

**PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE BOARD FOR THE  
ADMINISTRATION OF THE SUBSEQUENT INJURY ACCOUNT  
FOR ASSOCIATIONS OF SELF-INSURED  
PUBLIC OR PRIVATE EMPLOYERS**

**LCB File No. R132-15**

\_\_\_\_\_, 2015

EXPLANATION – Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: §§ 1-3 and 8-24, 616B.572 and 616B.578; §§ 4 and 5, NRS 223B.040; NRS 233B.050; NRS 233B.100; §§ 6 and 7, and NRS 233B.120.

A REGULATION relating to industrial insurance; authorizing reimbursement from the Subsequent Injury Account for Associations of Self-Insured Public or Private Employers for the purchase of an annuity or payment of a lump sum; revising provisions governing the rating of permanent physical impairments; providing for petitions to the Board for the Administrations of the Subsequent Injury Account for Associations of Self-Insured Public or Private Employers to adopt, amend or repeal regulations; providing for petitions to the Board for the issuance of a declaratory order or advisory opinion concerning the applicability of a statute, regulation or decision of the Board; providing procedures for service upon associations, the Administrator of the Division of Industrial Relations of the Department of Business and Industry and the Board; revising provisions governing hearings before the Board and requests for continuances; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Section 1.** Chapter 616B of NAC is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 to 16, inclusive, of this regulation.

**Sec. 2. 1.** *An association that purchases an annuity to satisfy, in whole or in part, an application for a subsequent injury approved by the Board may apply to the Board for reimbursement from the Account for the purchase of the annuity for the benefit of the injured employee, capped by the cost of the annuity.*

*2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, if the Board approves an application*

*for reimbursement submitted pursuant to subsection 1, the association may be reimbursed from the Account in an amount not to exceed the amount of compensation received by the injured employee from the annuity. Reimbursement may be sought annually on the anniversary date of the purchase of the annuity, or more frequently with good cause shown, but the aggregate amount of reimbursement paid to the association must not, at any time, exceed the aggregate amount of compensation that has been received by the injured employee from the annuity, capped by the cost of the annuity.*

*3. The Board will not approve an application for reimbursement of an annuity submitted pursuant to subsection 1 for:*

- (a) Any amount which exceeds the purchase price of the annuity;*
- (b) Attorney's fees relating to the purchase of the annuity; or*
- (c) Any administrative expenses or other expenses relating to the purchase of the annuity, including, without limitation, expenses for the copying of records.*

*4. As used in this section, "good cause" includes, without limitation, a financial exigency or extraordinary circumstance.*

**Sec. 3.** *1. For the purpose of determining whether a preexisting injury is a permanent physical impairment:*

- (a) As provided in NRS 616B.578, subsection 3, when read in conjunction with the other subsections of NRS 616B.578, creates a threshold requirement that cannot be satisfied by adding the permanent impairment rating for two or more body parts, organ systems or organ function to reach a six percent whole person impairment rating. A condition is not a "permanent physical impairment" unless it would support a rating of permanent impairment of six percent or more of the whole*

- person if evaluated according to the AMA Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment.*
- (b) The AMA Guides defines impairment as “a loss of use, or derangement of any body part organ system or organ function.” A permanent impairment is defined as “an impairment that has reached maximum medical improvement, meaning it is well stabilized and unlikely to change substantially in the next year with or without medical treatment.”*
- (c) The Combined Values Chart states; “If impairments from two or more organ systems are to be combined to express a whole-person impairment, each must first be expressed as a whole-person impairment percent.” The term “impairment” is plainly used to refer to a singular body part and “impairments” to refer to multiple body parts.*
- (d) The Board will use the AMA Guides to determine the definition of a six percent preexisting permanent physical impairment requirement contained in NRS 616B.578. Multiple, unrelated body parts in the preexisting condition, will not be considered as one impairment, and each body part will have to satisfy the definition of a “permanent physical impairment” in order for all body parts under a claim to qualify for reimbursement.*
- (e) If the preexisting injury of an employee arose out of and in the course of his or her employment and the employee has been assigned a permanent physical impairment rating which is no longer appealable, the Board may choose to accept the rating for the preexisting injury if the rating was assigned based on the American Medical Association's Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment in effect on the*

*date when the preexisting injury was rated;*

- (f) If an application against the Account has been submitted to the Board but the preexisting injury arising out of and in the course of the worker's employment has not been rated, the Board may decline to rule on the application until a determination has been made concerning the preexisting injury in accordance with the American Medical Association's Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment in effect on the date when the subsequent injury is rated; and*
- (g) If an application against the Account has been submitted to the Board and a rating has been assigned to a preexisting injury arising out of the course of the worker's employment but the rating is not deemed final, the Board may decline to rule on the application until the rating has been finalized in accordance with the American Medical Association's Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment in effect on the date when the preexisting injury is rated.*

*2. The Board is not bound by any agreement between an injured employee and an association concerning:*

- (a) The rating of permanent impairment assigned to a preexisting condition or a subsequent injury;*
- (b) Which version of the American Medical Association's Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment should be used to assign a rating of permanent impairment to a preexisting condition or subsequent injury; or*
- (c) Apportionment of the percentage of disability between the preexisting condition and the subsequent injury.*

**Sec. 4. 1. An interested person may petition the Board to adopt, amend or repeal a**

*regulation governing the administration of the Account by the Board.*

*2. A petition filed with the Board pursuant to this section must include:*

*(a) The name and mailing address of the petitioner;*

*(b) A clear and concise statement of the regulation to be adopted, amended or repealed;*

*(c) The reason for the adoption, amendment or repeal of the regulation; and*

*(d) The legal authority for the adoption, amendment or repeal of the regulation.*

*3. The original petition and seven copies of the petition must be filed with the Board*

*by:*

*(a) Personal service;*

*(b) Certified mail, return receipt requested;*

*(c) Registered mail; or*

*(d) Any electronic means permitted by these regulations.*

*4. Not later than 5 days after the petition is filed with the Board, the petitioner shall*

*serve a copy of the petition on the Administrator by:*

*(a) Personal service;*

*(b) Certified mail, return receipt requested;*

*(c) Registered mail; or*

*(d) Any electronic means permitted by these regulations.*

**Sec. 5.** *1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, the Board will hold a hearing to consider a petition filed with the Board pursuant to section 4 of this regulation not later than 45 days after the petition is filed.*

*2. The Board may refuse to hold a hearing on a petition that does not satisfy the*

*requirements of Section 5 of this regulation.*

*3. If the Board schedules a hearing on a petition filed pursuant to Section 5 of this regulation, the Administrator may file with the Board a recommendation concerning the disposition of the petition not later than 15 days before the date of the hearing. Upon filing a recommendation with the Board, the Administrator shall serve a copy of the recommendation on the petitioner.*

*4. A person other than the petitioner who believes that he or she has standing to intervene because he or she may be directly and substantially affected by the hearing may seek an order for leave to intervene in the hearing by filing with the Board a written motion to intervene. The motion to intervene must set forth the legal and factual bases in support of standing to file the motion. The motion shall also set forth separately, the legal and factual basis of the intervenor's position in favor of or opposition to the petition. The motion must be filed with the Board not later than 20 days before the date of the hearing by:*

*(a) Personal service;*

*(b) Certified mail, return receipt requested;*

*(c) Registered mail; or*

*(d) Any electronic means permitted by these regulations.*

*5. The Board may consider a motion to intervene filed with the Board pursuant to subsection 4. If the motion to intervene is granted, the intervenor may thereafter participate as a party to the proceedings and the Board will take into consideration the intervenor's position on the merits of the petition filed pursuant to Section 5 of this regulation.*

*6. In a hearing on a petition filed pursuant to Section 5 of this regulation, the Board is not bound by the technical rules of evidence, and any informality in the proceeding or in the*

*manner of taking testimony does not invalidate any order, decision, ruling or regulation made, approved or confirmed by the Board. The rules of evidence of courts of this State will be followed generally, but may be relaxed at the discretion of the Board if deviation from the technical rules of evidence will aid in determining the facts.*

*7. After the hearing, the Board will serve written notice of its decision on the petitioner, the Administrator and any intervener. The notice of the decision will include a brief statement of the Board's decision and reasons supporting the decision.*

*8. If the Board grants a petition to adopt, amend or repeal a regulation, the Board will adopt, amend or repeal the regulation in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 233B of the Nevada Revised Statutes.*

*9. If the petitioner or an intervener is dissatisfied with the decision of the Board, the petitioner or intervener may seek judicial review of the decision in the District Court not later than 30 days after service of notice of the decision on the party seeking judicial review.*

**Sec. 6.** *1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 5, any interested person may petition the Board for the issuance of a declaratory order or advisory opinion concerning the applicability of a statute, regulation or decision of the Board.*

*2. A petition filed with the Board pursuant to this section must include:*

*(a) The name and mailing address of the petitioner;*

*(b) The reason for the petition and a statement of the facts and law supporting the petition; and*

*(c) A clear and concise statement of the question to be decided by the Board and the relief sought by the petitioner.*

*3. The original petition and seven copies of the petition must be filed with the Board*

*by:*

- (a) Personal service;*
- (b) Certified mail, return receipt requested;*
- (c) Registered mail; or*
- (d) Any electronic means permitted by these regulations.*

*4. Not later than 5 days after the petition is filed with the Board, the petitioner shall serve a copy of the petition on the Administrator by:*

- (a) Personal service;*
- (b) Certified mail, return receipt requested;*
- (c) Registered mail; or*
- (d) Any electronic means permitted by these regulations.*

*5. A person may not petition the Board for the issuance of a declaratory order or advisory opinion concerning the applicability of a statute, regulation or decision of the Board if the applicability of the statute, regulation or decision of the Board is at issue in any administrative, civil or criminal proceeding in which the person is a party.*

**Sec. 7.** *1. The Administrator may file with the Board a response concerning the disposition of a petition filed with the Board pursuant to Section 6 of this regulation not later than 45 days after service of the petition on the Administrator. Not later than 5 days after filing a response with the Board, the Administrator shall serve a copy of the response on the petitioner.*

*2. After providing written notice to the petitioner and the Administrator, the Board may:*

- (a) Refuse to consider the petition if it does not satisfy the requirements of Section 6 of*



- this regulation.*
- (b) Conduct an informal hearing to determine any preliminary matters that might expedite the disposition of the petition and issue reasonable orders that govern the conduct of a hearing on the merits of the petition.*
  - (c) Request that the petitioner submit additional information or arguments concerning the petition and allow the Administrator to file a response to any such additional information and arguments. Upon filing a response with the Board, or at such other time as may be prescribed by the Board, the Administrator shall serve a copy of the response on the petitioner.*
  - (d) Enter any reasonable order to assist in the review of the petition.*
  - (e) In reaching a decision, consider any other decisions issued by the Board which are relevant to the interpretation of the statute, regulation or decision in question.*
  - (f) Conduct a formal hearing on the petition.*
  - (g) After a formal hearing, issue a declaratory order or advisory opinion based upon the entire record developed before the Board.*
- 3. Not later than 30 days after the Board issues a declaratory order or advisory opinion pursuant to this section, the Board will serve a copy of the declaratory order or advisory opinion on the petitioner and the Administrator.*
- 4. The Board will maintain a record that is indexed by subject matter of each declaratory order or advisory opinion issued by the Board.*
- 5. If the petitioner is dissatisfied with the decision of the Board, the petitioner may seek judicial review of the decision in the District Court not later than 30 days after service of the copy of the declaratory order or advisory opinion on the petitioner.*

**Sec. 8.** *An application for reimbursement from the Account must include, without limitation, the name of the person designated to accept service on behalf of the applicant and the address and any facsimile number and electronic mail address at which the person may be served with notices, pleadings and other documents. Except as otherwise provided in section 10 of this regulation, all notices, pleadings and other documents, including, without limitation, any recommendation of the Administrator, must be served on the person designated in the application.*

**Sec. 9.** *At the time the Administrator determines that an application against the Account is complete and submits a recommendation to the Board, the Administrator shall serve on the person designated in the application pursuant to Section 8 of this regulation a copy of the recommendation, a copy of each document and record upon which the Administrator primarily relied in making the recommendation and a list of the witnesses whom the Administrator may call to testify in support of the recommendation.*

**Sec. 10. 1.** *An applicant who is represented by legal counsel or a lay advocate shall, by service on the Board and the Administrator, provide notice of the name and business address of the legal counsel or lay advocate and any facsimile number and electronic mail address at which the legal counsel or lay advocate may be served with documents and pleadings.*

*2. If an applicant has provided such notice, all documents and pleadings need thereafter be served only on the designated legal counsel or lay advocate until the applicant provides written notice to the Board and the Administrator of a change in representation.*

**Sec. 11.** *Service upon the Board of any filing, pleading, notice or other document required by NAC 6I6B.777 to 6I6B.779, inclusive, and sections 2 to 16, inclusive, of this regulation must be made on the legal counsel for the Board. If the Board does not have legal counsel, service*

*must be made on the Chairperson of the Board in care of the Administrator.*

**Sec. 12.** *Except for the submission of an application for reimbursement against the Account pursuant to NAC 616B.7773, service on the Administrator of any filing, pleading, notice or other document required by NAC 616B.777 to 616B.779, inclusive, and Sections 2 to 16, inclusive, of this regulation must be made on the legal counsel for the Administrator.*

**Sec. 13. 1.** *Except as otherwise provided by specific regulation, service of any filing, pleading, notice or other document required by the provisions of NAC 616B.777 to 616B.779, inclusive, and Sections 2 to 16, inclusive, of this regulation may be made by hand delivery, first-class mail, electronic mail or facsimile.*

*2. Service by hand delivery shall be deemed complete upon the delivery of the document to the person upon whom service is to be made, to a person of suitable age and discretion and with authority to accept service at the business address of the person on whom service is to be made or to a person of suitable age and discretion at the dwelling house or usual place of abode of the person upon whom service is to be made.*

*3. Service by mail shall be deemed complete 3 days after the date on which the document is deposited in the United States Postal Service, enclosed in a sealed envelope upon which first class postage was fully paid and correctly addressed to the business address, dwelling house or usual place of abode of the person upon whom service is to be made.*

*4. Service by electronic mail shall be deemed complete upon successful transmission of the electronic mail to the electronic mail address of:*

*(a) The person upon whom service is to be made which is provided pursuant to*

*Sections 8 or 10 of this regulation;*

*(b) The legal counsel of the Board or the Administrator if service is made pursuant to*

- Section 11 of this regulation; or*
- (c) The Administrator's legal counsel or the Administrator if service is made pursuant to Section 12 of this regulation.*
- 5. Service by facsimile shall be deemed complete upon successful transmission of the facsimile to the facsimile number of:*
- (a) The person on whom service is to be made which is provided pursuant to Section 8 or 10 of this regulation; or*
- (b) The legal counselor Administrator of the Board if service is made pursuant to section 11 of this regulation.*

**Sec. 14. 1. A request for a continuance of a hearing submitted by the Administrator or an association must:**

- (a) Be in writing;*
- (b) State the reasons supporting the request;*
- (c) Include a statement of any extensions of time or continuances previously granted;*
- (d) Include a representation that the request for extension or continuance is not made for reasons of delay;*
- (e) Be filed by service on the Board;*
- (f) Be filed not later than 3 days before the date of the hearing absent extraordinary circumstances or a finding of excusable neglect by the Board; and.*
- (g) Be served upon filing on the other party/ies to the proceeding.*
- 2. If the Board considers a request for a continuance and:**
- (a) The association has submitted an application for reimbursement to the Administrator;*

- (b) The Administrator has completed a review of the application and related information; and*
- (c) The Administrator has made a recommendation regarding the application to the Board, a rebuttable presumption arises that the association has given the Administrator all the information which the association believes is necessary to support the application and that the association believes the application is ready for disposition by the Board.*

**Sec. 15.** *1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, as used in NRS 616B.578, the Board will interpret the term "written records" to include any written documentation kept in the ordinary course of business by the employer contemporaneous with the hiring of the injured employee or during the continued employment of the injured employee by the employer but prior to the date of the subsequent injury. The Board may consider any other written documentation kept by the employer if the Board determines that the written documentation constitutes an objective record of the employer's knowledge of the injured employee's preexisting permanent physical impairment at the time the employer hired the injured employee or during the continued employment of the injured employee, provided the written documentation existed and was possessed by the employer at the time of hire or prior to the date of the subsequent industrial injury in a retention in employment case.*

*2. An affidavit, letter, self-serving declaration or other document prepared after the subsequent injury will not satisfy the requirement of proof of the employer's knowledge that the injured employee suffered from a preexisting permanent physical impairment.*

*3. To satisfy the requirement set forth in subsection 4 of NRS 616B.578 that the association establish by written records that the employer had knowledge of the preexisting*

*permanent physical impairment of the injured employee, the association must establish by a preponderance of evidence that the written records show that:*

- (a) The employer had knowledge of the permanent physical impairment of the injured employee at the time the injured employee was hired; or*
- (b) The employer acquired knowledge of the permanent physical impairment of the injured employee after the employee was hired and prior to the occurrence of the subsequent industrial injury and the employer maintained the employee in its employ as of the subsequent industrial injury.*

**Sec. 16.** *1. Except as otherwise provided in this section or by specific statute, the Board may allow reimbursement from the Account for the commutation of benefits in the form of a lump-sum payment if:*

- (a) The applicant meets the requirements of NRS 616B.578;*
- (b) The compensation paid was due;*
- (c) The lump-sum payment is reasonable, in the best interest of the injured employee and will eliminate any contingent future liability against the Account; and*
- (d) The lump-sum payment:*
  - (1) Meets the requirements of NRS 616C.495, if being made for a permanent partial disability; or*
  - (2) Meets the requirements of NRS 616C.590 or 616C.595, if being made for vocational rehabilitation services.*

*2. The Board will not allow reimbursement from the Account for any transaction prohibited by NRS 616C.410.*

*3. The Board will not allow reimbursement from the Account unless the lump-sum*

*payment has been made to the injured employee.*

*4. In considering whether to allow reimbursement from the Account for the commutation of benefits in the form of a lump-sum payment, the Board may consider any information that it deems relevant, including, without limitation, the application of any statute or regulation.*

**Sec. 17.** NAC 616B.777 is hereby amended to read as follows:

616B.777 As used in NAC 616B.777 to 616B.779, ~~inclusive,~~ *and Sections 2-16, inclusive, of this regulation*, unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in NAC 616B.7731, 616B.7736 and 616B.7738 have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.

**Sec. 18.** NAC 616B.7773 is hereby amended to read as follows:

616B.7773 1. Except as otherwise provided in NAC 616B.779, the Board will approve or disapprove, in whole or in part:

- (a) Each ~~claim~~ *application* made against the Account by an association, if the ~~claim~~ *application* is completed by the association pursuant to the requirements set forth in this section; ~~and~~
  - (b) Any expenses of the association related to each such ~~claim~~ *application* that the Administrator has verified pursuant to the provisions of NAC 616B.707~~+~~; *and*
  - (c) *The applicant proves by a preponderance of the evidence that all of the criterion for either NRS 616B.578 or NRS 616B.580 have been satisfied.*
2. To submit ~~a claim~~ *an application* to the Board, an association must:
- (a) Serve the ~~claim~~ *application*, in writing, ~~to~~ *on* the Administrator;
  - (b) Include with the ~~claim~~ *application* a completed copy of the form entitled “D-37,

Insurer's Subsequent Injury Checklist" ~~{that}~~ *which* is prescribed by the Administrator;

(c) Organize the ~~{claim}~~ *application* in the manner prescribed in Form D-37 ~~{and number each of the pages in the claim sequentially}~~; and

(d) Include ~~{with the claim}~~ *when the application is submitted*, all information necessary to establish that the ~~{claim}~~ *application* should be paid from the Account, including *the pertinent* medical records of the injured employee who is the subject of the ~~{claim. Such information must include, without limitation, the medical records of the injured employee who is the subject of the claim.}~~ *application*.

3. A copy of Form D-37 may be obtained from the Administrator *or the Administrator's website* at no cost.

~~{4. —A claim shall be deemed to be complete 15 days after the date that the claim is served to the Administrator pursuant to subsection 2, unless the Administrator serves notice to the association that the claim is incomplete pursuant to subsection 6.~~

~~—5. A claim is incomplete if the claim:~~

~~—(a) Does not include a completed copy of Form D-37;~~

~~(b) Is not organized in the manner prescribed in Form D-37 or contains one or more pages that are not numbered sequentially with all the other pages in the claim; or~~

~~(c) Does not include information that, in the discretion of the Administrator, is necessary for the Administrator to make a recommendation to the Board pursuant to NAC 616B.7777.~~

~~—6. If a claim is incomplete, the Administrator may, not later than 15 days after the date that the claim is served to the Administrator pursuant to subsection 2, serve notice, in writing, to~~



~~the association that the claim is incomplete. Such notice must include a statement that sets forth the deficiencies in the claim. If the Administrator serves notice that the claim is incomplete, the Administrator may retain the claim or return the claim to the association.~~

~~7. If the Administrator serves notice to the association that a claim is incomplete pursuant to subsection 6, the claim shall not be deemed to be complete until the Administrator determines that the association has corrected the deficiencies in the claim. If the association fails to correct the deficiencies in the claim and the claim has not been returned to the association, the Administrator may retain the claim or return the claim to the association.~~

~~8. The provisions of this section do not affect the authority of the Administrator to obtain additional information related to the claim from the association or any other source after the claim is deemed to be complete.]~~

*4. An Association who submits an application pursuant to subsection 1 shall, upon the request of the Administrator, provide copies of the records maintained by the employer concerning the application.*

*5. This section does not prohibit or limit the Administrator from requiring or obtaining from the employer or any other person any additional information relating to the application.*

*6. The Administrator's disposition of the application and recommendation to the Board is neither an express nor implied representation by the Administrator that the claimant's application is complete. Responsibility for the completion or accuracy of an application always rests with the applicant.*

**Sec. 19.** NAC 616B.7777 is hereby amended to read as follows:

616B.7777 1. Not later than ~~[30]~~ 60 days after the date that ~~[a claim]~~ *an application* is

~~{deemed to be complete}~~ *submitted to the Administrator* pursuant to NAC 616B.7773, the Administrator shall: ~~{serve, in writing,}~~

(a) *Submit* to the Board ~~{and the association who submitted the claim the}~~ a recommendation ~~{of the Administrator}~~ concerning the approval or disapproval of the ~~{claim}~~ *application* and any expenses of the association related to the ~~{claim}~~ *application* ~~{that the Administrator has verified pursuant to the provisions of NAC 616B.707.}; and~~

(b) *Provide notice to the association of the Administrator's recommendation to the Board.*

2. The Administrator shall include with the recommendation *the information necessary for the Board to evaluate the application and expenses related to the application including, without limitation:*

(a) A statement of the issues of fact and law upon which the *recommendation of the Administrator* ~~{bases}~~ *is based* ~~{the recommendation}~~;

(b) A copy of each document ~~{that was served to or obtained by the Administrator pursuant to NAC 616B.7773 and 616B.7775 and}~~ upon which the Administrator ~~{bases}~~ *based* the recommendation; and

(c) A list of each witness, if any, whom the Administrator would likely call before the Board to support the recommendation, if contested ~~{, and a brief summary of the proposed testimony of each such witness}~~.

3. *Upon receipt of the recommendation of the Administrator, the Board will render a decision disposing of:*

(a) *Each application made against the Subsequent Injury Account for the Associations*

*of Self-Insured Public or Private Employers by an Association of self-insureds;*

*(b) Any expenses of the Association of self-insureds relating to the application and verified by the Administrator, taking into account NAC 616B.707 to verify expenditures for an application for which an Association of self-insureds may receive reimbursement from the Subsequent Injury Account for the Associations of Self-insured Public or Private Employers.*

**Sec. 20.** NAC 616B.7779 is hereby amended to read as follows:

616B.7779 1. ~~{An}~~ *If the Board denies an application or any expenses of the association related to the application, the* association may ~~{contest all or part of a recommendation of the Administrator made pursuant to NAC 616B.7777 by requesting}~~ *request* a hearing before the Board.

2. An association that wishes to request a hearing before the Board pursuant to subsection 1 must ~~{serve}~~ *file* the request, in writing, ~~{to}~~ *with* the *Board's* legal counsel ~~{of the Board not later than 10}~~ *within 30* days after the date that ~~{the recommendation of the Administrator is served to}~~ *the Board's legal counsel serves notice of the decision of the Board upon* the association.

3. The Board will conduct the hearing pursuant to the provisions of NAC 616B.77833 and 616B.7785.

**Sec. 21.** NAC 616B.7783 is hereby amended to read as follows:

616B.7783 1. If an association timely requests a hearing before the Board pursuant to NAC 616B.7779 ~~{or 616B.7781}~~:

(a) The Board will conduct a hearing ~~{not later than 35}~~ *within 45* days after the date that the request for a hearing is served by the association, unless the ~~{Chair of the Board}~~ *Chairperson* grants a continuance upon his or her own motion or ~~{, for good cause~~

~~shown,~~ upon the request of the Administrator or the association ~~{To request a continuance, the Administrator or the association must serve the request, in writing, to the legal counsel of the Board and the other party not later than 5 days before the date of the hearing}~~ *made pursuant to Section 14 of this regulation.*

(b) The ~~{Chair}~~ *Chairperson* of the Board shall serve notice of the date, location and time of the hearing ~~{to}~~ *on* the Administrator and the association as soon as practicable, but not later than 10 days ~~before~~ the date of the hearing.

(c) Not later than 5 days before the date of the hearing, the association shall:

(1) Serve ~~{to}~~ *on* the Administrator two copies of the prehearing statement described in subsection 2; and

(2) Serve ~~{to}~~ *on* the legal counsel of the Board six copies of the prehearing statement described in subsection 2. The ~~{copies of}~~ *association shall redact from* the prehearing statement served ~~{to}~~ *on* the legal counsel of the Board ~~{must be redacted to remove}~~ any information that may identify the injured employee who is the subject of the ~~{claim. The redacted information must include,}~~ *underlying worker's compensation application. The information which must be redacted includes,* without limitation, the name, address, date of birth and social security number of the injured employee.

2. The association shall include in its prehearing statement:

(a) A statement of the issues of fact and law upon which the association bases its argument;

(b) A *redacted* copy of each document which was served to or obtained by the Administrator pursuant to NAC 616B.7773 and 616B.7775 and which the association

intends to introduce at the hearing;

- (c) A list *containing the names* of each witness, if any, whom the association intends to call at the hearing and a brief summary of the proposed testimony of each such witness;
- (d) *A copy of any other document the association believes it may need to place in evidence as a part of its initial presentation to the Board in support of its application;*
- (e) *A copy of any other document the association intends to rely upon to support its application;*
- ~~(f)~~ (f) An estimate of the time that the association will need to present its evidence, testimony, argument and rebuttal at the hearing; and
- ~~(g)~~ (g) If the association requires a court reporter to be present at the hearing, a request that the Board provide a court reporter for the hearing and a statement attesting that the association will pay all costs related to the services of the court reporter and all costs that are necessary to provide the Board with a copy of the transcript of the hearing.

*3. The Board may decline to admit into evidence untimely submittals of documents and records offered in support of an application. Such untimely submittals include documents and records the Board concludes could have been attached to the pre-hearing statement. The Board may also decline to allow the testimony of untimely disclosed witnesses.*

**Sec. 22.** NAC 616B.7785 is hereby amended to read as follows:

616B.7785 1. The Board will conduct a hearing that is requested pursuant to NAC 616B.7779 ~~for 616B.7781 fairly and impartially to ensure that the facts are elicited fully, all~~

~~issues are adjudicated and any unnecessary delay is avoided.~~

~~2. To the extent consistent with the provisions of NAC 616B.777 to 616B.779,~~  
~~[inclusive,] and Sections 2 to 16, inclusive, of these regulations,~~ the Board will conduct the hearing pursuant to the provisions of ~~[e]Chapter 233B of [NRS that]~~ *the Nevada Revised Statutes which* relate to contested cases and, if practicable, the Board will apply the rules of procedure and evidence that apply to the ~~[d]District [e]Courts~~ of this State.

3. Any objection to the conduct of the hearing, including, without limitation, an objection to the introduction of evidence, must be addressed to the ~~[Chair]~~ *Chairperson* of the Board who, in consultation with the other members of the Board and the legal counsel of the Board, will rule upon the objection. If any evidence is excluded from the record, the party who is offering the evidence may make an offer of proof to the ~~[Chair]~~ *Chairperson* of the Board. Such an offer of proof must be included in the record.

4. The Board will direct that an audio recording of the hearing be made, unless ~~[the]:~~  
*(a) The Board on its own motion requires that a court reporter record the hearing; or*  
*(b) The* association ~~[requested in its prehearing statement]~~ *requests in advance* that the Board provide a court reporter for the hearing ~~[ ]~~ *and the Board approves the request.* If the Board provides a court reporter for the hearing upon the request of the association, the association shall pay all costs related to the services of the court reporter and all costs that are necessary to provide the Board with a copy of the transcript of the hearing.

5. After the hearing, the Board will ~~[ ]~~

~~(a) If the association is contesting the recommendation of the Administrator pursuant to NAC 616B.7779, approve or disapprove, in whole or in part, the recommendation of~~

~~the Administrator, or~~

~~—(b) If the association is seeking reconsideration of a previous decision pursuant to NAC 616B.7781, affirm or amend, in whole or in part, the previous decision.]~~

*render a decision disposing of the application based upon the record developed before the Board during the hearing and any continuation thereof.*

6. ~~[The Board will]~~ *If the Board denies an application for reimbursement in whole or in part, the Board may* direct the legal counsel of the Board to prepare a written decision for the Board that includes findings of fact and conclusions of law for the decision. ~~[The]~~ *Legal counsel shall submit the written decision to the Board for Approval. Once the Board gives its final approval of the written decision, the [Chair] Chairperson* of the Board will sign the decision of the Board. The Board will serve its decision ~~[to] on~~ the association ~~[by personal service or certified mail, return receipt requested].~~

7. ~~[Not later than 10 days after the date that the decision of the Board is served to the association, the association may serve to the legal counsel of the Board written objections to the decision of the Board. Any such written objections that are timely served to the legal counsel of the Board must be included in the record]~~ *If the association is dissatisfied with the decision of the Board, the association may seek judicial review of the decision in the District Court not later than 30 days after service of the decision upon the association.*

**Sec. 23.** NAC 616B.7787 is hereby amended to read as follows:

616B.7787 An association that requests a hearing before the Board pursuant to NAC 616B.7779 ~~[or 616B.7781]~~ may request a transcript of ~~[any]~~ *the* audio recording ~~[that is made]~~ of the hearing. If the association requests such a transcript, the association shall pay all costs related to the preparation of the transcript and all costs that are necessary to provide the Board

with a copy of the transcript.

**Sec. 24.** NAC 616B.7771 and 616B.7781 are hereby repealed.

#### TEXT OF REPEALED SECTIONS

**616B.7771 Service of notice or other document. (NRS 616B.572, 616B.578)** Service of notice or any other document to a person pursuant to NAC 616B.777 to 616B.779, inclusive:

1. Must be made by personal service or first-class mail, unless another form of service is otherwise required pursuant to the provisions of NAC 616B.7781 or 616B.7785; and
2. Shall be deemed to have been made on the date that the notice or other document is personally served to the person or his personal representative or on the date that the notice or other document is mailed, whichever date occurs first.

**616B.7781 Board to approve or disapprove recommendation of Administrator; request for hearing for reconsideration. (NRS 616B.572, 616B.578)**

1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, if an association does not timely request a hearing before the Board to contest the recommendation of the Administrator pursuant to NAC 616B.7779:

(a) The Board, at a regularly scheduled meeting, will approve or disapprove, in whole or in part, the recommendation of the Administrator without allowing additional evidence, testimony, argument or rebuttal to be presented by the association; and

(b) The Board will serve notice of its decision to the association by personal service or certified mail, return receipt requested, as soon as practicable.

2. If an association does not timely request a hearing before the Board to contest the recommendation of the Administrator pursuant to NAC 616B.7779 and the Board disapproves,



in whole or in part, the recommendation of the Administrator, the association may request a hearing before the Board for reconsideration of only that portion of the decision of the Board which disapproved the recommendation of the Administrator.

3. An association that wishes to request a hearing before the Board pursuant to subsection 2 must serve the request, in writing, to the legal counsel of the Board not later than 10 days after the date that the decision of the Board is served to the association.

4. The Board will conduct the hearing pursuant to the provisions of NAC 616B.7783 and 616B.7785.