

## Meeting minutes: Medical Services Review Board

Date: Oct. 14, 2021

Minutes prepared by: Anita Hess

Location: Via Webex

### Attendance

#### Members present

Beth Baker, chair  
Russell Gelfman, vice chair  
Elizabeth Alm  
Natalie Haefner  
Matthew Monsein  
Kim Olson  
Laura Breeher  
Jeff Bonsell

#### Alternates present

Laura Breeher  
Courtney Mitchell  
Dave Nelson  
Tammy Bredahl

#### Members absent

Erica Kuhlmann  
Bradley Kuzel  
Lisa Hanselman  
Joseph J. Schulte  
Mark Schulz  
Dan Wolfe

#### Alternates absent

Kevin Scott Wall  
Keith Johnson  
Kathleen Gomez  
Lyna Nyamwaya

#### Staff members present

Roslyn Robertson  
Lisa Wichterman  
Anita Hess  
Ethan Landy  
Chris Leifeld  
David Berry  
Ann Tart  
Mike Ireland

#### Interested parties

Norbert Cuellar  
Pam Carlson  
Tara Erickson  
Ceil Jung  
Angela Garin  
Antonio Tejada  
Sandra Stoddard  
Kathleen Picard  
Ames Gascoigne  
Aaron Schenck  
Adriene Henderson  
Sara Curtis

### Call to order

A Webex meeting of the Medical Services Review Board (MSRB) was called to order at 4 p.m. by Dr. Beth Baker. Baker read the Webex meeting instructions. Roll call was taken by Anita Hess. A quorum was met.

### Approval of agenda and minutes

Mark Schulz made a motion to approve the amended agenda and the July minutes by roll call vote. Kim Olson seconded. Both were approved.

## **DLI announcements and updates: Commissioner Roslyn Robertson**

- The Department of Labor and Industry (DLI) medical consultant position has been filled by Dr. Emily Bannister, who introduced herself and said she is enthusiastic to work with MSRB.
- The commissioner is participating in two of the governor's workgroups Frontline Workers Pay and The Council on Economic Expansion.
- The MSRB chiropractor position has been filled by Mark Schulz.
- Safety announcements: Meetings at DLI will remain remote through January 2022.

## **Business**

### **Election of officers – Baker**

- Baker was nominated for chair by Russel Gelfman and seconded by Natalie Haefner. The board voted to continue to have Baker serve as chair.
- Jeff Bonsell nominated Gelfman for vice chair. It was noted Gelfman is already the chair of the Rehabilitation Review Panel and, therefore, it would make sense to have another member serve in the vice chair position.
- Elizabeth Alm volunteered. She was nominated for vice chair by Bonsell and seconded by Baker. The board voted Alm to the position.

### **Minnesota PPD schedule, areas to watch – Mike Ireland, of Compliance, Records and Training**

Mike Ireland, DLI Compliance, Records and Training, gave a PowerPoint presentation about the Minnesota permanent partial disability (PPD) schedule and areas to watch. Ireland emphasized it is important doctors are using the correct Minnesota PPD schedule for ratings, Minnesota Rules 5223. There are two PPD schedules, one is for dates of injury prior to 1993 and the other is for dates of injury from 1993 to the current date. Ireland described the areas to watch for adjusters and physicians for automatic ratings and the most complex areas for PPD ratings. It is important physicians provide ratings under the correct section of the PPD schedule. He explained multiple ratings for the same injury. MSRB is concerned the third addition of the American Medical Association (AMA) disability guides is incorporated by reference in the rule and the AMA is currently on the sixth addition of the guide, so updates to the rules may be needed.

### **RETAIN grant – Pam Carlson, Office of Workers' Compensation Ombudsman, and Laura Breeher**

The Retraining Employment and Talent After Injury/illness Network (RETAIN) grant is a federal grant with the goal to facilitate return to work for participants as soon as they are medically able and to reduce long-term work disability. The program is coordinated by Mayo Clinic, DLI and the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED). Phase one focused mainly in southern Minnesota, where the Mayo Clinic is based. Minnesota was funded \$3.5 million for phase one and was awarded an additional \$19.5 million for phase two. Phase 2 will expand statewide and focus on underserved communities. Injured workers can access the program and will be assigned a case manager. If, at any point, the injured worker obtains a qualified rehabilitation consultant (QRC), a handoff is made from the case manager to the QRC to avoid any overlap.

## **Fee schedule update – Lisa Wichterman, of Compliance, Records and Training**

On Oct. 1, 2021, the four fee schedules were updated. They are available on the DLI website. The biggest change is for inpatient hospital bills, has moved from the downloadable PC Pricer tool to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) web-based pricer.

## **Treatment parameter update – Lisa Wichterman, of Compliance, Records and Training, and Ethan Landy, Office of General Counsel**

Wichterman and Ethan Landy presented a chart with the goals and summary of the discussions of the Treatment Parameter Workgroup to update the current treatment parameters. The chart lists the issues the workgroup identified. DLI Medical Consultant Bannister will be working with staff members to update and improve the treatment parameters.

## **Agenda items for the January MSRB meeting – Baker and Board**

- Treatment parameter rules

## **Adjournment: Baker and board**

Baker thanked everyone for coming. Bonsell moved to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Gelfman. All voted in favor and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:02 p.m.

## **Next meeting dates**

- Jan. 20, 2022
- April 21, 2022
- July 21, 2022
- Oct. 20, 2022