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TRANSCRIPT MINUTES

MEETING OF THE
STATE OF NEVADA
BOARD FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE
SUBSEQUENT INJURY ACCOUNT FOR
SELF-INSURED EMPLOYERS

Wednesday, August 19, 2020
10:00 a.m.

3360 West Sahara Avenue, Suite 250,
Las Vegas, Nevada, 89102,
in the Executive Video Conference Room

(Due to concerns with COVID-19,
the meeting was conducted via telephone.)

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A P P E A R A N C E S

For the Board:

Cecilia Meyer (phone)
Board Chair, Board Member

Suhair Sayegh (phone)
Board Member

Sharolyn Wilson (phone)
Board Member

Donald Bordelove, Esq. (phone)
Deputy Attorney General
Board Counsel

For the Division of Industrial Relations:

Christopher A. Eccles, Esq. (phone)
Counsel for DIR

For the Administrator of the DIR:

Vanessa Skrinjaric (Las Vegas)
Compliance Audit Investigator
Division of Industrial Relations
Workers' Compensation Section

Also Present:

Marisa Mayfield (phone)
Hooks Meng Clement

Kasey McCourtney (phone)
CCMSI

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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2020, 10:00 A.M.

-oOo-

BOARD MEMBER MEYER: All right. Today is August 19th of 2020. It's 10:00 a.m. And this is the Board of Administration for the Subsequent Injury Account for Self-Insured Employers.

And we will start with roll call.

MS. SKRINJARIC: If you'd like, I'll just go ahead and read everyone's names, and they can just say "present."

BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Perfect.

MS. SKRINJARIC: And I'll start with you. Cecilia Meyer?

BOARD MEMBER MEYER: I am here.

MS. SKRINJARIC: Okay. Suhair Sayegh?

BOARD MEMBER SAYEGH: Present.

MS. SKRINJARIC: Sharolyn?

BOARD MEMBER WILSON: Here.

MS. SKRINJARIC: Donald Bordelove?

1 MR. BORDELOVE: Here.

2 MS. SKRINJARIC: Christopher Eccles?

3 MR. ECCLES: Here.

4 MS. SKRINJARIC: And, of course, this is
5 Vanessa Skrinjaric with DIR.

6 And we also have Kasey McCourtney?

7 MS. MCCOURTNEY: Here.

8 MS. SKRINJARIC: And Marisa Mayfield?

9 MS. MAYFIELD: Here.

10 MS. SKRINJARIC: Okay.

11 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: All right. We have public
12 comment. This is the opportunity for public comment.
13 It is reserved for any matter listed below on the agenda
14 as well as any matter within the jurisdiction of the
15 Board. No action on such an item may be taken by the
16 Board unless and until the matter has been noticed as an
17 action item. Comment from the public is limited to
18 three minutes per person.

19 Do we have any public?

20 MS. SKRINJARIC: No.

21 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Okay. All right. It
22 looks like we're moving on to item 3, the election of
23 the Chair and the Vice Chair position for the Board.
24 I'm not sure how we should proceed on that.

1 MR. BORDELOVE: We can just take a motion for
2 election of -- we could start with the Chair. If
3 anybody has a motion for election of the Chair, feel
4 free to make it.

5 BOARD MEMBER SAYEGH: Oh. I can. This is
6 Suhair. I can make the motion to keep Cecilia as the
7 Chair.

8 MR. BORDELOVE: Okay. We have a motion. Do we
9 have a second?

10 BOARD MEMBER WILSON: This is Sharolyn. I'll
11 second that motion.

12 MR. BORDELOVE: All in favor?

13 (Board members said "aye.")

14 MR. BORDELOVE: Congratulations.

15 BOARD MEMBER SAYEGH: Yay, Cecilia.

16 BOARD MEMBER WILSON: Yay.

17 BOARD MEMBER SAYEGH: Yay. Cecilia, did you
18 suspect it?

19 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: So, then, we would then
20 take a motion for the Chair position?

21 MR. BORDELOVE: Correct, for Vice Chair.

22 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Oh, Vice Chair, yes. I'll
23 go ahead and make a motion for Suhair to have that
24 position.

1 BOARD MEMBER WILSON: And this is Sharolyn. I
2 will second that motion.

3 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: All in favor?

4 (Board members said "aye.")

5 BOARD MEMBER SAYEGH: Cecilia, is this payback?

6 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Yes. Sometimes it pays to
7 be low man on the totem pole. Your time is coming,
8 Sharolyn.

9 BOARD MEMBER WILSON: Oh, you watch it.

10 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: All right. Well, then,
11 moving on to item 4, we have the approval of the agenda.

12 Did everybody receive the agenda and get a
13 chance to take a look at it?

14 BOARD MEMBER WILSON: Yes. This is Sharolyn.

15 BOARD MEMBER SAYEGH: Yes.

16 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Okay. I'll take a motion.

17 Do I have to, I have to take a motion to accept the
18 agenda?

19 MR. BORDELOVE: Right.

20 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Okay. Does anybody want
21 to make a motion to accept the agenda?

22 BOARD MEMBER WILSON: This is Sharolyn. I will
23 make a motion to accept the agenda for today's meeting,
24 August 19th, 2010 at 10:00 a.m.

1 BOARD MEMBER SAYEGH: This is Suhair. I'll
2 second that motion.

3 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Okay. All in favor, say
4 "aye."

5 (Board members said "aye.")

6 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: And did everybody get, on
7 item 5, did everybody get a copy of the minutes from our
8 last meeting, which was March 18th of 2020, and did
9 everybody get a chance to review them?

10 BOARD MEMBER WILSON: This is Sharolyn. Yes.

11 BOARD MEMBER SAYEGH: Yes. This is Suhair.

12 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Okay. Does somebody want
13 to make a motion to -- is there any questions, comments
14 or corrections to those minutes?

15 BOARD MEMBER WILSON: I have none. Sharolyn.

16 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: I'll take a motion.

17 BOARD MEMBER WILSON: This is Sharolyn. I'll
18 make a motion that we approve the -- accept and approve
19 the minutes from the March 18th, 2020 meeting.

20 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Suhair, do you want to
21 second that motion?

22 BOARD MEMBER SAYEGH: Yes, I'll go ahead and
23 second that motion.

24 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Okay. All in favor?

1 (Board members said "aye.")

2 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Okay. We'll move on to
3 item 6. And the first claim we have up is for City of
4 Henderson, claim number 19C52F913662.

5 Go ahead, Vanessa.

6 MS. SKRINJARIC: Okay. So before I get
7 started, does everyone want to do their general
8 disclosure on CCMSI before we -- because I have CCMSI on
9 a lot of these.

10 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Yes. Can we do just a
11 general one, or do we have to do it at the beginning of
12 each CCMSI claim?

13 MS. SKRINJARIC: Well, I think, CCMSI is on
14 you, Cecilia, and on Sharolyn, right?

15 BOARD MEMBER WILSON: Correct.

16 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Correct. And we have them
17 on all but two of these claims today.

18 BOARD MEMBER WILSON: Correct.

19 MS. SKRINJARIC: And then, if I get to one that
20 belongs to one of you, you'll have to make a specific
21 disclosure if that's your employer.

22 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Sure.

23 BOARD MEMBER WILSON: All right.

24 MS. SKRINJARIC: Okay. So this is for City of

1 Henderson. It is the Administrator's recommendation to
2 accept this request pursuant to NRS 616B.557 for
3 bilateral hearing loss and tinnitus.

4 The total amount requested for reimbursement is
5 \$120,706.21. The amount of verified costs is
6 \$120,706.21.

7 This request was received from CCMSI on
8 March 3rd, 2020.

9 Prior history. The employee was hired on
10 August 31st, 1998 as a police officer. His audiometric
11 screening in 1998 indicated a baseline average of 3.3
12 decibels in the left ear and 1.6 decibels in the right
13 year. He had years screenings which showed progressive
14 hearing loss. In 2016, his average was 31.6 decibels in
15 the left ear and 20 decibels in the right ear. The
16 employee had, quote, indications of a persistent shift
17 of his hearing as is defined by the Occupational Safety
18 and Health Administration, OSHA, standard number
19 1910.95(g)(9)(r). The employee filed a claim for his
20 hearing loss in July 2016. This claim was ultimately
21 denied based on medical reporting.

22 By February 4th, 2019, his hearing loss had
23 progressed even more rapidly. His testing showed an
24 average 76.6 decibels in the left ear and 53.3 in the

1 right ear. Based on the shift in his hearing, on
2 February 20th, 2019, the employer encouraged the
3 employee to retest his hearing.

4 Present claim. On March 8th, 2019, the
5 employee was at the firing range waiting for the next
6 qualification. He was loading his magazines. The range
7 instructor proceeded to start a qualification for
8 another officer on the firing line. No warning was
9 issued that the range was hot. The employee did not
10 have on his ear protection when firing began. This
11 caused ringing and pain in the employee's ears.

12 Medical reporting will be taken from the
13 August 6th, 2019 permanent partial disability evaluation
14 penned by Dr. Quaglieri, as well as his addendum on
15 August 27, 2019.

16 The employee saw Dr. Klausner on March 12th,
17 2019 and had an audiogram. The diagnosis was noise
18 exposure right ear with chronic bilateral ear severe
19 hearing loss with tinnitus preexisting. He was released
20 to full duty.

21 The employee had Dr. Vyas, otolaryngologist,
22 perform a record review in which he concluded that the
23 employee had occupational noise induced sensorineural
24 hearing loss and tinnitus secondary to sudden loud noise

1 exposure.

2 On April 5th, 2019, the employee saw Dr. Lang,
3 audiologist, who recommended an ENT evaluation for
4 otalgia and tinnitus. An audiogram was also performed.

5 On May 1st, 2019, the employee saw
6 Dr. Kwiatkowski for an ENT evaluation. He felt the
7 employee had bilateral hearing loss and tinnitus.

8 On August 6th, 2019, Dr. Quaglieri performed a
9 PPD evaluation in which he determined the employee had a
10 28 percent whole person impairment due to bilateral
11 hearing loss and tinnitus.

12 On August 27, 2019, Dr. Quaglieri looked at the
13 February 4th, 2019 audiogram in order to apportion out
14 the hearing loss and tinnitus that existed prior to the
15 March 8th, 2019 gunshot injury. He determined that the
16 prior impairment was 12 percent whole person impairment.
17 Therefore, the subsequent condition of March 8th, 2019
18 was 28 percent whole person impairment less 12 percent
19 whole person impairment resulting in 16 percent whole
20 person impairment. The employee took this in a lump
21 sum.

22 It is noted that the employee is now retired
23 from the employer and received hearing aids on
24 July 31st, 2019.

1 While the employee had significant preexisting
2 bilateral hearing loss prior to the industrial injury,
3 he was rated at an additional 16 percent under this
4 current claim. He also needs lifelong hearing aids.
5 The Administrator believes the compensation due the
6 injured employee is substantially greater due to the
7 combined effects of the preexisting impairment and the
8 subsequent injury than that which would have resulted in
9 the subsequent injury alone.

10 Therefore, NRS 616B.557, subsection 1, has been
11 satisfied.

12 Pursuant to Dr. Quaglieri's August 27, 2019
13 addendum, the injured employee was rated at 12 percent
14 whole person impairment for bilateral hearing loss and
15 tinnitus.

16 Therefore, NRS 616B.557, subsection 3, has been
17 satisfied.

18 The employer provided the following pertinent
19 records to show knowledge of permanent impairment:

20 2-21-19 email from Tyson Hollis, City of
21 Henderson, to the employee informing him a follow-up
22 hearing test should be performed promptly;

23 3-5-19 email from employee to Tyson Hollis
24 requesting a copy of the latest results and complete

1 hearing history;

2 3-5-19 email from Cheryl Causey, City of
3 Henderson Fire Department, to the employee and Tyson
4 Hollis: Attached are your hearing history records;

5 3-5-19 email from Tyson Hollis to Cheryl Causey
6 and the employee informing the employee he should have
7 the information he needs if he chooses to, quiet, submit
8 a claim;

9 Audiology testing results which were referenced
10 in item 3. The dates are 2-11-16; 2-23-15; 2-10-14;
11 2-12-13; 1-4-12; 2-9-11; 1-5-10; 12-12-08; 10-2-07;
12 12-20-05; 12-20-04; 2-7-02; 3-1-99; 6-10-98; 2-5-18;
13 2-4-19.

14 It appears that on 2-4-19, the employee went
15 for his yearly hearing test. The hearing test came back
16 with a significant shift. The employer advised the
17 employee to get retested. In order to assist in that
18 process, the employee requested a copy of all of his
19 prior hearing tests. The employer provided those
20 records on March 5th, '19. This is prior to the
21 subsequent injury. Unfortunately, prior to any
22 retesting, the employee was involved in the incident on
23 the gun range when he was exposed to gunfire without his
24 protective hearing equipment.

1 North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District v.
2 Board of Administration does not require the employer's
3 perfect knowledge of a 6 percent permanent impairment.
4 It requires that an employee's preexisting permanent
5 physical impairment be fairly and reasonably inferred
6 from the written record and the impairment must amount
7 to at least 6 percent whole person impairment. That is
8 the case here.

9 Based on the totality of the documents present,
10 it is reasonable to conclude that the employer was aware
11 the employee suffered serious bilateral hearing loss
12 prior to his industrial injury of March 8th, 2019. The
13 employer was aware in 2016 that the employee had a
14 persistent shift in his hearing when he tried to file a
15 claim. By February 4th, 2019, the hearing loss had
16 progressed even more rapidly. Dr. Quaglieri determined
17 that the hearing loss on this date amounted to a
18 12 percent whole person impairment. While the employer
19 may not have known the exact percentage of impairment,
20 it is reasonable to conclude the employer knew it was
21 above 6 percent whole person impairment.

22 Therefore, NRS 616B.557, subsection 4, has been
23 satisfied.

24 Subsection 5 does not need to be satisfied in

1 order for this claim to be considered for reimbursement
2 since the date of injury is after the October 1, 2007
3 change in the requirements of the statute.

4 That's all.

5 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Anybody have questions or
6 comments?

7 BOARD MEMBER WILSON: This is Sharolyn. I have
8 none.

9 BOARD MEMBER SAYEGH: This is Suhair. I have
10 none.

11 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: I'll take a motion.

12 BOARD MEMBER SAYEGH: This is Suhair. I'll go
13 ahead and make the motion to accept the Administrator's
14 determination, or recommendation in the amount of one
15 thousand -- 120 thousand -- sorry, I can't see the
16 numbers -- 706 and 21 cents for claim number
17 19C52F913662.

18 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Is there a second?

19 BOARD MEMBER WILSON: This is Sharolyn. I'll
20 second that motion.

21 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: All in favor?

22 (Board members said "aye.")

23 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Okay. Next, we have
24 Nevada Energy Inc., claim number 14G28Y02217.

1 Vanessa.

2 BOARD MEMBER WILSON: Cecilia, do we have to
3 make our declaration that about CCMSI?

4 MS. SKRINJARIC: Yes.

5 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: We absolutely should.

6 BOARD MEMBER WILSON: This is Sharolyn Wilson
7 with Washoe County. CCMSI is our third-party claims
8 administrator, but that will not affect my decision
9 related to this matter.

10 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: And this is Cecilia Meyer.
11 CCMSI is the third-party administrator for City of
12 Carson, but that will not affect my decision today.

13 MS. SKRINJARIC: All right. It is the
14 Administrator's recommendation to accept this request
15 pursuant to NRS 616B.557 for the cervical spine, right
16 shoulder and left knee only. The left shoulder, right
17 knee and lumbar spine, reopened under the 2-9-09 claim,
18 are excluded. Additionally, the conditions of mild
19 traumatic brain injury, post-concussion syndrome, PTSD,
20 post-traumatic headaches and hypersomnolence, which were
21 ordered accepted by January 29, 2018 Appeals Officer
22 decision, are specifically excluded.

23 The total amount requested for reimbursement is
24 \$340,724.47. The amount of verified costs is

1 \$284,962.46. An explanation of the disallowance is
2 attached to this letter.

3 This request was received from CCMSI on
4 May 4th, 2020.

5 Prior history. On February 20th, 2013, the
6 employer submitted an application for reimbursement from
7 the subsequent injury account for the employee's
8 February 9th, 2009 date of injury. The application was
9 denied for the left knee and cervical spine. On July
10 25th, 2013, the Board voted to approve the employer's
11 withdrawal of its application. The prior history will
12 be taken from the Administrator's recommendation except
13 as otherwise noted.

14 This gentleman was hired by this employer on
15 June 8th, 1997. The prior history begins in December
16 1997 when the employee was involved in a motor vehicle
17 accident. Medical assessment was cephalgia secondary to
18 cervical muscle strain. He also had sciatica secondary
19 to muscle spasm. The patient failed to improve and had
20 cervical MRI. Finding showed C5-6 small central bulge.

21 In an independent medical evaluation with
22 Dr. Mars, previous injuries were noted. The patient had
23 back injury in 1980, skull, neck and back in 1983, back
24 in 1984 and 1986 and this was closed with a 6 percent

1 impairment. In March of 1986, there was a rating of
2 9 percent impairment. EMG studies were done and
3 Dr. Mars noted no evidence of radiculopathy or
4 mononeuropathy.

5 The patient had physical therapy, several
6 trigger point injections, epidural injection all with
7 minimal relief. On July 29th, 1999, Dr. Witmer
8 discharged the patient. He had PPD evaluation on
9 October 16th, 1999 and Dr. Webb felt the patient
10 qualified for 5 percent whole person impairment under
11 DRE Category II. There was previous impairment of 4
12 percent noted and the injured employee was allowed an
13 additional 1 percent whole person impairment under this
14 1997 claim.

15 Another injury occurred on April 20th, 2004
16 that involved the cervical spine. The patient treated
17 conservatively and by May 2004 his condition had
18 improved. He maintained light duty restrictions. In
19 August 2004, EMG studies of the cervical spine were
20 normal. The patient had epidural injections without any
21 relief. He was referred to Dr. Rappaport for surgical
22 consultation. On January 3rd, 2005, microscopic
23 anterior cervical dissection and fusion at C5-6 was
24 performed. In September 2005, he had reached MMI.

1 On October 26th, 2005, a PPD evaluation was
2 conducted. The physician found a total of 27 percent
3 whole person impairment. He apportioned the prior
4 5 percent and awarded the injured employee an additional
5 22 percent whole person impairment for the cervical
6 spine.

7 On September 28th, 2006, the employee injured
8 his bilateral knees.

9 The patient ended up with surgery to the left
10 knee in December 2006 with a second surgery in August
11 2007. As of December 2007, the patient had right knee
12 pain complaints and had injection. Dr. Kipling
13 performed a PPD evaluation on January 31, 2008 and found
14 4 percent whole person impairment for flexion
15 contracture of the left knee and no impairment for the
16 right knee.

17 The injured employee sought additional
18 treatment in March 2008. He suggested the claim closed
19 prematurely and the injured employee needed injection in
20 both knees. On April 18th, 2008, Dr. Cestkowski penned
21 a PPD file review. He agreed with the 4 percent whole
22 person impairment found on the left knee for range of
23 motion loss. He questioned the impairment to the right
24 knee when considering atrophy. If the atrophy was

1 related to the industrial injury, then the patient would
2 be entitled to 1 percent whole person impairment.

3 On June 17, 2008, the injured employee entered
4 into a stipulated agreement before the Appeals Officer.
5 In compromise of the disputes between the parties, they
6 agreed that the third-party administrator would pay the
7 injured employee a 5 percent PPD award for the bilateral
8 knees.

9 While still working for the same employer, this
10 employee suffered another injury on February 9th, 2009
11 involving multiple body parts including the cervical
12 spine and left knee.

13 The patient treated the conservatively with
14 medication and physical therapy. MRI of the left knee
15 showed tear of the posterior horn of the medial meniscus
16 and suspected fraying of the posterior horn of the
17 lateral meniscus. The patient was referred to
18 Dr. Huene for treatment of the left knee.

19 Dr. Huene evaluated the patient on March 11,
20 2009 and recommended surgery. In the meantime, the
21 patient continued to treat for his right shoulder,
22 lumbar spine and cervical spine. He was referred to a
23 physiatrist. Dr. Twombly evaluated the patient on
24 April 23rd, 2009. MRI of the cervical spine and right

1 shoulder were recommended. MRI of the lumbar spine
2 showed no significant pathology. Light duty
3 restrictions were given.

4 In May, Dr. Twombly reported on the cervical
5 and shoulder MRIs. The cervical MRI showed no
6 significant pathology. The impression was myofascial
7 symptoms. The shoulder MRI showed paralabral cyst and
8 partial supraspinatus tearing. The patient was referred
9 to Dr. Huene for the shoulder and to the chiropractor
10 for the cervical spine.

11 Left knee surgery was done on May 11th, 2009
12 with Dr. Huene. The patient was sent to physical
13 therapy. On May 22nd, 2009, the patient was released to
14 full duty regarding his left knee.

15 The injured employee continued to treat with
16 Dr. Twombly for multiple body parts. He also attended
17 physical therapy, had chiropractic treatment and
18 epidural injection for the lumbar spine. The patient
19 was referred to Dr. Uppal for treatment of the right
20 shoulder and back pain. In July 2009, the patient had
21 right shoulder surgery. The patient was referred to
22 Dr. Kip for treatment of the lumbar spine. EMG studies
23 of the lumbar spine were normal.

24 He continued to follow up with Dr. Twombly. On

1 October 1, 2009, he indicated the patient had exhausted
2 conservative treatment for the low back and that Dr. Kip
3 did not see obvious surgical indications. The
4 recommendation was for the patient to finish up with
5 therapy and continue with a strengthening and
6 stabilization home program. A functional capacity
7 evaluation should be done to address any permanent
8 restrictions. Follow up with the orthopedic physician
9 for the left knee and right shoulder.

10 On October 6th, 2009, the patient saw Dr. Uppal
11 with continued complaints regarding the left knee and
12 right shoulder. Dr. Uppal recommended operative
13 intervention for the knee. Surgery was done October 15,
14 2009. The patient was required to physical therapy. On
15 November 11, 2009, reporting noted substantial
16 improvement in the left knee. The patient continued to
17 have right shoulder symptoms. MR arthrogram was
18 requested. Findings showed healed labral tear and the
19 cyst was gone. Dr. Uppal recommended full duty release
20 as of December 22nd, 2009.

21 In January 2010, the patient continued to
22 complain of right shoulder pain. Surgery was done
23 February 16, 2010. In March 2010, the patient was
24 evaluated by Dr. Vacca for his low back complaints.

1 Surgery was performed on May 18th, 2010.

2 On May 17, 2010, Dr. Frank Quaglieri performed
3 an independent medical evaluation. It appears this was
4 mainly to address right occipital headaches.

5 Dr. Quaglieri indicated the headache pattern was most
6 consistent with right occipital neuralgia. Cervical
7 x-ray, brain MRI and EEG testing were requested. It was
8 believed that the headaches were the result of the 2009
9 date of injury. On June 8, 2010, Dr. Quaglieri
10 indicated cervical x-ray was negative for any findings
11 except prior fusion at C5-6, brain MRI and EEG were
12 unremarkable. He thought the patient should follow up
13 with Dr. Twombly for consideration of right occipital
14 nerve block.

15 Occipital nerve blocks were done on July 23rd,
16 2010 and as of this date, Dr. Uppal felt the patient had
17 reached MMI regarding the left knee and right shoulder.
18 He was released to full duty and was stable and ratable.

19 The patient continued to follow up with Dr. Kip
20 for the lumbar spine. In August 2010, the patient had
21 continued complaints of right thigh numbness. EMG
22 studies were done and the results were normal. Dr. Kip
23 felt the patient had reached MMI and gave him a full
24 duty release effective September 24th, 2010.

1 The patient was referred to Dr. Berman for pain
2 management for the neck, head and shoulder. On
3 September 27, 2010, Dr. Berman indicated the patient had
4 50 percent reduction in his symptoms with trigger point
5 injection. He had reached MMI and was stable and
6 ratable. Dr. Berman recommended the patient be
7 maintained on medication and could follow up as needed.

8 Dr. Charles Quaglieri performed a PPD
9 evaluation on November 19, 2010. He found 6 percent
10 whole person impairment for the left knee, 0 percent for
11 the cervical spine, 0 percent for the chest, 8 percent
12 for the right shoulder, 11 percent for the lumbar spine
13 and 0 percent for the central nervous system. He noted
14 he did not have all of the prior notes available for
15 apportionment. His conclusion was 23 percent whole
16 person impairment due to the February 9, 2009 date of
17 injury.

18 On January 4th, 2011, Dr. Quaglieri penned an
19 addendum. He reviewed additional medical information
20 and apportioned the 6 percent whole person impairment
21 for the left knee by the 5 percent previously awarded
22 and allowed 1 percent additional under the current
23 claim. This brought the total impairment to 19 percent
24 whole person impairment for all body parts under the

1 claim.

2 In 2011, the patient had some additional
3 treatment to the lumbar spine including epidural
4 injection and EMG studies. The injured employee
5 requested a release from medical care and Dr. Kip
6 obliged as of June 30th, 2011.

7 On February 20th, 2012, Dr. Kudrewicz penned a
8 subsequent injury fund review where he felt only the
9 cervical spine and left knee could potentially qualify.

10 On January 23rd, 2013, the employee requested
11 reopening of two claims, 2004 claim for the cervical
12 spine and 2009 claim for the right shoulder and lumbar
13 spine. This was ultimately settled by stipulation on
14 January 22nd, 2014.

15 On January 28th, 2013, the employee sought pain
16 management treatment with Dr. Berman for his cervical
17 and lumbar spine as well as his shoulders. It was felt
18 that he was suffering from post-laminectomy syndrome of
19 both his lumbar and cervical spines. On April 18th,
20 2013, Dr. Berman recommended reopening the 2009 claim
21 for pain management.

22 On June 17, 2013, a cervical MRI showed stable
23 anterior interbody fusion at C5-6 with broad-based right
24 paracentral protrusion at C4-5 causing impingement on

1 the cord. A lumbar MRI on the same day showed a central
2 disc protrusion at L5-S1 stable in comparison to prior
3 study with a broad-based bulge at L4-5 with left-sided
4 facet arthropathy resulting in mild to moderate
5 left-sided lateral recess stenosis.

6 On August 19, 2013, Dr. Berman performed
7 cervical epidural steroid injections.

8 On August 20th, 2013, Dr. Uppal saw the
9 employee for persistent right shoulder and left knee
10 pain.

11 A September 6th, 2013 MR arthrogram of the
12 right shoulder showed a complex full-thickness tear of
13 the supraspinatus as well as posterior superior labral
14 tear mildly progressive from prior study and persistent
15 anterior inferior labral tear similar to prior
16 appearance.

17 Dr. Uppal recommended claim reopening.

18 On October 2nd, 2013, Dr. Rimoldi performed an
19 IME. He felt the lumbar spine did not warrant reopening
20 and the new disc protrusion at C4-5 was probably
21 secondary to adjacent level stress from the 2005 surgery
22 but did not directly relate to the 2009 industrial
23 injury. He also felt the employee had right shoulder
24 subacromial syndrome with rotator cuff pathology.

1 On October 16th, 2013, the employ saw
2 Dr. Rappaport. He recommended an anesthetic nerve block
3 for the cervical spine at C4-5 followed by anterior
4 cervical discectomy and fusion at C4-5 if that level was
5 confirmed to be the pain generator. For the lumbar
6 spine, he recommended selective nerve root blocks and
7 epidural steroid injections with consideration of redo
8 decompression and fusion.

9 On December 9, 2013, Dr. Uppal performed a
10 right arthroscopy with rotator cuff repair, limited
11 debridement of the glenohumeral joint and removal of
12 retained hardware. Thereafter, the employee went to
13 physical therapy.

14 Dr. Berman performed trigger point injections
15 on February 14th and March 19th, 2014.

16 On April 8th, 2014, a right shoulder MRI showed
17 interval repeat rotator cuff repair with small
18 partial-thickness tear of the infraspinatus but no
19 evidence of recurrent or residual full-thickness
20 tearing. Mild subscapularis tendinopathy and persistent
21 SLAP tear involving the biceps anchor was also noted.
22 Subacromial subdeltoid bursitis was also present.

23 The employee saw Dr. Lynch, neurosurgeon, on
24 May 23rd, 2014. He felt the employee had bilateral L5

1 radiculopathies. He ordered further testing.

2 A June 20th, 2014 CT of the lumbar spine showed
3 a disc bulge and mild facet degenerative changes
4 resulting in mild bilateral neural foraminal stenosis at
5 L5-S1. There was no instability on flexion/extension.

6 On July 1, 2014, the employee continued to
7 complain of right shoulder pain. Dr. Uppal could find
8 no reason for the complaints and ordered a repeat MRI
9 with contrast.

10 On July 2nd, 2014, lower extremity
11 electrodiagnostics were normal.

12 Present claim. On July 31st, 2014, the
13 employee was stopped at a stoplight when he was
14 rear-ended. He was seen at Concentra and diagnosed with
15 cervical sprain, shoulder strain, lumbar strain and
16 contusion of the face and forearm with numbness. He
17 began physical therapy.

18 The employee underwent a brain CT on
19 August 12th, 2014, which was unremarkable.

20 on August 21, 2014, Dr. Lynch determined that
21 the cervical spine condition was a new injury sustained
22 in the motor vehicle accident on July 31st, 2014.
23 However, he felt the lumbar spine condition should
24 continue to be treated under the reopened 2009 claim.

1 On September 4th, 2014, an MR arthrogram of the
2 right shoulder showed prior supraspinatus repair with
3 partial-thickness and presumed full-thickness tear of
4 the central tendon along the footprint. Labral
5 degeneration with small anterior superior and posterior
6 tears was also noted.

7 On September 3rd, 2014, Dr. Berman performed
8 trigger point injections.

9 On September 8th, 2014, Dr. Lynch felt the
10 employee suffered from a C6-7 radiculopathy and
11 requested a cervical MRI.

12 On September 17, 2014, an MRI of the cervical
13 spine showed no evidence of fracture, ligament injury or
14 disc herniation and reduction of the disc bulge at C4-5
15 with mild improved canal stenosis.

16 An MRI of the lumbar spine on September 24th,
17 2014 showed moderate spinal canal stenosis at L2-3 with
18 moderate bilateral neural foraminal stenosis secondary
19 to thickening of the ligamentum flavum and a
20 circumferential disc bulge with small annular tear.
21 Moderate spinal stenosis was also seen at L3-4 with
22 moderate bilateral neural foraminal stenosis secondary
23 to ligamentum flavum thickening and a 3 millimeter
24 circumferential bulge of the disc with small annular

1 tear. Postsurgical changes appeared intact.

2 On October 3rd, 2014, an MRI of the left knee
3 showed moderate medial compartment chondromalacia
4 increased from prior exam but no meniscal re-tear.
5 Evidence of prior injury to the ACL was noted unchanged
6 from previous exam.

7 MRI of the left shoulder on October 3rd, 2014
8 showed moderate rotator cuff tendinopathy with possible
9 adhesive capsulitis and superior labral tear involving
10 the biceps anchor.

11 The employee saw Dr. Bigley for a neurology
12 consult on September 25th, 2014 to evaluate his
13 headaches and complaints of abnormal smell. Another
14 brain MRI was performed on October 5th, 2014, which was
15 again normal. In his follow-up with Dr. Bigley on
16 October 9, 2014, it was noted the employee was
17 emotionally labile with intermittent stuttering.
18 Dr. Bigley had no neurologic explanation for the
19 symptoms and recommended treatment with a psychologist.

20 On November 10th, 2014, Dr. Uppal performed a
21 left shoulder arthroscopy with subacromial decompression
22 with distal clavicle excision and limited debridement of
23 the glenohumeral joint.

24 On November 25th, 2014, the employee returned

1 to Dr. Bigley complaining of sleep disturbances and
2 extreme anxiety.

3 On December 1, 2014, Dr. Uppal performed a
4 right shoulder arthroscopy with revision rotator cuff
5 repair with extensive debridement, open subpectoral
6 biceps tenodesis with removal of hardware. Thereafter,
7 the employee began physical therapy for both the left
8 and right shoulders.

9 The employee continued to treat with Dr. Berman
10 for both his lumbar and cervical conditions for pain
11 management. He routinely underwent trigger point
12 injections. He also continued with physical therapy.

13 On January 22nd, 2015, the employee saw
14 Dr. Stanfield for a psychological consult for pain. He
15 also saw Dr. Bigley on February 9th, 2015 for an EEG
16 which was normal.

17 Throughout 2015, the employee continued to see
18 Dr. Stanfield for pain management behavioral therapy
19 treatment. He also saw Dr. Berman for pain management
20 and trigger point injections.

21 In March of 2015, the employee continued to
22 report bilateral shoulder pain and left knee pain to
23 Dr. Uppal. Physical therapy was continued as well as an
24 unloading brace.

1 On March 19, 2015, the employee saw Dr. Lucia
2 for a sleep consultation. He recommended a sleep study
3 as well as changing most of the employee's medications.
4 The sleep study confirmed severe obstructive sleep
5 apnea.

6 on April 1, 2015, Dr. Lynch recommended
7 Dr. Berman perform radiofrequency ablations and repeat
8 cervical epidural injections to see if it settled down
9 the left-sided arm complaints of the employee.

10 On April 7, 2015, flexion/extension films of
11 the patient's cervical spine showed the fusion at C5-6
12 to be intact with no instability.

13 Lumbar discograms performed on April 16, 2015
14 were negative with no pain reproduction and normal
15 appearing disc at all levels.

16 On May 4, 2015, Dr. Uppal performed another
17 left shoulder arthroscopy with rotator cuff repair and
18 biceps tenodesis. Physical therapy was continued.

19 On May 18, 2015, Dr. Lynch noted bilateral
20 L5-S1 chronic radiculopathies but did not recommend
21 further surgery. He did recommend further physical
22 therapy.

23 The employee continued to see Dr. Berman for
24 both his cervical and lumbar complaints, including

1 trigger point injections.

2 On June 16, 2015, Dr. Lucia sent a letter which
3 stated, quote, his, employee's, OSA, obstructive sleep
4 apnea, is unrelated to his industrial injury and almost
5 certainly predates the MVA. His OSA is severe and
6 contributes to his complaints of insomnia, headache,
7 chronic pain, sleepiness, restless legs and asthma, end
8 quote.

9 On June 17, 2015, the employee saw Dr. Mullins
10 for his left knee. It was noted that he was suffering
11 from osteoarthritis with a medial meniscal tear for
12 which he recommended arthroscopic surgery.

13 On August 18, 2015, the employee saw Dr. Young
14 for a neuropsychological evaluation. He stated, quote,
15 I believe that the observed relatively subtle
16 inefficiencies in attention/concentration and memory
17 seen do not reflect stable physical brain injury, end
18 quote.

19 On November 30th, 2015, Dr. Uppal performed a
20 left knee arthroscopy with partial medial meniscectomy
21 and chondroplasty. Thereafter, the employee underwent
22 aquatic physical therapy.

23 On March 4th, 2016, the employee was
24 complaining that the left knee was not getting better.

1 Dr. Uppal gave him a Monovisc injection which provided
2 some relief.

3 On May 16, 2016, Dr. Uppal noted the employee
4 was having problems with his left shoulder but the left
5 knee was improving. He had nothing left to offer the
6 employee and felt an FCE was appropriate to determine
7 permanent restrictions.

8 On June 15, 2016, the employee saw Dr. Bacchus
9 who determined the employee had a grade 1 traumatic
10 brain injury without evidence of objective neurologic
11 findings on exam, MRI or EEG. Dr. Bacchus felt the
12 employee had post-traumatic headaches with a history of
13 preexisting headaches but concluded no objective
14 worsening could be ascertained. He recommended
15 psychotherapy to address post-traumatic stress disorder
16 with consideration of pseudobulbar palsy to explain the
17 employee's spontaneous weeping in a dysphoric
18 individual.

19 On August 18, 2016, the employee saw
20 Dr. Bittker and was diagnosed with post-traumatic stress
21 disorder, history of closed head injury and history of
22 post-concussion syndrome. He recommended Depakote or
23 topiramate for headache management as well as
24 psychotropic drugs and psychotherapy to assist with this

1 PTSD and depression.

2 On October 6th, 2016, Dr. Berman noted that the
3 employee had been evaluated by Dr. Rappaport who
4 recommended Botox injections for the headaches and
5 cervical facet injections for the persistent neck pain.

6 On January 19, 2017, Dr. Berman performed Botox
7 injections which provided increased pain to the
8 employee. Dr. Berman performed bilateral cervical facet
9 injections on January 20th, 2017 and April 28th, 2017.

10 The employee continued to have right shoulder
11 pain. On July 20th, 2017, Dr. Cummings performed an IME
12 of the right shoulder. He felt, if there was a tear, he
13 would need another surgery. If there was no tear, he
14 would be MMI.

15 Throughout 2017, the employee continued to
16 treat with Dr. Berman for pain management and
17 Dr. Stanfield for behavioral therapy related to his
18 pain.

19 On August 4th, 2017, Dr. Berman recommended
20 spinal cord stimulator implantation.

21 On August 31, 2017, the employee returned to
22 Dr. Bigley for his headaches. It was recommended that
23 he stop all narcotics and sedating medications and start
24 Depakote or Topamax.

1 On September 5th, 2017, an MR arthrogram of the
2 right shoulder showed a pinhole full-thickness tear of
3 the anterior supraspinatus with marked degeneration of
4 the tendon similar in appearance to the prior study with
5 partial-thickness tear at the overlap zone of the
6 supraspinatus and infraspinatus which appeared new from
7 the prior study. Extensive degeneration of the labrum
8 with extensive biceps tendinopathy was also noted.

9 On October 12th, 2017, Dr. Berman noted
10 continued neck complaints. On December 12th, 2017, he
11 performed cervical radiofrequency ablations. The
12 employee received only temporary relief.

13 Throughout 2018, the employee continued to see
14 Dr. Berman for pain management and Dr. Stanfield for
15 behavioral pain therapy.

16 On January 23rd, 2018, a decision and order was
17 entered which accepted the conditions of mild traumatic
18 brain injury, post-concussion syndrome, PTSD,
19 post-traumatic headaches and hypersomnolence. These
20 conditions are to be treated by a psychiatrist and not a
21 psychologist.

22 On March 14, 2018, Dr. Berman responded to a
23 letter in which he felt the employee was stable and
24 ratable for the cervical and lumbar condition. However,

1 he felt the employee would need ongoing maintenance
2 medical treatment for his pain. Yearly, the employee
3 would need six office visits, three facet joint
4 injections, one cervical and lumbar facet rhizotomy,
5 cervical and lumbar trigger point injections, spinal
6 cord stimulator maintenance, battery replacement for the
7 spinal cord stimulator and ongoing medications. As a
8 result of Dr. Berman's recommendations, a stipulated
9 settlement agreement and order was filed on May 9th,
10 2018 which addressed the pain management protocol
11 outlined by Dr. Berman.

12 In a visit with Dr. Bigley on April 3rd, 2018,
13 it was noted the employee was going to the Stanford
14 Sleep Center.

15 On July 20th, 2018, the employee saw
16 pulmonologist Dr. Young who was managing the employee's
17 narcolepsy, mild apnea and restless leg syndrome. He
18 noted the employee was improving on Ritalin.

19 On September 10th, 2018, Dr. Berman performed
20 repeat cervical radiofrequency ablations.

21 On January 15, 2019, Dr. Uppal felt there was
22 nothing further he could do for the employee's
23 persistent complaints about his right shoulder and left
24 knee pain. In regard to his left knee, Dr. Uppal felt a

1 total knee arthroplasty was the only option left.

2 However, Dr. Uppal was not willing to perform this.

3 On January 25th, 2019, Dr. Thekkekara performed
4 a psychiatric evaluation and felt the employee had
5 chronic PTSD as well as moderate episodes of recurrent
6 major depressive disorder. He recommended Sertraline,
7 continuation of pain management and psychotherapy. The
8 insurer is instructed to inquire from Dr. Thekkekara if
9 the employee needs to see Dr. Stanfield for continuation
10 of pain behavior therapy as he is now seeing a
11 psychiatrist per Appeals Officer order.

12 Dr. Berman performed trigger point injections
13 on February 1st, 2019.

14 On February 25th, 2019, the employee saw
15 Dr. Jones who recommended a left knee total arthroplasty
16 which was scheduled for May 8, 2019. No further records
17 were provided for review.

18 A PPD has not been performed at this time as
19 all body parts are not stable and ratable.

20 The employee has been on temporary total
21 disability since the date of the accident, July 31st,
22 2014, as the employer was not able to provide light
23 duty. This submission includes TTD from August 1st,
24 2014 to April 12th, 2019.

1 This submission includes travel from
2 August 1st, 2014 to May 23rd, 2018. The insurer is
3 instructed to inform the employee to separate his travel
4 forms for his lumbar treatment, 2009 claim number
5 09415A597230, and treatment for his July 31, 2014 claim,
6 2014 claim number 14G28Y022217.

7 It appears there may be possible subrogation
8 recovery on this claim. On August 17, 2015, the
9 employee filed a civil action in the Second Judicial
10 District Court, Case number CV15-01664, against the
11 driver of the vehicle who rear-ended him.

12 Findings. This file was sent to Dr. Betz for
13 subsequent injury review. He penned his report on
14 October 30th, 2019.

15 Regarding the cervical spine, Dr. Betz stated:

16 Employee first had recurring problems dating to
17 the early '80s. He underwent surgical decompression and
18 fusion at C6-6 ten years prior to the subsequent injury
19 without lasting benefit.

20 In 2013, Dr. Berman noted he had intractable
21 pain due to post-laminectomy syndrome affecting both his
22 lumbar and cervical spines. Cervical MRI on June 17,
23 2013 noted stable anterior interbody fusion at C5-6 with
24 a broad-based right paracentral protrusion at C4-5

1 causing impingement on the cord.

2 Cervical MRI after the subsequent injury showed
3 no new acute injury with actual reduction of the disc
4 bulge at C4-5 with improved canal stenosis. However,
5 employee continued to have the intractable neck pain
6 well established prior to the subsequent claim and
7 required extensive additional evaluation and treatments
8 over the next several years including multiple
9 injections, medications and radiofrequency ablations.

10 Consequently, it is reasonable and appropriate
11 to conclude that 95 percent of the cost of the
12 subsequent claim related to the patient's cervical spine
13 were the result of the combined effects of prior
14 pathologies and the subsequent injury. 5 percent or
15 less of the cost of the subsequent claim related to the
16 cervical spine was the result of the subsequent injury
17 alone.

18 Regarding the right shoulder, Dr. Betz stated:

19 The joint was first injured in the fall of
20 February 2009 following which he underwent several
21 surgeries but continued to have significant problems
22 with the joint immediately prior to the subsequent
23 injury. Dr. Uppal had ordered MR arthrogram which was
24 not performed until just after the subsequent injury

1 showing the prior supraspinatus repair with partial
2 thickness and presumed small full-thickness tear of the
3 central tendon along the footprint. Labral degeneration
4 with small anterior superior and posterior tears were
5 also noted.

6 These findings were not significantly different
7 from the MRI on April 8th, 2014, five months prior to
8 the subsequent injury which also showed interval repeat
9 rotator cuff repair with small partial-thickness tear of
10 the infraspinatus but no evidence of recurrent or
11 residual full-thickness tearing. Mild subscapularis
12 tendinopathy and persistent SLAP tear involving the
13 biceps anchor were also noted. Subacromial subdeltoid
14 bursitis was also present.

15 In follow-up with Dr. Uppal on October 2nd,
16 2014, he noted the MRI results and felt they showed
17 overall relatively intact surgical repair, but
18 ultimately additional surgery was performed on
19 December 1st, 2014 to address the patient's persistent
20 pain which was well established prior to the subsequent
21 injury. Dr. Uppal performed a revision rotator cuff
22 repair, expensive debridement, open subpectoral biceps
23 tenodesis and removal of hardware.

24 Despite that -- oh, my goodness, I'm so sorry.

1 Please take out the claimant's name -- continued to have
2 right shoulder pain requiring pain management in a very
3 similar pattern to that established prior to the
4 subsequent claim.

5 With these considerations in mind, it is
6 reasonable and appropriate to conclude that 95 percent
7 of the cost of the subsequent claim related to the
8 patient's right shoulder were the result of the combined
9 effects of prior pathologies and the subsequent injury.
10 5 percent or less of the cost of the subsequent claim
11 related to the right shoulder was the result of the
12 subsequent injury alone.

13 Regarding the left knee, Dr. Betz stated:

14 Employee started having left knee problems
15 following a traumatic incident in September of 2006,
16 more than eight years prior to the subsequent injury in
17 question. He underwent two surgical procedures
18 following which he had persistent pain and flexion
19 deformity of the joint. He continued to have pain and
20 underwent steroid injections in 2012.

21 Left knee MRI on October 3rd, 2014, several
22 months after the subsequent injury, showed no acute
23 injuries but, rather, moderate medial compartment
24 chondromalacia increased from prior exam but no meniscal

1 re-tear. Evidence of prior injury to the ACL without
2 acute tear as noted unchanged from previous exam.

3 Over the next several years, the patient's left
4 knee pain continued to worsen and the most recent note
5 regarding the left knee indicated employee is now
6 contemplating total knee replacement for progressive
7 post-traumatic osteoarthritis with its significant
8 associated cost and permanent impairment.

9 Consequently, it is reasonable and appropriate
10 to conclude that more than 95 percent of the cost of the
11 subsequent claim related to the patient's left knee were
12 the result of the combined effects of prior pathologies
13 and the subsequent injury. Less than 5 percent of the
14 cost of the subsequent claim related to the left knee
15 was related to the subsequent injury alone.

16 Therefore, NRS 616B.557, subsection 1, has been
17 satisfied.

18 The injured employee received the following PPD
19 ratings:

20 Cervical spine: 27 percent whole person
21 impairment, 10-26-05 PPD by Dr. Fair from the 4-20-04
22 date of injury.

23 Right shoulder: 8 percent whole person
24 impairment, 1-4-11 PPD by Dr. Quaglieri from the 2-9-09

1 date of injury.

2 Left knee: 6 percent whole person impairment,
3 1-4-11 PPD by Dr. Quaglieri from the 2-9-09 date of
4 injury.

5 Therefore, NRS 616B.557, subsection 3, has been
6 satisfied.

7 Regarding knowledge of the left knee and
8 cervical spine, on February 20th, 2013, the employer
9 submitted an application for reimbursement from the
10 subsequent injury account for the employee's February 9,
11 2009 date of injury. The application was denied for the
12 left knee and cervical spine. On July 25th, 2013, the
13 Board voted to approve the employer's withdrawal of its
14 application. The employer submitted a July 5th, 2013
15 email from Tara Eggington at Nevada Energy to Lezlie
16 Wooten at CCMSI which authorized the withdrawal.

17 In regard to the right shoulder, the employer
18 also submitted the following documents to show knowledge
19 of the impairment:

20 Email correspondence dated August 3rd, 2009
21 with attachment. The emails are from CCMSI to the
22 employer inquiring about work status and include a
23 July 10th, 2009 office visit recheck where Dr. Uppal
24 states the employee had a right shoulder arthroscopy,

1 SAD, DCE.

2 Email correspondence dated January 5th, 2010
3 with attachment. The emails are from CCMSI to the
4 employer discussing subrogation against the property
5 owner of the home where the employee fell. The
6 attachment details the right rotator cuff repair the
7 employee underwent in July 2009.

8 Based on the above documents, the employer has
9 provided written records that it had knowledge of the
10 employee's cervical spine, right shoulder and left knee
11 permanent impairments and retained the employee in
12 employment.

13 Therefore, NRS 616B.557, subsection 4, has been
14 satisfied.

15 Subsection 5 does not need to be satisfied in
16 order for this claim to be considered for reimbursement
17 since the date of injury is after the October 1, 2007
18 change in the requirements of the statute.

19 That's all.

20 Are you guys still there?

21 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Yeah, we're still here.

22 BOARD MEMBER SAYEGH: Yes.

23 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Good job. Take a breath
24 and have a drink of water.

1 MS. SKRINJARIC: It's obviously going to be a
2 very, very large claim with all of the body parts. And
3 he's still treating, what I have here is only through
4 2019. And no PPD.

5 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Does anybody have any
6 questions or comments on this?

7 BOARD MEMBER SAYEGH: No.

8 BOARD MEMBER WILSON: No.

9 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: I do have one question.
10 With regard to the possible subrogation in this claim,
11 I'm just curious how that will affect future
12 submissions. Would the employer or the employee have to
13 provide the Board with a document showing the amounts of
14 a subrogation that we would then take in to consider it
15 in the future submissions?

16 MS. SKRINJARIC: So when I received this, there
17 was no subrogation information. But since it was a
18 rear-ender, when I looked it up and found the court
19 case, and I asked Kasey to please inquire about
20 subrogation, I wasn't as worried that they hadn't
21 submitted it with this because he's still treating.

22 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Right.

23 MS. SKRINJARIC: So I think that there's going
24 to be another submission.

1 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Kasey, do you have any
2 information on the subrogation at this point?

3 MS. MCCOURTNEY: As of right now, I know that
4 this file, that initial report that you put in your
5 recommendation, but nothing has moved forward on it.
6 And I've asked the examiner to follow up on it again,
7 but I haven't received their response on it.

8 When it comes down to it, I know, when I spoke
9 our claims manager, that there be everyone agreeing,
10 calculation on this. So I don't believe the entire
11 amount will be recovered for subrogation on this claim.
12 But, like Vanessa said, that we do have a supplemental
13 application that's going to be submitted, and down the
14 line, once he has some more treatment and all of that,
15 which could result in that.

16 But I am still following up on the subrogation
17 on that, but nothing has happened at this point, and
18 there's been no settlement at this point.

19 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: So, so he hasn't settled
20 his claim, is that what, is that your understanding?

21 MS. MCCOURTNEY: Right, there's been no
22 subrogation settlement at this time.

23 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: I have one other question
24 for Kasey as well, just out of curiosity. There was

1 discussion in the record of referral for functional
2 capacity evaluation. Has this person -- I know there
3 was also discussion that he remained on temporary total
4 ability for a number of years. I'm curious if a
5 functional capacity was done and if he was referred to
6 voc rehab, or do we know what's happening on that end?

7 MS. MCCOURTNEY: An FCE hasn't been concluded
8 yet because he hasn't been found even close to stable
9 for the rest of the body parts.

10 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Okay.

11 MS. MCCOURTNEY: And I'm still kind of waiting
12 for him to do multiple tests to cover that.

13 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Okay.

14 MS. MCCOURTNEY: We're waiting until we get a
15 little bit closer to him being stable for most of them.
16 And then, you know, pending that, it was we would refer
17 for vocational services. But, you know, his claims
18 management definitely has a -- they should give a view
19 for, is vocational rehab services, even just an initial
20 evaluation, but that hasn't been done at this time.

21 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Okay. Thank you, Kasey.

22 All right. I'll take a motion.

23 BOARD MEMBER WILSON: This is Sharolyn. I'll
24 make a motion that the Board accept the recommendation

1 of the Administrator for reimbursement in the verified
2 amount of \$284,962.46 regarding claim number
3 14G28Y02217, NV Energy.

4 BOARD MEMBER SAYEGH: This is Suhair. I'll
5 second that motion.

6 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: All in favor?

7 (Board members said "aye.")

8 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: All right. Moving on to
9 Southwest Airlines, claim 1665253W001.

10 Does anybody have any disclosures on this one?

11 BOARD MEMBER WILSON: None.

12 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: I have none.

13 BOARD MEMBER SAYEGH: None.

14 MS. SKRINJARIC: Okay. Can everyone hold on
15 for one minute? I'm going to go get another tape,
16 because we are almost at an hour. So can we stop for
17 one minute?

18 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Yes, we can take a recess.

19 MS. SKRINJARIC: Okay. Hang on.

20 (A recess was taken.)

21 MS. SKRINJARIC: Okay. I have it, I have the
22 new tape on. So we're good to go. It just looked like
23 I was kind of running out of room there.

24 All right. So back to Southwest Airlines.

1 It is the Administrator's recommendation to
2 accept this request pursuant to NRS 616B.557 for the
3 lumbar spine only. The cervical spine, thoracic spine
4 and headaches are excluded.

5 The total amount requested for reimbursement is
6 \$43,966.88. The amount of verified costs is \$38,573.26.
7 An explanation of the disallowance is attached to this
8 letter.

9 This request was received from Dalton L. Hooks,
10 Jr., Esquire, on May 14, 2020.

11 Prior history. This employee was hired on
12 May 26th, 1995 as an operations agent for the employer.
13 The prior history will be taken from the July 11, 2014
14 permanent partial disability report penned by Dr. Holper
15 as prior records were not submitted for review.

16 On October 25th, 2012, the employee was lifting
17 a, quote, handicapped customer onboard to an aircraft,
18 end quote. There were multiple employees lifting a
19 380-pound customer when the other employees lost footing
20 and the employee suffered the full impact of lifting the
21 customer. He developed low back pain which he noted
22 immediately. He presented to Concentra the next day.
23 X-rays showed disc space narrowing and end plate
24 spurring at L3-4 and L4-5 with advanced facet

1 arthropathy from L4 to S1 with right shoulder listhesis
2 L4 through L5. Diagnosis was lumbar strain, rule out
3 left posterior disc protrusion, degenerative disc
4 disease, osteoarthritis lumbar spine preexisting. He
5 began physical therapy. An MRI was performed which
6 showed disc protrusion with annular tear at L5-S1.

7 He underwent epidural steroid injections with
8 Dr. Schifini in February 2013.

9 He was seen by Dr. Elkanich who performed a
10 microdiscectomy at L5-S1 on April 8th, 2013. The
11 employee required an L4-5 microdiscectomy revision due
12 to the scar tissue and additional pain-generating
13 component at L4-5 on August 14, 2013. Following the
14 second surgery, the employee developed a significant CSF
15 leak referable to the lumbar level. Due to the
16 development of significant headaches, the employee spent
17 three nights in the ER. Dr. Schifini provided a blood
18 patch on the fourth day. No relief was noted.

19 The employee then saw Dr. Garber, who performed
20 a revision surgery at multiple lower lumbar levels on
21 August 31, 2013. The employee underwent significant
22 rehabilitation.

23 After the second surgery, the employee
24 developed a foot drop on the left side. He fell several

1 times during physical therapy and required placement of
2 an AFO, ankle/foot orthosis, on April 8th, 2014. After
3 the second surgery, he developed increased sciatic
4 complaints on the left. He also developed numbness in
5 the genital and gluteal levels. He was seen by a
6 urologist for these complaints. He was prescribed
7 Viagra for his condition which helped on an occasional
8 basis.

9 Dr. Holper utilized the range of motion method
10 in his PPD evaluation. He determined the employee had
11 46 percent whole person impairment for the lumbar spine
12 as follows: 13 percent whole person impairment from
13 Table 15-7, 7 percent whole person impairment for lumbar
14 range of motion, 21 percent whole person impairment for
15 neurological deficits, and 15 percent whole person
16 impairment for Class 2 in Table 7-5, Criteria for Rating
17 Permanent Impairment for Penile Disease.

18 Apparently, Dr. Holper's PPD report was sent to
19 iRatings for review. They disagreed with his rating.
20 Their report was not submitted for review with this
21 application. It appears that Dr. Pirruccello was then
22 asked to review both Dr. Holper's PPD report and
23 iRatings' report. Dr. Pirruccello submitted his review
24 of permanent partial disability ratings on August 25th,

1 2014. He determined that the employee suffered from
2 34 percent whole person impairment, broken down as
3 follows: 14 percent from Table 15-7, 7 percent for
4 range of motion, 9 percent for neurological deficits,
5 for a final lumbar rating of 27 percent whole person
6 impairment. Erectile dysfunction: 10 percent whole
7 person impairment from Table 7-5.

8 The employee took the 34 percent which was --
9 hold on one second. Okay. Sorry. My -- it was
10 beeping -- 34 percent which was offered to him:
11 25 percent in a lump sum and 9 percent in installments.

12 Present claim. On September 13, 2016, the
13 employee was assisting a customer in a wheelchair at the
14 bottom of a jetway. When the employee went to lift the
15 foot pedals up, he felt his back lock up when he stood
16 up. He went to Concentra on September 16, 2016 where he
17 was diagnosed with a strain of the thoracic and lumbar
18 spines. Physical therapy was prescribed. For some
19 reason, a C-4 Form was not completed by Concentra.
20 Records of the visit were forwarded to the TPA. The TPA
21 requested the C-4 Form from the employer, who sent the
22 C-4 for the employee's 2015 claim. It does not appear
23 that a C-4 Form for the claim was ever completed by
24 Concentra. Nevertheless, on September 22nd, 2016, the

1 TPA accepted the claim for lumbar and thoracic sprain.

2 The employee began physical therapy on
3 September 20th, 2016. He continued to return to
4 Concentra where he reported increasing pain. He was
5 prescribed Flexeril, Naprosyn, Tramadol,
6 Methylprednisone, and Lidocaine patches. He also
7 received Toradol injections.

8 An MRI on October 26th, 2016 revealed
9 post-laminotomy changes at L4-5 and L5-S1, degenerative
10 disc disease and disc dehydration at L2 to S1, posterior
11 disc and annular bulge at L3 to S1 and interval increase
12 compared to previous exam.

13 On November 17, 2016, the employee saw
14 Dr. Bassewitz who recommend a conservative course of
15 treatment to include anti-inflammatories, physical
16 therapy and referral to pain management for bilateral
17 L5-S1 nerve blocks.

18 On November 26, 2016, the employee went to
19 Desert Springs Hospital complaining of neck pain,
20 headache and nausea. He also had a fever. A C-4 Form
21 was completed which listed the date of injury as
22 September 13, 2016. The body part injured was, quote,
23 spine, back, end quote. The diagnosis was, quote,
24 headache, rule out meningitis, end quote. The employee

1 was kept at the hospital for three days. A lumbar
2 puncture was performed to rule out meningitis. On
3 12-1-16, the TPA issued a letter to the employee which
4 denied liability for, quote, headaches and possible
5 spinal meningitis, end quote, and declined to pay the
6 bills for the hospital stay. However, bills for the
7 lumbar puncture, doctor's care, three days, and
8 radiologist reading for the brain CT were paid as
9 submitted for reimbursement in the application. They
10 are addressed in the disallowance.

11 On December 9, 2016, Dr. Bassewitz stated,
12 quote, There is no way I can link the patient's cervical
13 stenosis that was diagnosed at Desert Springs Hospital
14 two weeks ago to the patient's industrial claim. His
15 current neck pain and headaches and upper extremity
16 symptoms are most likely a nonindustrial exacerbation of
17 underlying cervical stenosis, end quote.

18 The employee began physical therapy again on
19 December 14, 2016.

20 On December 22nd, 2016, Dr. Schifini performed
21 a right L5-S1 transforaminal epidural steroid injection
22 under fluoroscopic guidance. The employee did not
23 receive any relief from this, so another injection was
24 performed on January 12th, 2017. When the employee

1 received only minimal relief from the second injection,
2 Dr. Bassewitz requested EMG/nerve conduction studies.
3 They were performed on February 13, 2017. They showed
4 chronic multi-level L5-S1 polyradiculopathy on the right
5 and L5 radiculopathy on the left.

6 On February 20th, 2017, a lumbar myelogram was
7 performed. It showed mild multi-level degenerative disc
8 disease, no spinal canal stenosis, mild bilateral L4-5
9 and L5-S1 foraminal stenosis.

10 The employee's care was transferred to Dr. Kim
11 who started him on Lyrica and a work-hardening program.

12 The work-hardening program started on March 14,
13 2017 and ended on April 11, 2017.

14 On April 7, 2017, an MRI of the thoracic spine
15 was performed which showed a 2-millimeter left
16 paracentral T6-7 protrusion and annular fissure.

17 On May 3rd, 2017, a second opinion was provided
18 by Dr. Kaplan. The employee's friend, a neurosurgeon in
19 Arizona, had recommended a multilevel lumbar fusion.

20 Dr. Kaplan did not feel this was a good idea.

21 Dr. Kaplan felt the employee's problem was more in his
22 legs than his back. He recommended a spinal cord
23 stimulator trial or live with his pain as it is.

24 On June 5th, 2017, an FCE was performed. The

1 employee fell into the very heavy category. His
2 preinjury job was in the heavy category. Therefore, the
3 employee was eligible to return to his preinjury
4 employment.

5 On June 8th, 2017, Dr. Kim determined the
6 employee had reached maximum medical improvement, was
7 stable and ratable and released the employee to full
8 duty as of June 12th, 2017.

9 On July 11, 2017, Dr. Hampton performed a PPD
10 evaluation in which he found the employee fell into DRE
11 Lumbar Category III and had a 10 percent whole person
12 impairment. As the employee had previously received 34
13 percent whole person impairment, the net impairment was
14 0 percent whole person impairment.

15 The employee was placed on light duty
16 throughout the course of this claim. The employer was
17 unable to accommodate him from November 14, 2016 until
18 May 31, 2017. Therefore, TTD was paid for this time
19 period.

20 Findings. While the applicant did not submit a
21 doctor's report specifically addressing this question,
22 the Administrator believes the subsequent injury
23 resulted in an exacerbation of the employee's
24 preexisting disc disease at L5-S1. There appears to be

1 some worsening of the disc pathologies at L5-S1. While
2 diagnostics did not find acute radiculopathy, but rather
3 chronic, it is well documented that the patient had
4 significant prior pathologies at that level requiring
5 three surgical interventions in the past. Absent those
6 preexisting pathologies and the patient's history of
7 several surgical procedures which can accelerate
8 degeneration, it is likely he would have suffered no
9 more than a lumbar strain as a result of the subsequent
10 injury incident requiring only a brief course of
11 conservative care without permanent impairment.
12 Instead, the employee underwent MRI, lumbar myelogram,
13 two epidural steroid injections, EMG/nerve conduction
14 studies, physical therapy and work-hardening.
15 Additionally, he was on light duty from September 16th,
16 2016 until May 31, 2017, for which the employer was only
17 able to accommodate a portion of that time.

18 Therefore, NRS 616B.557, subsection 1, has been
19 satisfied.

20 The injured employee received the following
21 rating for his October 25th, 2012 industrial injury with
22 the current employer: 34 percent whole person
23 impairment, broken down as follows: 14 percent from
24 Table 15-7, 7 percent for range of motion, 9 percent for

1 neurological deficits, for a final lumbar rating of 27
2 percent whole person impairment and 10 percent for
3 erectile dysfunction.

4 Therefore, NRS 616B.557, subsection 3, has been
5 satisfied.

6 The employer provided a series of emails
7 beginning on August 29, 2014 to September 3rd, 2014
8 between Jennifer Manolakos, claims examiner at Sedgwick,
9 and Amy Reeg and Terri Ganem, employees of the employer,
10 and Clarrisa Karasick, case manager at Atlas Settlement
11 Group. The emails begin with Ms. Manolakos providing
12 the employer with PPD documents for the employee in his
13 2014 claim in which he received 25 percent in a lump sum
14 and 9 percent in installments. The initial email is a
15 proposition to look into obtaining an annuity for the
16 9 percent installments. The remainder of the emails
17 detail the purchase of the annuity.

18 The Administrator believes the documents
19 provided show the employer's written knowledge of the
20 employee's 34 percent whole person impairment.

21 Therefore, NRS 616B.557, subsection 4, have
22 been satisfied.

23 Subsection 5 does not need to be satisfied in
24 order for this claim to be considered for reimbursement

1 since the date of injury is after the October 1, 2007
2 change in the requirements of the statute.

3 That's all.

4 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Thanks, Vanessa.

5 Does anybody have any questions or comments on
6 this claim?

7 BOARD MEMBER WILSON: This is Sharolyn. I have
8 none.

9 BOARD MEMBER SAYEGH: This is Suhair. I have
10 none.

11 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Okay. Does somebody want
12 to make a motion?

13 BOARD MEMBER SAYEGH: This is Suhair. I will
14 make the motion to accept the Administrator's
15 recommendation for the verified costs of \$38,573.26 for
16 claim number 1665253W001 for Southwest Airlines.

17 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Sharolyn.

18 BOARD MEMBER WILSON: Sorry. Yes, this is
19 Sharolyn. I second that motion.

20 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: All in favor?

21 (Board members said "aye.")

22 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: All right. Moving on to
23 item 7.a., City of Reno, claim 96853A375047.

24 BOARD MEMBER WILSON: I have a disclosure.

1 This is Sharolyn. CCMSI is Washoe County's third-party
2 claims administrator regarding their workers' comp, but
3 that will not affect my decision regarding this matter.

4 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Thank you, Sharolyn. This
5 is Cecilia for Carson City. CCMSI is our third-party
6 administrator, but that will not affect my decision
7 today.

8 MS. SKRINJARIC: Okay. It is the
9 Administrator's recommendation to accept this tenth
10 supplemental request pursuant to NRS 616B.557 for the
11 heart.

12 The total amount requested for reimbursement is
13 \$24,861.54. The amount of verified costs is \$24,719.40.
14 An explanation of the disallowance is attached to this
15 letter.

16 This request was received from CCMSI on
17 April 9th, 2020. This request contains payment for
18 widow's benefits from April 1, 2019 through March 31,
19 2020 in the monthly amount of \$2,059.95 for calendar
20 year 2019 and \$2,107.33 for calendar year 2020. A
21 certificate of survival signed by the widow was provided
22 with this request. At this time, the cost-of-living
23 allowance for calendar year 2020 is being disallowed as
24 the self-insured employer is eligible to seek

1 reimbursement for the COLA through DIR pursuant to
2 AB 370.

3 That's all.

4 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Does anybody have any
5 questions?

6 BOARD MEMBER WILSON: This is Sharolyn. I have
7 none.

8 BOARD MEMBER SAYEGH: This is Suhair. I have
9 none.

10 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Does somebody want to make
11 a motion?

12 BOARD MEMBER WILSON: This is Sharolyn. I'll
13 make a motion that the Board accept the recommendation
14 of the Administrator regarding this tenth supplemental
15 request for reimbursement in the verified costs of
16 \$24,719.40 regarding the City of Reno, claim number
17 96853A375047.

18 BOARD MEMBER SAYEGH: This is Suhair. I will
19 second that motion.

20 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: All in favor?

21 (Board members said "aye.")

22 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: All right. Next is 7.b.,
23 Caesar's Entertainment, claim 4D656356313329.

24 MS. SKRINJARIC: Okay. It is the

1 Administrator's recommendation to accept this third
2 supplemental request pursuant to NRS 616B.557 for the
3 cervical spine.

4 The total amount requested for reimbursement is
5 \$62,391.05. The amount of verified costs is \$51,580.85.
6 An explanation of the disallowance is attached to this
7 letter.

8 This request was received from Dalton L. Hooks,
9 Jr., Esquire on May 14, 2020. The original claim was
10 approved by the Board on January 19, 2012.

11 This request contains payment and reporting for
12 the following expenses:

13 Office visits with Dr. Kabins' office from
14 February 26, 2018 through July 29th, 2019, including
15 trigger point injections and x-rays;

16 Pre-op chest x-ray on May 8th, 2018;

17 Pre-op surgery clearance with Dr. Rohani on
18 May 8th, 2018;

19 Anterior-cervical decompression fusion and
20 reconstruction at C4-5 with retained hardware performed
21 by Dr. Kabins on May 24th, 2018;

22 Hospital fee from May 24th to 26th, 2018,
23 including supplies/implants for surgery;

24 Assistant surgeon fee from May 24th, 2018

1 surgery;

2 Anesthesiologist fee for May 24th, 2018

3 surgery;

4 EMG performed during surgery by Dan Purple,
5 CNIM, on May 24th, 2018;

6 EMG reading by Dr. Farrow on May 24th, 2018;

7 Cervical collar from May 24th, 2018;

8 Post-op physical therapy from July 17, 2018
9 through July 30th, 2018;

10 September 19, 2018 cervical MRI;

11 Dr. Wachs PPD on January 9, 2019;

12 Dr. Razsadin PPD on April 11, 2019;

13 Prescriptions from February 28, 2018 through
14 November 11, 2018;

15 Temporary total disability from May 24th, 2018
16 through August 1, 2018;

17 PPD lump sum of 4 percent whole person
18 impairment paid on May 24th, 2019.

19 The injured employee applied for reopening of
20 her claim. The TPA denied her request on April 10th,
21 2018. This was appealed. On June 29, 2017 -- oh,
22 that's got to be an error. Sorry -- a hearing officer
23 remanded the matter for medical investigation. On
24 October 24, 2017, Dr. Garber determined that the

1 employee had adjacent segment breakdown at C4-5 above
2 the prior workers' compensation related fusion. It was
3 Dr. Garber's opinion that the need for surgery at C4-5
4 was due to adjacent segment disease, or transitional
5 level syndrome above the workers' compensation prior
6 fusion. Dr. Garber felt this was causally related to
7 the original industrial injury.

8 On May 24th, 2018, Dr. Kabins performed an
9 anterior cervical discectomy and fusion at C4-5. A cage
10 and four-hole titanium plate were used as the
11 biomechanical devices. He also did an anterior
12 exploration of the fusion at C5-6. The employee was in
13 the hospital for two days. Thereafter, she underwent
14 physical therapy.

15 The employee continued to complain of neck pain
16 and bilateral upper extremity pain and numbness. An MRI
17 was completed on September 19, 2018 which showed
18 post-surgical changes.

19 On November 28th, 2018, Dr. Kabins released her
20 full duty, maximum medical improvement. However, he
21 felt she needed ongoing medications in the form of
22 Lyrica, physician follow-up every three months and
23 trigger point injections, if needed.

24 On January 9, 2019, Dr. Wachs performed a PPD

1 evaluation. She used the range of motion method. She
2 found the employee had a 15 percent whole person
3 impairment. As the employee had received a 27 percent
4 whole person impairment previously, this left a net
5 minus 12 percent whole person impairment.

6 A second PPD evaluation was performed by
7 Dr. Razsadin. He felt the employee had a 32 percent
8 whole person impairment. After subtracting the prior
9 27 percent whole person impairment, this left a net
10 5 percent whole person impairment.

11 The employee and TPA elected to settle the case
12 for 4 percent whole person impairment which was to be
13 paid in a lump sum. The employee's prior 27 percent
14 whole person impairment and the additional 4 percent
15 equal 31 percent which has been paid in a lump sum on
16 this claim for the cervical spine.

17 An employee is only eligible to receive 30
18 percent in a lump sum per NRS 616C.495 and NAC 616C.498.
19 this overpayment of the lump sum has been addressed in
20 the disallowance sheet.

21 I just wanted to correct page two. The injured
22 employee requested reopening in 2017, not '18.

23 That's all.

24 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Thank you, Vanessa.

1 Does anybody have any questions?

2 BOARD MEMBER WILSON: This is Sharolyn. I have
3 none.

4 BOARD MEMBER SAYEGH: This is Suhair. I have
5 none.

6 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Do you want to make the
7 motion?

8 BOARD MEMBER SAYEGH: Sure. This is Suhair.
9 I'll make the motion to accept the Administrator's
10 recommendation for this third supplemental request in
11 the verified costs of \$51,580.85 for claim number
12 4D656356313329, for Caesar's Entertainment.

13 BOARD MEMBER WILSON: This is Sharolyn. I'll
14 second that motion.

15 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: All in favor?

16 (Board members said "aye.")

17 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: All right. Next on our
18 list is Nevada Energy, claim number 00G28Y029597.

19 MS. SKRINJARIC: Same disclosures?

20 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Yes.

21 BOARD MEMBER WILSON: Yes. Thank you.

22 MS. SKRINJARIC: Okay. It is the
23 Administrator's recommendation to accept that twelfth
24 supplemental request pursuant to NRS 616B.557.

1 The total amount requested for reimbursement is
2 \$48,523.36. The amount of verified costs is \$48,022.62.
3 An explanation of the disallowance is attached to the
4 determination.

5 This request was received from CCMSI on May 18,
6 2020. This request was originally approved by the Board
7 on May 27, 2004.

8 This request contains the following expenses:

9 Reporting and payment for monthly office visits
10 with Nevada Pain & Spine Specialists for pain management
11 from April 11, 2019 through February 5th, 2020;

12 Prescription payments from April 6th, 2019
13 through March 14, 2020;

14 Orthotics on March 9, 2020; and

15 Permanent total disability payments from
16 April 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020 in the monthly
17 amount of \$2,525.38. Pursuant to SB 377, the employee
18 was given a 2.3 percent COLA on January 1, 2020, making
19 his monthly 2020 PPD amount \$2,583.46. However, the
20 COLA has been disallowed as the insurer is eligible for
21 reimbursement of the COLA from the DIR under SB 377.

22 On September 30th, 2019, the TPA submitted
23 several questions to Dr. Berman about the employee's
24 long-term opioid use and goals for pain management. On

1 November 14, 2019, Dr. Berman responded. Dr. Berman
2 stated that the employee was on Oxycontin 20 milligrams
3 three times a day. He has been on this dosage for
4 approximately 15 years. He was also on Valium. He
5 stated the employee was stabilized on his medications.
6 Dr. Berman saw no reason to make any changes to the
7 current treatment plan.

8 The last report from the Nevada Pain & Spine
9 Specialists is dated March 4th, 2020, although
10 reimbursement was not sought for this visit. Ronald
11 Burnett, FNP-BC, indicated the employee complained of
12 pain 2 of 10 for his low back and right lower extremity
13 neuropathy. The employee also brought copies of
14 diagnostic lab work which reflects kidney disease and
15 prediabetes. Medications were refilled. In addition to
16 the Oxycontin and Valium, the employee also takes
17 Amtriplylin, Lidoderm cream and patches and Voltaren
18 gel.

19 The injured employee provided a permanent total
20 disability report of employment, Form D-14, for 2019.

21 That's all.

22 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Any questions?

23 BOARD MEMBER WILSON: This is Sharolyn. I have
24 none.

1 BOARD MEMBER SAYEGH: This is Suhair. I have
2 none.

3 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: And is there a motion?

4 BOARD MEMBER WILSON: Yes. This is Sharolyn.
5 I'll make a motion that the Board accept the
6 Administrator's recommendation for this twelfth
7 supplemental request in the amount of verified costs of
8 \$48,022.62 regarding Nevada Energy, claim number
9 00G28Y029597.

10 BOARD MEMBER SAYEGH: This is Suhair. I'll
11 second that motion.

12 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: All in favor?

13 (Board members said "aye.")

14 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Okay. Next is City of
15 Sparks, claim 07475T, as in Tom, 976184.

16 Do we have disclosures? Are they the same for
17 CCMSI?

18 BOARD MEMBER WILSON: Yes. This is Sharolyn.
19 I have the same disclosure regarding CCMSI.

20 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: And this is Cecilia. I
21 also have the same disclosure.

22 MS. SKRINJARIC: Okay. I just want to make
23 sure that you guys got the -- I amended this upon
24 submission of additional documents from the applicant.

1 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Yes, we have those. I
2 don't know if I put mine in twice, or what, but I have
3 an amendment that I put in at both 3:28 p.m. and
4 3:29 p.m. on July 28th.

5 MS. SKRINJARIC: Okay. Okay. I just wanted to
6 make sure.

7 So it is the Administrator's recommendation to
8 accept this third supplemental request pursuant to NRS
9 616B.557 for the heart.

10 The total amount requested for reimbursement is
11 \$58,516.67. The amount of verified costs is \$54,425.72.
12 An explanation of the amended disallowance is attached
13 to this letter.

14 This request was received from CCMSI on
15 May 18th, 2020. This claim was originally approved by
16 the Board on July 19th, 2017. The injured employee
17 completed a permanent total disability report of
18 employment, Form D-14, for 2018 -- I believe --
19 indicating he had not worked. I believe, that should
20 say 2019.

21 This request contains payment and/or reporting
22 for the following expenses:

23 Telephonic therapeutic exercises -- you know
24 what, that should say 2018. That was correct. My

1 fault.

2 Telephonic therapeutic exercise counseling on
3 November 1, 2018 with visits at the clinic on
4 September 4th, 2018 and January 23rd, 2019;

5 Telephonic nutrition counseling on October 4th,
6 2018 and November 1, 2018 with visits at the clinic on
7 November 30th, 2017, September 4th, 2018, and
8 January 23rd, 2019;

9 Office visits with Specialty Health on
10 January 7, 2019 and January 23rd, 2019;

11 Lab work on September 4th, 2018;

12 Office visits with Dr. Truong on January 28th,
13 2019, October 3rd, 2018 and May 16, 2019;

14 Holter monitor on March 19 to 20, 2018;

15 Permanent total disability payments from
16 November 1, 2018 through February 29, 2020 in the
17 monthly amount of \$3,598.00 effective January 1, 2020.

18 This gentleman sees Dr. Truong for his heart
19 and goes to Specialty Health Clinic for nutrition
20 counseling and therapeutic exercise counseling. At the
21 last office visit Dr. Truong on May 16, 2019, it was
22 noted that the employee had been diagnosed with a rare
23 lymphoma. He had been hospitalized for a pulmonary
24 embolism. During his hospital stay, he had a bone

1 marrow biopsy. This resulted in a hematoma which
2 resulted in a second hospitalization. At the time of
3 the visit, the employee had received four rounds of
4 chemotherapy, with an anticipated six completed by July
5 2019. At that time, he would be receiving a bone marrow
6 transplant at Stanford.

7 On January 21, 2020, the employee passed away.
8 The cause of death listed is: hypoxic respiratory
9 failure, alveolar hemorrhage, pancytopenia,
10 angioimmunoblastic T-cell lymphoma. The death
11 certificate also lists septic shock as a result of a
12 January 3rd, 2020 stem cell transplant. The employee
13 has another claim for treatment of cancer. The
14 applicant is waiting on the autopsy report to assign
15 liability for the employee's death.

16 That's all.

17 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: I have a question.

18 MS. SKRINJARIC: Go right ahead.

19 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: All of the costs listed
20 for this supplemental --

21 MS. SKRINJARIC: Yes.

22 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: -- are all specific to
23 treatments for the heart issue, correct?

24 MS. SKRINJARIC: That's correct.

1 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: They don't include
2 anything for the cancer because cancer is under a
3 separate claim. Is that my understanding?

4 MS. SKRINJARIC: That's correct. The claim
5 that is accepted under the subsequent injury is for the
6 heart.

7 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Is for the heart. Okay.

8 MS. SKRINJARIC: And so what you are seeing is
9 for treatment of the heart. He is, my understanding is
10 he is PT'd under his heart under subsequent injury. The
11 applicant has stated he does have an accepted claim for
12 cancer, but not under subsequent injury at this time,
13 for the cancer.

14 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Okay. All right. Thank
15 you, Vanessa.

16 Does anybody else have questions?

17 BOARD MEMBER WILSON: This is Sharolyn. I have
18 none.

19 BOARD MEMBER SAYEGH: This is Suhair. I have
20 none.

21 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Does somebody want to make
22 a motion?

23 BOARD MEMBER WILSON: This is Sharolyn. I'll
24 make a motion that the Board accept the recommendation

1 of the Administrator regarding this third supplemental
2 request in the verified, in the amount of verified costs
3 of \$54,425.72 regarding City of Sparks, claim number
4 07475T976184.

5 BOARD MEMBER SAYEGH: This is Suhair. I'll
6 second that motion.

7 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: All in favor?

8 (Board members said "aye.")

9 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: All right. And our last
10 one is for Nevada System of Higher Education, claim
11 number 09515A588697. And I will use my same
12 disclosure for CCMSI.

13 BOARD MEMBER WILSON: And this is Sharolyn. I
14 have the same disclosure for CCMSI.

15 MS. SKRINJARIC: It is the Administrator's
16 recommendation to accept this seventh supplemental
17 request pursuant to NRS 616B.557 for the right shoulder.

18 The total amount requested for reimbursement is
19 \$722.50. The amount of verified costs is \$650.25. An
20 explanation of the disallowance is attached to this
21 letter.

22 This request was received from CCMSI on
23 June 12th, 2020. The request contained reporting and
24 payment for the following expenses:

1 Monthly office visits with Dr. Kong for pain
2 management from April 30th, 2019 through March 4th,
3 2020.

4 Dr. Kong continues with medication refills on a
5 monthly basis and there are no changes in her medical
6 condition concerning her right shoulder.

7 The third-party administrator noted that there
8 continued to be malpractice subrogation litigation on
9 the claim. There is a firm jury trial date on
10 August 24th, 2020.

11 There is a September 17, 2019 letter to the
12 employee's medical malpractice lawyer indicating a lien
13 against the claim for the radial nerve injury incurred
14 during the 2009 surgery.

15 That's all.

16 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Does anybody have
17 questions?

18 BOARD MEMBER WILSON: This is Sharolyn. I have
19 none.

20 BOARD MEMBER SAYEGH: This is Suhair. I have
21 none.

22 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Does somebody want to make
23 a motion?

24 BOARD MEMBER WILSON: This is Sharolyn. I will

1 make a motion that the Board accept the recommendation
2 of the Administrator regarding the seventh supplemental
3 request in the verified amount of \$650.25 regarding
4 Nevada System for Higher Education, claim number
5 09515A588697.

6 BOARD MEMBER SAYEGH: This is Suhair. I'll
7 second that motion.

8 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: All in favor?

9 (Board members said "aye.")

10 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: All right. We're ready to
11 move to item 8, approve and/or modification of the Draft
12 Decision of Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and
13 Determination of the Board concerning Las Vegas
14 Metropolitan Police Department, claim number
15 12D34C229979.

16 Mr. Bordelove, do you want to address that?

17 MR. BORDELOVE: Sure. So this case was heard
18 previously, in September of 2018. Pretty much on Board
19 preference here. I can go ahead and read the decision
20 again for you, or we can just have a motion for
21 approval. It doesn't matter to me. It's the Board's
22 preference.

23 BOARD MEMBER SAYEGH: This is Suhair. I read
24 the language. I'm okay with just making a motion.

1 Cecilia?

2 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: I fine with that as well.

3 BOARD MEMBER WILSON: And this is Sharolyn. I
4 am fine as well.

5 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Okay. Do you want to make
6 a motion to accept?

7 BOARD MEMBER SAYEGH: I just have one question
8 with regards to page 7 where it's Cecilia's signature.
9 We need to --

10 MR. BORDELOVE: I'll update that. I'll update
11 that to make it Chair.

12 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Okay.

13 BOARD MEMBER SAYEGH: Okay. Thank you. Other
14 than that.

15 MR. BORDELOVE: I can have you do a wet
16 signature, or I can use your electronic signature,
17 whatever you prefer on this.

18 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Oh, whatever is easiest
19 works fine for me.

20 MR. BORDELOVE: I'll do the electronic
21 signature, then. Thank you.

22 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Okay. Thank you.

23 BOARD MEMBER SAYEGH: Okay. With that change,
24 then, I will make a motion to accept the Board for the

1 subsequent injury self-insured employers of Findings of
2 fact, conclusions of law, determination for the --

3 BOARD MEMBER WILSON: This is Sharolyn.

4 BOARD MEMBER SAYEGH: -- Las Vegas Metropolitan
5 Police Department -- oh, I'm sorry.

6 BOARD MEMBER WILSON: Oh, I'm sorry, Suhair.

7 BOARD MEMBER SAYEGH: It's okay. I was just
8 going to read into the record, for the Las Vegas
9 Metropolitan Police Department, claim number
10 12D34C229979.

11 BOARD MEMBER WILSON: All right. This is
12 Sharolyn, and I'll second that motion.

13 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: All in favor?

14 (Board members said "aye.")

15 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Okay. Item 9, additional
16 items, general matters of concern to Board members
17 regarding matters not appearing on the agenda. Do we
18 have any general matters of concern today?

19 MS. SKRINJARIC: Cecilia.

20 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Yes.

21 MS. SKRINJARIC: You said some of your
22 colleagues had applied. Is that correct?

23 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Yes. I have two that have
24 applied. I'm not sure what the status is, but both of

1 them several weeks ago reached out to me and told me
2 that their applications had been submitted.

3 MS. SKRINJARIC: Okay. Great.

4 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Yeah. So, hopefully, both
5 of those will be approved.

6 MS. SKRINJARIC: Perfect.

7 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: Okay. If there's nothing
8 else, we'll go to item 9.b., old and new business. Do
9 we have any old and new business?

10 BOARD MEMBER SAYEGH: This is Suhair. I have
11 none at this time.

12 BOARD MEMBER WILSON: And this is Sharolyn. I
13 have none.

14 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: I have none, either.

15 And item c. is the schedule of the next
16 meeting. Do we have any -- I'm sure we already all have
17 those on our calendars. Does anybody think they have
18 any issues with any of those dates as of today?

19 BOARD MEMBER WILSON: This is Sharolyn. I have
20 no issues as of today.

21 BOARD MEMBER SAYEGH: Suhair. Same.

22 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: And I, too, am the same.

23 All right. Item 10, public comment. The
24 opportunity for public comment is reserved any matter

1 within the jurisdiction of the Board. No action on such
2 an item can be taken by the Board unless and until the
3 matter has been agendized as an action item. Comment
4 from the public is limited to three minutes per person.

5 Do we have any public present?

6 MS. SKRINJARIC: No.

7 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: All right. Well, if there
8 is nothing else, if someone wants to make a motion for
9 adjournment.

10 BOARD MEMBER WILSON: This is Sharolyn.

11 BOARD MEMBER SAYEGH: Suhair. I'll -- oh.

12 BOARD MEMBER WILSON: I'll motion for
13 adjournment.

14 BOARD MEMBER SAYEGH: Suhair. I will second
15 that motion.

16 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: All right. All in favor?

17 (Board members said "aye.")

18 BOARD MEMBER MEYER: All right.

19 MS. SKRINJARIC: Thank you very much. I know
20 it was a long meeting.

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