



**MINUTES OF THE  
ACCEL CLAIMS COMMITTEE MEETING  
Thursday, August 29, 2024, at 11:00 AM**

**LOCATION:**

**TELECONFERENCE**

Link: <https://alliantinsurance.zoom.us/j/94512984082?pwd=O6OL03X3NE8eIsBpodkJT9Thkp2eU5.1>

**Meeting ID: 945 1298 4082**

**Passcode: 390950**

**Dial: (669) 900-6833**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Jena Covey, City of Bakersfield

Lisa Cox, City of Monterey Alternate

Marquie Lugo, City of Ontario Alternate

Ross Brandon, City of Santa Cruz

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Oles Gordeev, City of Santa Monica

**GUESTS AND CONSULTANTS:**

Ben Oram, George Hills Company

David Tratus, George Hills Company (*joined at 11:21 AM*)

Rich Santana, George Hills Company (*joined at 11:21 AM*)

Conor Boughey, Alliant Insurance Services

Lorissa Huey, Alliant Insurance Services

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Lorissa Huey called the meeting to order at 11:03 AM.

**B. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**B1. Approval of Minutes for the May 28, 2024, Claims Committee Meeting**

A motion was made to approve the consent calendar.

**MOTION:** Ross Brandon **SECOND:** Jena Covey **MOTION CARRIED**



	Jena Covey	Lisa Cox	Marquie Lugo	Ross Brandon	Oles Gordeev
Aye	X	X	X	X	
Nay					
Abstain					

**C. REPORTS**

**C1. CLAIMS COMMITTEE’S REPORT**

**C1a. Election of Claims Committee Chair**

A motion was made to elect Jena Covey as the Claims Committee Chair.

**MOTION:** Lisa Cox      **SECOND:** Ross Brandon      **MOTION CARRIED**

	Jena Covey	Lisa Cox	Marquie Lugo	Ross Brandon	Oles Gordeev
Aye		X	X	X	
Nay					
Abstain	X				

**C1b. Litigation Update**

Ben Oram, George Hills provided the Committee a quarterly litigation update for informational purposes. Members asked questions, which were addressed by Ben.

**C1c. Member Attorney Rates**

Lorissa Huey reported that ACCEL’s Claims Handling Policy and Procedure requires a Member to notify the Claims Committee (CC) when defense fees are in excess of \$400 per hour.

The City of Bakersfield has submitted a letter for 2024 from the same law firm, Marderosian and Cohen because ACCEL has requested the city to submit a letter annually.

The City of Burbank has submitted a letter this year for a new firm, Nielsen Merksamer Parrinello Gross & Leoni.



A motion was made to direct the Program Administrators to send a letter to the City of Burbank stating that the Committee has reviewed the attorney rates for reasonableness, receives and files the letter, and requests the City provide the letter annually. The ACCEL letter to the City will be signed by the Program Administrators and the Claims Committee Chair, Jena Covey carbon copied.

The letter from the City of Bakersfield will be considered received and filed.

**MOTION:** Ross Brandon **SECOND:** Lisa Cox **MOTION CARRIED**

	Jena Covey	Lisa Cox	Marquie Lugo	Ross Brandon	Oles Gordeev
Aye		X	X	X	
Nay					
Abstain	X				

### D. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

### ADJOURNMENT

Lorissa Huey adjourned the meeting at 11:47 AM.