

New York State Association of Self-Insured Counties
General Business Meeting
Friday, October 5, 2001

Meeting was called to order by President Kathleen Jasinski at 10 AM at the Inn On The Lake, Canandaigua, New York.

Present:

President:	Kathleen Jasinski (Genesee)
Vice President:	Linda Way-Hartmann (Dutchess)
Secretary:	Deborah Burnham (Cattaraugus)
Treasurer:	Paul Casey (Onondaga)
Board of Directors:	Richard Baia (Montgomery)
	Peter Stirpe (Wayne)
	Sandra Bower (Orleans)
	Rodger Smith (Niagara)
	Susan Lent (Saratoga)

President Jasinski introduced a representative from the New York State Workers' Compensation Board, Carol McMannus. Ms. McMannus reviewed the new Board members recently appointed by Gov. Pataki. She advised us that a special World Trade Center team has been formed to handle all the cases coming out of the recent terrorist attack in New York City. She shared her experience of visiting 'ground zero' itself, and talked about her impressions of the victims and helpers alike. "They are hearing stories they shouldn't have to hear from people who shouldn't have to tell them". It was a somber speech, but one that enlarged our awareness of the needs of New York City, the rescue workers, and the economic impact expected for all of New York State, as well as the Workers' Compensation system.

The Treasurer's report was read and approved as written on motion of Sandra Bower, second by Richard Davies. A motion was made by Paul Casey, seconded by Amy Poff to make a \$2,500 contribution to the World Trade Center fund. Richard Davies suggested that we make the donation through an organization that would provide matching funds. Paul Casey agreed to handle the search for such an agency. Motion was passed by vote of the membership.

Richard Baia, Legislative Committee, explained the by-law changes that were discussed at the Board meeting held in July.

President Jasinski advised membership that she would like to appoint Doug Dillon (Allegany), Amy Clute (Warren) and Linda Williams

(Wyoming) to the Nominating Committee. Sandra Bower made a motion, second by Amy Clute, passed.

A general discussion regarding the Fall Conference took place. It was noted that, during the conference, Robert Snashall, Chairman, Worker's Compensation Board, had commented on the professionalism of the NYSASIC organization. Pres. Jasinski requested that members forward ideas for agenda items for conferences to her in writing for consideration. It was noted that members and vendors alike seemed to value the presence of vendors at the conferences, and thought a dedicated vendor area was a good idea. It was suggested that member coffee breaks be hosted in the vendor area, or perhaps schedule vendor display visitation as an agenda item to encourage all the members to utilize the vendor area. It was also suggested that the vendor area be closed during conference sessions.

Conference location was also discussed. Pres. Jasinski advised that the Spring Conference would again be held at Alexandria Bay May 1-3, 2002. The need for additional conference sites was discussed, with a request from Pres. Jasinski that other members research conference facilities in their counties that could accommodate a group our size, requiring 40 rooms and availability for our conference dates.

Members' involvement in PRIMA was also discussed, with Joe Peckham and Paul Casey highly recommending the organization. An interest in the New York Chapter of PRIMA was mentioned, with the problem apparently being the location of their one-day meetings generally being in New York City. Linda Way-Hartmann is a PRIMA Board member, and she volunteered to discuss our travel concerns with PRIMA for future consideration.

William DePersis, of Marsh Inc., explained some of the pending changes to the insurance market in the aftermath of the World Trade Center tragedy. He advised us to begin the insurance renewal process early this year, and to check the status of insurance companies in New York State because some of the companies may go out of business.

Pres. Jasinski adjourned the meeting at 10:55 AM.