

**MINUTES
FOR THE REGULAR MEETING
CALIFORNIA UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BOARD
Docket No. 5602**

Open Session

The Appeals Board convened at 11:05 a.m., January 22, 2016, in Sacramento with Chair Robert Dresser presiding.

1. Roll Call: <u>Members</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Robert Dresser, Chair	x	
Michael Allen, Vice Chair	x	
Ellen Corbett	x	

2. Approval of the Minutes:

The minutes of December 15, 2015, were approved unanimously.

3. Chair's Report:

Chair Dresser reported that the oral argument on CASE's request for TRO, which was supposed to have occurred yesterday, was moved until January 29. CUIAB's briefs have been filed.

Chair Dresser reported that they are going to consider a possible attendance policy precedent in the February board meeting.

4. Board Member Reports:

Vice Chair Allen stated that he has been pleased about the very good work of the Precedent Committee. He commented that it is very important that the board always express their appreciation for the work that all the staff is doing whether it's the judges or management or IT, retired annuitants.

5. Public Comment:

Chair Dresser called for any public comment. There was no public comment.

6. Chief ALJ/Executive Director Report:

Chief ALJ/Executive Director Gonzales reported that between 2010 and 2015 the total workload dropped by 48%, by 50% for just UI cases, and the workload continues to decline.

Chief ALJ/Executive Director Gonzales reported that for the year we are meeting all timeliness standards, although in December, because of time off for the holidays and for interviewing, the 30-day time lapse was not met. We are on target to meet all timeliness standards for the year.

The official layoff date for those that have not mitigated is February 2. A number of letters went out a couple of days ago with revised options for ALJs who were able to either stay with the agency or to demote and stay with the agency because of retirements and other mitigations that took place over the last month. We were happy to see that.

7. Chief ALJ of Appellate Operations, Elise Rose Report:

Chief ALJ Rose reported that in AO they have experienced some more downturn compared to the field, in December AO registered 1,206 cases which was more than in November but still 9% less than the average month of 2015. For the entire year, AO registered 15,974 cases in all programs. This was a reduction of almost 20% from 2014, a 45% drop from 2013, and a 48% drop from 2010. This is the fifth year in a row in which the number of new appeals to Appellate Operations fell.

Chief ALJ Rose reported that in December AO issued 1,413 dispositions which is about average for the month in 2015. However dispositions for the entire year were down 15% from the previous year. She noted that AO was also down 3 ALJs for the first five months of the year so it came out about the same. She stated that most significant factor was that AO's open balance was down to 998 by the end of December, which is 38% below the average for the year. The open balance fell by 44% overall during 2015 in all cases.

Chief ALJ Rose reported that AO is meeting all of the DOL numbers right now. For 2015 AO made its case aging for 9 of the 12 months; 45-day for 6 of the 12 months; 75-day for 10 of the 12 months; and 150-day for every month for 100%.

Chief ALJ Rose reported that they had a meeting of the Precedent Decision Committee in January. They will be meeting again on February 2. She did go ahead and send out the board's precedent decision regarding Workers' Comp and disability to the Chair of the Workers' Comp Division of the State Bar. There is a quarterly AO ALJ training scheduled for later this month.

8. Chief Information Officer, Nick Dressler Report:

CIO Dressler reported that the annual Security Awareness Training is coming to an end. They are currently at 92% completion with about 50 staff remaining. Hopefully, all have completed their training.

CIO Dressler announced that Mary Mitchell is retiring after 23 years of State service. Mary's last day will be next Friday. Mary has been with CUIAB her whole State career and has been instrumental in training the board members and working with E-file. He wanted to publicly congratulate her on her retirement and all the work she has done CUIAB and wished her the best in her retirement.

Chair Dresser, Members Corbett and Allen and Chief Rose thanked Mary Mitchell for her dedicated work and acknowledged she would be missed.

9. Chief Administrative Services, Robert Silva Report:

Chief ALJ/Executive Director Gonzales reported on Chief Silva behalf that there was nothing new with the budget since the last meeting.

Action Items

There were no action items.

Closed Session:

The Board adjourned to closed session.

The Board reconvened in open session at approximately 11:55 a.m. No votes were reported.