



**MINUTES OF THE  
ACCEL CLAIMS COMMITTEE  
MEETING**

**Thursday, January 14, 2021 at 9:00 AM**

**LOCATION:  
TELECONFERENCE**

**Link:** <https://alliantinsurance.zoom.us/j/96984000403?pwd=L1JpV3dGT3ZDVElIS0kyQkMzbXlIZz09>

**Meeting ID: 969 8400 0403**

**Passcode: 567292**

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

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Tracey Matthews, City of Anaheim  
Jena Covey, City of Bakersfield  
Jiles Smith, City of Modesto  
Oles Gordeev, City of Santa Monica  
Charlotte Dunn, City of Visalia

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Betsy McClinton, City of Burbank

**GUESTS AND CONSULTANTS:**

Ken Maiolini, George Hills Company  
Sandy Manzoni, George Hills Company  
Michael Simmons, Alliant Insurance Services  
Conor Boughey, Alliant Insurance Services  
Lorissa Huey, Alliant Insurance Services  
Marcus Beverly, Alliant Insurance Services

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Oles Gordeev called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM.

**B. Consent Calendar**

**B1. Approval of Minutes for the December 14, 2020 Claims Committee Meeting**

A motion was made to approve the consent calendar.



**MOTION:** Charlotte Dunn

**SECOND:** Oles Gordeev

**MOTION CARRIED**

	Tracey Matthews	Jena Covey	Betsy McClinton	Jiles Smith	Oles Gordeev	Charlotte Dunn
Aye	X	X		X	X	X
Nay						
Abstain						

**C. REPORTS**

**C1. Claims Committee**

**C1a. Claims Reimbursement Requests – Defense Fees**

Marcus Beverly reported that ACCEL recently reviewed several cases in which the attorney’s working on behalf of ACCEL have charged high hourly rates, sometimes exceeding \$500 per hour. Members have requested an update to the section on Claims Reimbursement Requests in ACCEL’s Claims Reporting and Handling Policy and Procedure to address reimbursement of defense fees, including the maximum hourly rates for certain types of litigation. The need for more detailed criteria, and a process for reimbursement of defense bills, has become more acute in recent years due to a number of factors, including: (1) the increased cost of litigation has pushed some defense bills over the Member’s SIR, (2) increased settlement costs have exceeded ACCEL’s SIR and brought new excess insurance scrutiny on reimbursement requests, and (3) the growing disparity in fees charged by some firms as compared to others.

Included in the agenda packet was a redline version of the Claims Reporting and Handling Policy and Procedure with proposed changes.

The Claims Committee discussed this item and did not reach a recommendation for the Board.

Direction was given to the Program Administrators to create a handout for the January 21 and 22, 2021 Board Meeting about this agenda item, proposing an attorney panel, and allowing a Member to request an exception with the set attorney fees. The Committee will request feedback from the Board.

**C1b. Closed Session – Pursuant to Gov’t Code 54956.95**

A motion was made to enter into Closed Session at 9:56 AM.

**MOTION:** Jena Covey

**SECOND:** Charlotte Dunn

**MOTION CARRIED**



	Tracey Matthews	Jena Covey	Betsy McClinton	Jiles Smith	Oles Gordeev	Charlotte Dunn
Aye	X	X		X	X	X
Nay						
Abstain						

A motion was made to come out of Closed Session at 10:11 AM.

**MOTION:** Jena Covey      **SECOND:** Charlotte Dunn      **MOTION CARRIED**

	Tracey Matthews	Jena Covey	Betsy McClinton	Jiles Smith	Oles Gordeev	Charlotte Dunn
Aye	X	X		X	X	X
Nay						
Abstain						

Oles Gordeev, Claims Committee Chair reported out of Closed Session that no action was taken during Closed Session.

**D. PUBLIC COMMENTS** - No public comments were made.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Oles Gordeev adjourned the meeting at 10:13 AM.