



**STATE OF MAINE
WORKERS' COMPENSATION BOARD
Board of Directors Business Meeting**

July 14, 2026

A business meeting of the Maine Workers' Compensation Board of Directors was conducted remotely via Teams and in person at the Board's Central Office at 442 Civic Center Drive, Suite 100, Augusta, on Tuesday, July 14, 2026.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: John Rohde (*Executive Director/Chair*), Glenn Burroughs, Ronnie Green, Penny Picard, Serina DeWolfe, and Lynne Gaudette (*Directors*), and Richard Hewes (*General Counsel*) attended in person.

CALL TO ORDER

Executive Director Rohde called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. with 40 people participating in person and via Teams. Board members introduced themselves for the recording.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Draft Minutes of the June 9, 2026, Business Meeting of the Board of Directors

Director Green MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 9, 2026, BOARD MEETING AS WRITTEN; Director Burroughs SECONDED. **MOTION PASSED 6-0.**

II. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

1. IME Subcommittee

Director Burroughs reported that the IME Subcommittee had four interviews with independent medical examiners scheduled as part of the annual review process. Two interviews were held, the other two will be rescheduled, if possible. The feedback from the examiners, both from the interviews and annual questionnaire, is very helpful to the Board.

2. Personnel Subcommittee

Director Picard reported that the Personnel Subcommittee has met with the Board's department heads to get a sense of their goals, visions for their departments as well as the structure and composition of each of the units. The subcommittee will prepare recommendations and present them at a future meeting. This effort was part of the process for formulating the biennial budget.

3. Budget Subcommittee

The Budget Subcommittee will meet with department heads as part of the biennial budget process. The subcommittee is preparing for the budget process to begin in August.

4. Legislation Subcommittee

Executive Director Rohde noted that if the Board desires to advance legislative initiatives, then those will have to be introduced by December 1, 2026. He suggested that a subcommittee for proposed legislation be formed. Director Burroughs volunteered for the subcommittee.

III. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

1. Active Threat Training

Capitol Police Officer Jason LaVerdiere presented active threat trainings at the Board's Bangor, Portland, and Augusta regional offices in June. The training was very informative, and the Board appreciated the on-site training opportunity.

2. Team Day

Team Day will be held on September 17, 2026, at the YMCA Camp in Winthrop. All Board offices will be closed that day.

3. CompCon

CompCon will be held at Sunday River in Newry from October 4th through 6th. More information will be coming from the Bar Association regarding registration and lodging.

IV. GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT

1. Personnel

The Advocate Division continues to work on filling vacancies and training new staff members. Larry Brann and Marc St. Pierre are still assisting with cases in the Advocate Division. The backlog is decreasing overall and cases are being reassigned. It is a slower process due to additional recent vacancies and the time that has to be dedicated to training new staff. Old cases are being scheduled for status conferences before the judges and Chris Hamlen in the Portland Regional Office is tracking those cases. Lindsay Lizzotte is working to create a code to track these cases in the Board's database, Progress.

V. OLD BUSINESS

1. Rulemaking Update

The Board's rulemaking package is still at the Attorney General's office for legal pre-review. We hope to have the review back from the AG's office in August. Unless major revisions are suggested, the rules will be scheduled for public comment once the pre-review is completed. The public comment period will follow the usual notice procedures and timeline.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Director Picard MOVED TO ADJOURN. Director Green SECONDED. **MOTION PASSED 5-1.** (*Director Burroughs opposed.*)

The meeting formally adjourned at 10:17 a.m.