

875—69.27(17A,89A) Decisions.

69.27(1) *Proposed decision.* Decisions issued by a panel of less than a quorum of the board or by an administrative law judge are proposed decisions. A proposed decision issued by a panel of the board or an administrative law judge becomes a final decision if not timely appealed by any party or reviewed by the board.

69.27(2) *Final decision.* When a quorum of the board presides over the reception of evidence at the hearing, the decision is a final decision. A copy of the final decision and order shall immediately be sent by certified mail to the appellant's last-known post office address or may be served as in the manner of original notices. Copies shall be mailed by interoffice mail or first-class mail to the counsel of record.

69.27(3) *Appeals and review.*

a. Appeal by party. Any adversely affected party may appeal a proposed decision to the board within 30 days after issuance of the proposed decision.

b. Review. The board may initiate review of a proposed decision on its own motion at any time within 30 days following the issuance of such a decision.

c. Notice of appeal. An appeal of a proposed decision is initiated by filing a timely notice of appeal with the board. The notice of appeal must be signed by the appealing party or a representative of that party and contain a certificate of service. The notice shall specify:

- (1) The parties initiating the appeal;
- (2) The proposed decision or order appealed from;
- (3) The specific findings or conclusions to which exception is taken and any other exceptions to the decision or order;
- (4) The relief sought;
- (5) The grounds for relief.

d. Requests to present additional evidence. A party may request the taking of additional evidence only by establishing that the evidence is material, that good cause existed for the failure to present the evidence at the hearing, and that the party has not waived the right to present the evidence. A written request to present additional evidence must be filed with the notice of appeal or, by a nonappealing party, within 14 days of service of the notice of appeal. The board may remand a case to the presiding officer for further hearing or may itself preside at the taking of additional evidence.

e. Scheduling. The board shall issue a schedule for consideration of the appeal.

f. Briefs and arguments. Unless otherwise ordered, within 20 days of the notice of appeal or order for review, each appealing party may file exceptions and briefs. Within 20 days thereafter, any party may file a responsive brief. Briefs shall cite any applicable legal authority and specify relevant portions of the record in that proceeding. Written requests to present oral argument shall be filed with the briefs.

The board may resolve the appeal on the briefs or provide an opportunity for oral argument. The board may shorten or extend the briefing period as appropriate.

g. Record. The record on appeal or review will be the entire record made before the hearing panel or administrative law judge.

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