IICAC FINAL minutes for 10/15/2015

Participants:
Mike Dowling, DC, Chair
Bill Pratt, DC, Vice Chair
Robert Baker, DC
Clay Bartness, DC
Linda De Groot, DC
Lissa Grannis, DC
J Lawhead, DC
Mike Neely, DC
Ron Wilcox, DC
Dan Hansen, DC
Bob Mootz, DC
Janet Blume
Barbara Braid, ONC Supervisor
Joanne McDaniel
Simone Javaher
Absent: Zachary Grey and Leah Hole-Marshall
Guests: Joel Sacks, Director of L&I
Tom Hurst, DC
Les White, DC

Breakfast with the Director
Welcome and introductions were made in honor of our guest Director Joel Sacks. He praised IICAC for their top quality provider work products that benefit all provider types. Chiropractors give great treatment to injured workers and get them back to work or light duty, when needed. He is looking to further this impact by getting vocational rehabilitation counselors and Early Return to Work staff involved early in claims, before MMI, when return to work options are most viable. They help workers identify transferrable skills, write resumes, help locate job options and maintain motivation. Also crucial is the new benefit the legislature approved this year extending the Preferred Worker Program to the employer of injury to give them the combined benefits of the Stay at Work and Preferred Worker programs that encourage light duty and return to work.

Dr. Hansen mentioned that more consistency is needed between self-insured and state fund claims management. TPAs may prolong the claims initiation process causing delays upfront that drive downstream costs, yet, L&I has no authority to regulate TPAs. Joel listened attentively and will learn more about the differences in the way self-insured claims are managed by TPAs, COHEs' inclusion of chiropractors, and difficulties in reopening claims. He recommended that self-insured claim issues be directed to the Self Insurance Ombuds Office at L&I. Donna Egeland, ombudsman, was appointed by the Governor. She can be contacted at 360-902-4818 or eged235@LNI.WA.GOV

Kris Tefft, executive director of the Washington Self-Insurers' Association will be added to the IICAC distribution list. Bob will invite him to attend IICAC's quarterly meetings to regenerate a working relationship.

Minutes: The July 2015 meeting minutes were approved as written.

PPQ Subcommittee Report: J reported they are beginning the Biopsychosocial Best Practice Resource for primary care and Occupational Health cases that may have possible complications. To act like yellow flags, the resource will be developed jointly with IIMAC and two consultants. They will be looking at numerous issues including fear avoidance, locus of control, available support systems to help workers. Target completion is in April 2016.

PEO Subcommittee Report: Ron said the Documentation Practice Resource will come to the IICAC for a vote at the January 2016 meeting. The team clarified all of the department's documentation requirements and information available in the literature focused on problem-related records and documentation. This information may trigger some reviews of existing documentation requirements and policies by L&I.

Joanne McDaniel's Retirement
As this was Joanne's last IICAC meeting and last day at L&I, the IICAC took time to recognize Joanne's long term accomplishments with the group and show their appreciation. Joanne has managed the Chiropractic Consultant Program and has been a key contributor to PEO work products over the past 20+ years. Her leadership of three daylong seminars each year contributed to the ongoing workers' compensation educations of thousands of doctors.

Joanne thanked the IICAC for the wonderful opportunities to create useful educational materials over the years and hopes to collaborate again in the future.

Healthy Workers: Bob Mootz explained the eight areas L&I will comprehensively review over the next five years, including physical medicine. Leah Hole-Marshall is leading the effort and will schedule a separate meeting with IICAC to share details.

Chiropractic Consultation Program: Joanne provided an oral sequence of the steps from a doctor's application, PEO's review of the post-graduation education, through L&I credentialing. Bob Mootz will provide the credentialing nurse a letter to send this fall to ongoing consultants who need to fulfill their continuing education and L&I seminar requirements.

Bylaws: Discussion is deferred to the January 2016 meeting.

IICAC 5-year Plan Initial Report: Dan Hansen, DC explained that they are looking at strengths and weaknesses of individual offices considering evidence-based medicine and critical appraisal skills. Each IICAC member will be asked to complete a readiness assessment of their office and identify what they need to improve over the ensuing year. A pilot best practice checklist will be used that will include charting, evaluation and highlighting the content of the APF and AP Return to Work Desk Reference.

At the January meeting, set aside 40 minutes to work on this and plan for more formal outreach. Possibly survey colleagues at their practices outside of COHE regarding best practice adoption.

The executive committee will conference call in November, date yet to be determined. They will be working on suggested criteria for IICAC appointments, how to mentor some people to become eligible for future nominations, etc.

January 2016 IICAC meeting Agenda items:

- Bylaws
- Documentation Practice Resource: Vote
- Open Public Meetings Act Refresher
- IICAC 5-year plan: Self-assessment plan for committee members, readiness assessment