

## VOSHA REVIEW BOARD SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

6 Baldwin Street, Montpelier, VT 05633

December 6, 2022

The VOSHA Review Board (VRB) Meeting began at 8:30 A.M. and was attended by Gary McQuesten (Chair), Benjamin R. O'Brien (Member-attending via Teams Microsoft Bridge and having left at 9:40 A.M.), Mark J. Gregoritsch (Member-attending via Teams Microsoft Bridge), and Carolyn Desch (Clerk). Also in attendance during the meeting was Brenda Berry, Deputy Financial Officer of the VT Agency of Administration Financial Services Division, and Dirk Anderson, Director of Workers' Compensation & Safety of the Vermont Department of Labor, who joined the meeting at 8:30 A.M. and 9:00 A.M. respectively.

### ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

After discussion and upon motion made by Benjamin R. O'Brien and seconded by Mark J. Gregoritsch, the Board unanimously voted to approve the September 2, 2022, VRB meeting minutes. - PASSED

#### BUDGET DISCUSSION

Carolyn Desch and Brenda Berry discussed the fiscal year 23 and 24 budget to actuals. (attached). The current fiscal year is under budget. Carolyn reported that Hearing Officer costs are low at the moment but that four cases have been assigned Hearing Officers and therefore costs will be rising accordingly. The fiscal year 24 budget request was reported by Brenda as it relates to the VOSHA Program Federal Grant Request. Dirk Anderson related that the Federal Government provides the Vermont Department of Labor the monetary constraints and the VOSHA Program needs to submit a matching Grant Submission. Dirk expressed that he understands that the Memorandum of Understanding between the Vermont Department of Labor, Agency of Administration and the VRB states that the Vermont Department of Labor will reimburse the VRB half of all expenditures submitted in a quarterly invoice. He also expressed an understanding and support for the need for increased funding of the VOSHA Review Board for it to work properly, namely increasing the hours of the Clerk to full time status from half time. However, there is not enough funding in the Department of Labor VOSHA Program FY24 budget request to cover the VRB FY24 increase. It is difficult for the VOSHA Program to ask for more than 50% funding match from the general fund. Requests for more than 50% funding would result in the appearance of a financial detriment since it is a voluntary program. Dirk will be moving forward to figure out how to incorporate the change while still maintaining his budget.

#### REAPPOINTMENTS

Upon discussion and upon motion made by Benjamin R. O'Brien and seconded by Gary McQuesten, the Board voted to approve the reappointment of Mark Gregoritsch after his present term expires on February 28, 2023.

Upon discussion and upon motion made by Benjamin R. O'Brien and seconded by Mark J. Gregoritsch the Board voted to approve the reappointment of Gary McQuesten as Chair for the remainder of his term expiring on February 28, 2025.

A letter signed by all Board members will be sent to the Governor for his attention in this matter.

#### OPEN AND CLOSED CASE STATUS DISCUSSION

Carolyn discussed past and current case load reflecting the information found on the attached fy22-23 tracking sheets and current docket summary.

ADJOURN

Upon motion by and Mark J. Gregoritsch and seconded by Gary McQuesten, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 10:06 A.M. - PASSED