

Special Joint Meeting  
Medical Services Review Committee /  
Alaska Workers' Compensation Board  
Meeting Minutes  
August 24, 2024

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Workers' Compensation Director Charles Collins called the MSRC and Board to order at 10:01 am on Friday, August 23, 2024. 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	Anthony Ladd	Sarah Lefebvre
Marc Stemp	Debbie White	Lake Williams	Brian Zematis

Members Johnathon Dartt and Bronson Frye were excused, and members Anthony Ladd and Steven Heidemann were absent. Member Randy Beltz arrived after the roll call.

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

Mary Ann Foland	Jeff Gilbert	Mason McCloskey	Valerie Mittelstead
Jeff Moore	Pam Scott	Misty Steed	

Member Susan Kosinski was excused, and member Jeff Moore arrived after the roll call.

**III. AGENDA APPROVAL**

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

**IV. APPROVAL OF JOINT BOARD/MSRC AUGUST 25, 2023 MEETING MINUTES**

A motion to adopt the minutes from the August 25, 2023, special joint meeting of the Board and MSRC was made by member Lefebvre and seconded by member White. The motion passed unanimously.

**V. APPROVAL OF MSRC AUGUST 9, 2024 MEETING MINUTES**

Member Foland made a motion to adopt the minutes from the August 9, 2024 meeting, which was seconded by member McCloskey. 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**

The MSRC, through Carla Gee with Optum, presented its recommendation to the Board. Carla walked through the track changes version of the draft 2025 Fee Schedule.

The MSRC and Board discussed the dates for the 2025 Special Joint Meeting. Member Lefebvre motioned to hold the meeting on August 22, 2025. Member Corbett seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Member Lefebvre motioned that it is the will of the Board that the Division publishes a bulletin that clarifies and guides the use and completion of the physician's report form. Member Williams seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. The Board chastised the director for failure to publish a bulletin as requested at the 2023 joint meeting. It reaffirmed their will to have a bulletin to address the issue of injured worker medical billing and to coordinate with the Division of Insurance to add a blurb in their quarterly mailout.

In response to the motion passed on 8/25/23, the MSRC provided an overview of their surgery and radiology conversion factor review during the 2024 fee development season. The MSRC decided not to make any changes due to the potential impact on access to care. Dr. Moore explained that MRI machines operate seven days a week in Alaska to meet the demand, with workers' comp accounting for about 5 to 6% of this business. If the conversion factors were reduced for Workers' Compensation, providers would likely reduce the number of workers' compensation patients they treat despite still running the machines at full capacity.

Member Lefebvre motioned to add a definition for physician's report, to state, "Physician's report refers to the Physician's Report form 07-6102 available at (website). The physician's report must include the information outlined in 8 AAC 45.086 and be submitted within 14 days of service." Member Stemp seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Member Lefebvre motioned that the language and links for forms provided in the Fee Schedule be consistent. Member Beltz seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

*Break 11:15 am – 11:25pm*

Member White motioned to add the division logo to the cover of the fee schedule. Member Lefebvre seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Member Foland motioned to approve the proposed 2025 Alaska Workers' Compensation Medical Fee Schedule as amended, and member Steed seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Member Lefebvre moved to accept the proposed 2025 Alaska Workers' Compensation Medical Fee Schedule as amended, and member Beltz seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **VIII. PROPOSED REGULATION CHANGES**

Amend 8 AAC 45.083, relating to fees for medical treatment and services. Member Lefebvre moved to approve the amendment of 8 AAC 45.083, and member Corbett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion to adjourn was made by member Cline and seconded by member Dennis. The motion passed unanimously.

*Meeting Adjourned 12:15 pm*