

**MINUTES
FOR THE REGULAR MEETING
CALIFORNIA UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BOARD
Docket No. 5606**

Open Session

The Appeals Board convened at 10:30 a.m., May 11, 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 April 13, 2016, as corrected, were approved unanimously.

3. Chair's Report:

Chair Dresser reported that senior staff is working hard on training for field and AO judges, as well as support staff.

Chair Dresser reported that the Security Committee met recently. There is now a monthly report that will track serious security incidents at the field offices and headquarters.

Chair Dresser reported that Chief Counsel Schwartz and Chief Gonzales will be reviewing security issues with the goal of having new security policies adopted by the end of this year.

Chair Dresser reported that he will begin visits to the field offices on June 1. His first visits will be to the Orange County, Inland and San Diego offices. His visits will continue at the Inglewood, Los Angeles, Pasadena and Oxnard offices. He will then move on to the Oakland, San Francisco and San Jose offices. Lastly, he will visit the Fresno and Sacramento offices.

4. Board Member Reports:

Vice Chair Allen expressed his gratitude to all the staff. He noted that excellent work is going on throughout the organization, and that he is grateful for all the fine work that everyone does. He noted, as an example, the superb assistance he received recently from the IT department when his lap top died. He wants staff to know that the board notices their fine work.

Member Corbett echoed Vice Chair Allen's comments and expressed her own thanks to the staff. She added also that she hopes board members can participate in some of the upcoming training.

Chair Dresser also expressed his appreciation for all of the excellent staff work. He added that all of the good work has resulted in CUIAB meeting all of the Department of Labor guideline and standards for timeliness and quality for three consecutive years.

5. Public Comment:

No public comment.

6. Chief ALJ/Executive Director Report:

Chief ALJ/Executive Director Gonzales reported that she discussed training with Assistant Chief Harrison and a number of other PJs, and divided training topics into both process and substantive law areas. Training will be provided not only on the precedential decisions that are new, but on how new court decisions have affected prior precedential decisions and standard paragraphs.

Retired Annuitant David Johnson, who was a trainer before he retired, has agreed to return to do some of the tax training. The hope is to tape the training so that people who can't attend because of scheduling conflicts can nevertheless watch. Director Gonzales noted that there will be a training conference on June 13, 14 and 15. She thinks there will be between 12 to 15 ALJs attending.

Chief ALJ/Executive Director Gonzales further reported that Randy Petersen, a retired ALJ, has agreed to come back and assist in putting together a training program for the field. One of the focuses will be on Quality Review so that judges can look at their own decisions to determine if they satisfy federal QR criteria.

Member Corbett commented that some of the training should focus on translation issues. She thinks that might be a good thing to cover because sometimes it can be very difficult for a claimant to communicate with an ALJ if interpreters are not proficient.

Chief ALJ/Executive Director Gonzales stated that the interpreters have to be certified or they get certified by the judge at the hearing. Some of them are used regularly and she thinks the offices try to use the same ones that are known to be good.

Vice Chair Allen suggested putting training courses online. He commented that online training courses can be used as a great refresher, and that it is a real convenience for those who cannot attend training in person.

Chief ALJ/Executive Director Gonzales agreed and stated they would look into it. She commented that they will start with videoing the tax training and see how that comes out.

Chair Dresser commented that at last year's NAUIAP Conference DOL said it has training online. He suggested that Director Gonzales have Randy Petersen look into that to see if any of the DOL online training materials would be helpful to the CUIAB judges.

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

Chief AO ALJ Rose reported that AO is still doing well, keeping up with all of the numbers and meeting all the DOL timelines.

Chief AO ALJ Rose commented that last month there was an ALJ meeting/training for AO which went very well. Also, last week she sent 8 of the AO ALJs to the Sacramento field office for refresher training. Each judge is going to hear cases in the Sacramento field office for two weeks to help the field catch up with their caseload.

Chief AO ALJ Rose stated that she is looking forward to the tax training. AO lost some of its experts to retirement so they are trying to build some new tax expertise. She thinks everybody is looking forward to that.

Chair Dresser asked who did the field training for the AO ALJs.

Chief AO ALJ Rose responded that Judge Dan Garcia led the training. Both he and Chief AO ALJ Rose put together the training materials.

Vice Chair Allen commented he would like to see whatever written materials that were prepared for the training.

Member Corbett thanked Chief AO ALJ Rose and the AO judges for helping the field office.

Chair Dresser also expressed his appreciation to the AO judges for helping the Sacramento field office.

8. Chief Information Officer, Nick Dressler Report:

CIO Dressler reported that IT is diligently working on procurements. They have an internal deadline of May 18 to get all necessary documents to EDD.

CIO Dressler commented he is starting to get some vacation requests and is making sure that there is coverage during the vacation season.

9. Chief Administrative Services, Robert Silva Report:

No report.

Closed Session:

The Board adjourned open session at 10:55 a.m. and commenced closed session at 11:05 a.m.

The Board reconvened in open session at approximately 12:05 p.m. Vice Chair Allen made a motion to affirm its decision on Judge Lias' scheduling request and to revise the February 2016 minutes on that matter accordingly. The motion was accepted unanimously.