
Oklahoma Senate Committee on Appropriations

2018-2019 Performance Report

WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSION

AGENCY MISSION STATEMENT:

Here a simple statement of the adopted mission of the agency should be provided, along with the entity or person(s) who adopted the mission statement and when it was adopted.

The Workers' Compensation Commission dedicates itself to carry out its adjudicative, administrative and regulatory responsibilities in a fiscally prudent and transparent manner, and to serve the public promptly, courteously and impartially as set out in Title 85A of the Oklahoma Statutes.

LEAD ADMINISTRATOR:

Here the name, title and contact information for the lead administrative person should be listed.

Interim Executive Director Patricia Sommer; 1915 N. Stiles Ave., Oklahoma City, OK 73105; 405-522-3222; tish.sommer@wcc.ok.gov.

GOVERNANCE:

Here a brief description of the agency's governance structure should be provided. Is the agency headed by a Governor appointee? An appointee of an independent board? Who selects the board, and who are the current members of the board.

The Workers' Compensation Commission is composed of three members who are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the State Senate for staggered terms. The Chair of the Commission is appointed by the Governor from among the Commission members. The chief administrative officer for the Commission is an Executive Director appointed by the Commission en banc. Following are the current members:

Mark Liotta, Chairman
Jordan Russell, Commissioner
Megan Tilly, Commissioner
Patricia Sommer, Interim Executive Director

Does the Board have any committees or subgroups? If so, please provide a detailed listing of the subgroups and their areas of focus.

Advisory Bodies to the Workers' Compensation Commission:

Advisory Council on Workers' Compensation, 85A O.S., § 121
Physician Advisory Committee, 85A O.S., § 17

GOVERNANCE ACCOUNTABILITY:

Please provide copies of the minutes for any Commission/Board meetings the agency has had since July 1, 2010 in electronic format (Only in PDF format). Is there an attendance policy for board members/commissioners? If so, is it being followed?

Minutes for all Commission and advisory body meetings are found on our website at www.ok.gov/wcc.

MODERNIZATION EFFORTS:

Please provide a listing of all government modernization efforts undertaken by the agency since July 1, 2010. Additionally, please provide any authorizing statutory changes that prompted the modernization efforts and whether those efforts have led to cost savings or additional cost burden.

The Commission is in current development of an electronic data interchange (EDI) system as prescribed by law and in the process of replacing an antiquated case management system known as WCIS. Implementation of these systems will streamline reporting, billing and data collection processes and allow for online filing by stakeholders, while reducing budgeted FTE, reducing shipping and postage costs, and adding real-time statistical data collection. These modernization efforts are expected to allow the Workers' Compensation Commission to take advantage of technology in order to significantly reduce costs and increase efficiency.

What steps has the agency taken to cut costs and/or eliminate waste? Are there efforts that have been successful which you believe could serve as a model for other state agencies seeking to keep costs minimal?

The Commission established the position of Chief Financial Officer, consolidating all accounting processes into one division rather than being spread throughout the organization, thus reducing costs and improving efficiency and accountability throughout the organization. Other cost savings initiatives include ongoing efforts to efficiently manage labor costs; the Commission currently operates with approximately 32 fewer employees than under the prior Court system despite performing more regulatory functions. Additionally, case related operations were consolidated into one management group and unnecessary manual tasks were eliminated. Further, service contracts are reevaluated annually for possible savings through rebids. The Commission also participates in the Prompt Pay Discounts Program to generate greater savings on invoices. Electronic forms are used when possible to reduce paper costs. An active office inventory system was developed in order to purchase in bulk and receive discounts, as well as to monitor usage.

CORE MISSION:

What services are you required to provide which are outside of your core mission? Are any services you provide duplicated or replicated by another agency? Are there services which are core to your mission which you are unable to perform because of requirements to perform non-core services elsewhere?

None.

No.

No.

PRIVATE ALTERNATIVES:

Are any of the services which are performed by the agency also performed in the private sector in Oklahoma? In other states? Has the agency been approached by any foundation, for-profit or not-for-profit corporation with efforts to privatize some of the functions of the agency?

No.

No.

No.