



COMMISSION ON INSURANCE

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Daniel Falcon
Chairperson

Scott J. Svonkin
Vice-Chairperson

Michael G. Cheung
Stephen Fluharty
Rickey Ivie
George Nishinaka
Claude Parrish
Patricia Torres
Mark Young

MINUTES

Meeting of February 11, 1999
830 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration

Present: Daniel Falcon, Rickey Ivie, Michael Cheung, Stephen Fluharty, George Nishinaka, Claude Parrish and Scott Svonkin

Absent: Patricia Torres and Mark Young

Chairperson Falcon noted the presence of a quorum and called the meeting to order at 10:24 a.m.

PRESENTATION OF SCROLL TO COMMISSIONER CLAUDE PARRISH

Chairperson Falcon introduced Fred Guido, Chief Deputy, Supervisor Knabe's Office. Mr. Guido presented a scroll to Commissioner Parrish on behalf of Supervisor Knabe, the Board of Supervisors and the Commission on Insurance, in appreciation for his valuable contributions to the Commission and his highly commendable perfect attendance at Commission meetings.

Chairperson Falcon introduced Stephen Fluharty, newly appointed Commissioner representing the Fifth Supervisorial District. Commissioner Fluharty briefly reviewed his experience in the legal field and discussed his desire to contribute to the mission of the Commission.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MAY 14, AND SEPTEMBER 17, 1998

On motion of Commissioner Svonkin, seconded by Commissioner Ivie and unanimously carried, the minutes of May 14, and September 17, 1998 were approved.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Nominations for Chairperson were opened.

Commissioner Ivie nominated Chairperson Falcon for re-election. On motion of Commissioner Svonkin, seconded by Commissioner Ivie and unanimously carried, nominations for Chairperson were closed.

Chairperson Falcon was re-elected by acclamation.

Nominations for Vice-Chairperson were opened.

Commissioner Ivie nominated Commissioner Svonkin for Vice-Chairperson. On motion of Commissioner Ivie, seconded by Commissioner Nishinaka and unanimously carried, nominations for Vice-Chairperson were closed.

Commissioner Svonkin was elected Vice-Chairperson by acclamation.

Vice-Chairperson Svonkin nominated Commissioner Fluharty for Treasurer. Chairperson Falcon closed nominations for Treasurer.

Commissioner Fluharty was elected Treasurer by acclamation

DISCUSSION AND REVIEW OF DRAFT HEALTH CARE BILL OF RIGHTS

Vice-Chairperson Svonkin briefly discussed a proposed draft Health Care Bill of Rights (copy on file) and recommended the Commission's endorsement in principle of the draft. The draft would be submitted to the Department of Health Services (DHS) for any necessary revisions, and would be recommended to the Board of Supervisors by Supervisor Yaroslavsky.

Chairperson Falcon and Commissioner Ivie recommended a reference to family planning instead of contraceptives, and footnotes of authorities to facilitate the citation of law respectively.

Following further discussion, on motion of Commissioner Ivie, seconded by Commissioner Cheung and unanimously carried, the Commission approved the proposed Health Care Bill of Rights draft, including Commissioner recommendations, and its revision by the DHS and recommendation for support by Supervisor Yaroslavsky.

Chairperson Falcon advised that he and Vice-Chairperson Svonkin will review the DHS recommended Bill of Right's language prior to submittal to Supervisor Yaroslavsky. Commissioners will be faxed a copy and/or a special Commission meeting will be called, if warranted, to discuss the proposed Bill of Rights.

DISCUSSION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE COMMISSION WORK PLAN FOR 1999

Chairperson Falcon reported that Supervisor Antonovich will recommend that the Board of Supervisors instruct the Chief Administrative Officer to explore opportunities for obtaining insurance for the County to cover potential Y2K liability and to report back with recommendations within 90 days; also to send a five-signature letter to the California State Association of Counties and the League of California Cities asking them to support legislation similar to SB2000, to provide the

State and other public entities immunity for any cause of action brought on the basis that a computer failed to generate the correct date.

Discussion ensued on the merits of obtaining immunity for public agencies. Mr. Bennet noted that Mr. Jon Fullinwider, Chief Information Officer (CIO), recently reported a positive Y2K preparedness to the Board of Supervisors.

Following further discussion, it was agreed that Vice-Chairperson Svonkin will present a brief review of SB 2000 at the next Commission meeting. A CIO representative will be invited to address the Commission on the County's Y2K preparedness. Chairperson Falcon advised that the Commission will determine if a Sub-Committee to study the Y2K preparedness is warranted.

Vice-Chairperson Svonkin advised that the Board of Supervisors recently concurred with Supervisor Molina's motion to support SB 171 (Escutia), automobile insurance policy for low-income motorists, that will potentially reduce the number of uninsured motorists. Following discussion on the value of creating available auto insurance for the uninsured, this issue was added to the Commission's Work Plan for future study.

Commissioner Fluharty recommended the following issues for discussion: (1) the driving records of "not at fault" motorists are negatively affected for auto accidents unless a police report is written; (2) the \$250,000 medical malpractice insurance cap; and (3) the potential streamlining of auto insurance cancellations by the insurance industry.

As a result of discussion lead by Vice-Chairperson Svonkin, legislative summaries pertaining to health care insurance, auto insurance, and medical malpractice insurance will be provided for review by the Commission.

MATTERS NOT ON POSTED AGENDA (To be discussed and placed on the agenda for action at a future meeting)

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:28 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

Guests:

Fred Guido, Chief Deputy, Fourth Supervisorial District
Marcus A. Frishman, Chief Deputy, State Board of Equalization

Staff:

Rita Thomas, Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
Lee Millen, Executive Office, Board of Supervisors