by statute. Director Collins will remove these designations from future reports.

The MSRC, through Carla Gee with Optum, presented its recommendation to the Board. Ms. Gee reviewed the track-changes version of the draft 2026 Fee Schedule.

Member Lefebvre noted inconsistencies in how telehealth provisions were worded across different sections (E&M, Medicine, General). Ms. Gee and Ms. Orme will revise for consistency.

Member Lefebvre raised concerns about possible confusion between “medical report” and “physician’s report.” The committee agreed to align language in the “Properly Submitted Bill” section with the clearer phrasing already used elsewhere in the document.

Member Lefebvre suggested the addition of a cover page to Appendix A to reference applicable regulations and Bulletin 24-03 for clarification on use of the physician’s report form.

Member Lefebvre moved that the Fee Schedule be amended in three areas:

1. Telehealth definitions made consistent across sections;
2. The “Properly Submitted Bill” definition in the introduction revised as discussed;
3. Appendix A to include a cover page to the physician’s report, stating it may be used as the medical report (as defined in the definitions), with reference to the required regulation for compliance and the applicable bulletin.

Member Beltz seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Member Kosinski moved to accept the changes proposed by the Board. Member Steed seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Member Lefebvre moved to adopt the proposed 2026 Alaska Workers’ Compensation Medical Fee Schedule, as amended. Member Beltz seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Director Collins explained that the Board had previously approved the repeal and readoption of 8 AAC 45.083 at its May 2025 meeting. Accordingly, no additional action on the proposed regulation was required at this meeting. The regulation would proceed to Department of Law review and public comment and return to the Board for adoption in October, provided no substantial changes were made.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by member Lefebvre and seconded by member Zematis. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned 11:50 am