

Members present: Ms. Joswiak, Mr. Kante, and Ms. McKinzie
Members absent: Mr. Fontaine, Mr. Kugler
Staff present: Mr. Metcalf, Mr. Krueger, Mr. Moreth, and Mr. Tomsyck

Call to order. The meeting was called to order at 8:55 A.M. in conformance with Wisconsin's open meeting law.

Closed session Roehl Transport application presentation In accordance with s. 19.85(1)(f) the council convened in closed session to review financial, loss experience, safety and other information of the employer. Some of the company's specific financial or other business information may be confidential and not subject to public disclosure.

Open session

Review and approval of the minutes of the previous meeting Minutes of the November 8, 2012 regular meeting were reviewed, and approved as written.

Work Injury Supplemental Benefit Fund. Mr. Krueger gave an update on the declining balance of the WISBF. The Fund will not be able to continue to pay all claims on it, given the declining revenue (primarily assessments against employers whose employees suffer death or dismemberment). Mr. Krueger stated that one change is likely to be the elimination of reimbursement to insurers and self-insurers of the supplemental benefits they pay. Alternatively, supplemental benefits could continue to be reimbursed, but that amount would then be assessed against all insurers and self-insurers in the same manner as the regular operating assessment. Council members expressed a strong preference for the former, as they felt that an insurer/self-insurer that has no claims with supplemental benefits should not be subsidizing those that do.

Closed session review reports of self-insured employers In accordance with s. 19.85(1)(f) the council convened in closed session to review financial, loss experience, safety and other information of employers presently or previously exempt from the duty to insure. Some of the companies' specific financial or other business information may be confidential and not subject to public disclosure.

Open session

Ms. Joswiak reported no change in the excess insurance market for utilities.

Self-Insurance Rules Update Workgroup: The second meeting is scheduled for March 11, 2013. There are 7 topics under consideration. All of the proposals were agreed to in principle by workgroup members in attendance. Proposed language to effect the changes will be submitted to the group at its next meeting.

State of Oregon: There is a proposal to build a fund that will have substantial cash to pay defaulted S-I claims so that self-insurers don't have to individually post security. Many questions on how this will work in practice.

The year 2013 is the Centennial of self-insurance in Wisconsin. Only S.C. Johnson and Kohler Co. have been in the program since inception. Three employers have participated more than 75 years, another four have more than 50 years tenure. A large majority of employers in the program have less than 25 years tenure. There was discussion of whether to try to hold some sort of celebration, but consensus was that weak participation would be predicted, given that home offices of so many employers is now out of state, and that austerity at many firms would preclude travel for such an event.

Next meeting Mr. Moreth will poll the members for acceptable dates for a meeting to be held in Spring 2013 as applications or conditions warrant.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 PM