



**MINUTES OF THE
ACCEL CLAIMS COMMITTEE MEETING
Wednesday, December 18, 2024, at 2 PM**

**LOCATION:
TELECONFERENCE**

Link: <https://alliantinsurance.zoom.us/j/97544985454?pwd=GNavPbjqCzfcoYGSTI6CaBdoHRgc98.1>

Meeting ID: 975 4498 5454

Passcode: 313362

Dial: (669) 900-6833

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jena Covey, City of Bakersfield
Lisa Cox, City of Monterey
Marquie Lugo, City of Ontario
Ross Brandon, City of Santa Cruz
Oles Gordeev, City of Santa Monica (joined at 2:09 PM)

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

GUESTS AND CONSULTANTS:

Rob Powers, R. E. Powers Company, LLC (left at 3:15 PM)
Ben Oram, George Hills Company
David Tratuz, George Hills Company
Rich Santana, George Hills Company
Conor Boughey, Alliant Insurance Services
Lorissa Huey, Alliant Insurance Services

A. CALL TO ORDER

Jena Covey called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM.

B. CONSENT CALENDAR

B1. Approval of Minutes for the September 23, 2024 Claims Committee Meeting

A motion was made to approve the consent calendar.

MOTION: Ross Brandon **SECOND:** Lisa Cox **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. 2024 ACCEL Claims Audit Draft

Robert Powers, ACCEL’s Claims Auditor presented the 2024 ACCEL Claims Audit Draft that includes the executive summary, narratives for each Member, except for the City of Anaheim, and ACCEL’s Claims Administrator, George Hills Company. The City of Anaheim’s audit has been completed at the time of the Claims Committee Meeting, however, the report was not ready at the time of the meeting. Anaheim’s Claims Audit report will be presented at the January 2025 Board Meeting.

Members had a roundtable discussion about Bakersfield’s audit results.

A motion was made to make a recommendation to the Board to review the Claims Audit with the inclusion of the City of Anaheim’s portion. Also, to direct the Program Administrators to agendize at the January 2025 Board Meeting for consideration a supplemental Claims Audit for the City of Bakersfield. The Scope of Work for Rob Powers is 100 claims and review of overall claims handling.

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

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



C1b. Claims Audit Team

Rob Powers announced that Craig Schweikhand will be joining the Claims Audit Team. An informational update will be reported to the Board at the January 2025 Meeting.

C1c. Litigation Update

Ben Oram provided the Committee the quarterly litigation update. He discussed cases about Employment – Public Entities and PAGA Claims, Wage and Hour Exemption, and Police Excessive Force.

Members asked questions, which were addressed.

C1d. ACCEL Attorney Panel Update

Lorissa Huey reported that the Board created an Attorney Panel in October 2023. One of the attorneys on the panel, Robert Cutbirth, SBEMP Attorneys sent a notice of Disengagement to ACCEL on October 15, 2024.

Ben Oram and David Trautz, ACCEL’s Claims Administrators did not see a need to add another person to the panel at this time.

No reportable took place.

C1e. CLOSED SESSION – Pursuant to Gov’t Code 54956.95

A motion was made to enter into Closed Session at 3:15 PM.

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

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



A motion was made to come out of Closed Session at 4:14 PM.

MOTION: Oles Gordeev **SECOND:** Lisa Cox **MOTION CARRIED**

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

Lorissa Huey reported out of Closed Session that no reportable action took place.

D. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

Jena Covey adjourned the meeting at 4:16 PM.