

STATE BOARD OF MEDIATION AND ARBITRATION

38 WOLCOTT HILL ROAD, WEHTERSFIELD, CT 06109

MINUTES OF ARBITRATORS SPECIAL MEETING

Monday, October 19, 2020

An arbitrators Special Board meeting of the Connecticut State Board of Mediation and Arbitration was held on Monday, October 19, 2020. Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, this meeting was held via Zoom.

Present: Gerald T. Weiner, Esq., Chairman
 Dennis C. Murphy, Esq., Deputy Chairman
 David A. Ryan, Management Member
 Michael C. Culhane, Management Member
 Betty Kuehnel, Labor Member
 Raymond D. Shea, Labor Member

Guest: Patricia A. Fitton, Director/Mediator

The Monday, October 19, 2020 special meeting of the Board of Mediation and Arbitration was opened by Gerald T. Weiner, Chairman, at 2:00 p.m.

- 1) Minutes of Previous Meeting: because this was a Special Board Meeting, the approval of the minutes from the previous meeting was postponed until the next regular Board meeting.
- 2) New Business:
 - A. In Person Grievance Arbitration Hearings: David Ryan made the following motion: That all grievance arbitration hearings after November 5th, be solely

and exclusively scheduled as remote hearings. The motion was seconded by Betty Kuehnel. Extensive discussion followed weighing the pros and cons of holding limited in person hearings versus requiring all hearings to be done remotely. Based on the increase in COVID 19 cases here in Connecticut, our neighboring states and throughout the country, the motion was passed. Effective January, 2021, the Board will review this issue at its regularly scheduled meetings.

B. David Ryan made a motion for the SBMA to send a letter to all the parties currently involved in interest arbitration cases, strongly encouraging the parties to conduct such hearings remotely rather than in person. Dennis Murphy, Esq. seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Ray Shea made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Betty Kuehnel seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Pat Fitton, Director