

**MINUTES
FOR THE REGULAR MEETING
CALIFORNIA UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BOARD
Docket No. 5542**

1. Opening of Meeting:

The Appeals Board convened at 10:30 a.m., June 14, 2011, in Sacramento with Chair Robert Dresser presiding.

2. Roll Call: Members

Present Absent

Robert Dresser, Chair	X
George Plescia, Vice Chair	X
Bonnie Garcia	X
Denise Moreno Ducheny	X
Alberto Torrico	X
Roy Ashburn	X
Dennis Hollingsworth	X

3. Approval of the Minutes:

The May 17, 2011, minutes were approved by all members.

4. Chair's Report:

Chair Dresser thanked George Plescia for his service both as a member and for his services as Vice Chair. Chair Dresser reported CUIAB is going to have Support Staff training next year as well as a Judicial Conference in September 2012. There will be more training in 2013 when the National Association of Unemployment Insurance Appeals Boards has its conference. Chair Dresser reported we received 43 freeze exemptions and have begun hiring. Chair Dresser reported there will be a Security Committee meeting next week. Angela Bullard and others are working on a committee called the Insight Committee which is going to put online various model decisions as well as legal research for the judges and other staff. Lastly Chair Dresser reported that there were about 150 missed S-dates last month which are caused by many things. He asked board members if they see a close S-date, to continue to make every effort to meet those.

5. Board Member Reports:

Vice Chair Plescia stated it was a pleasure working with everyone and that he had the misconception this position required attending only one board meeting a month. He did not realize there would be 25 cases or more a day.

Member Moreno Ducheny thanked Vice Chair Plescia for all his help when she came to the Board. Now that she sees what this is like she recognizes that all the work Bonnie and George did last year is beyond comprehension. Additionally, she

stated she visited an EDD PAC center in San Diego and found it very informative. She would recommend the other board members visit a PAC center.

Member Ashburn thanked Vice Chair Plescia for his service and acknowledged his service not only on this board but in the legislature as well. Member Ashburn spoke about his visit to the Legislature last Monday. During this visit, he relayed the good work that is done at CUIAB and what the board actually does. Member Ashburn reported the Special Projects Committee is continuing work on the imaging and the installation of phone service.

Member Garcia thanked George Plescia for his service as Vice Chair. She stated that he and she are the last two left from the original gang that was here when CUIAB got inundated with all that work in 2009/10. She also thanked the other board members for their support for the last couple of weeks as they have been transitioning through the new system.

Member Torrico joined in thanking Mr. Plescia for his service on this board. He stated he enjoyed serving with him on this board and he appreciated his counsel as he was coming on. Member Torrico reported that he had an opportunity to meet with several Assembly Members, former colleagues, Senators to talk about the work and the importance of this board and the developments of the board. He commented that CUIAB is virtually 100% federal funded and provide a timely appeal process for hundreds of thousands of Californians that have been unemployed. He thinks people are starting to understand what the board does.

Member Hollingsworth echoed the best wishes to Vice Chair Plescia and congratulated him on a job well done here at the board.

6. Chief ALJ/Executive Director Report:

Chief ALJ/Executive Director Roldan also stated he appreciated Vice Chair Plescia's service and he really enjoyed working with him. Chief ALJ/Executive Director Roldan reported they are just about done with all of the exemption hiring and the new ALJ academy is beginning on July 11, 2011. There will be a two week training block initially before the judges return to their home offices and start actually doing cases.

Chief ALJ/Executive Director Roldan reported that the Security Committee is going to be meeting on June 23, 2011. He also reported one of the two recruitments that will be closing this Friday is for an ALJ position in the Office of Tax Petitions. He is aware the Chair is focused on reducing the backlog in the existing tax workload.

Chief ALJ/Executive Director Roldan gave the May workload and summary report. (Attachments A-F). We are currently averaging the receipt of 38,852 cases, which is even higher than the 38,666 cases we received on average last year. Although workload is up, the backlog overall is coming down because productivity is at the highest level in the history of the department. Through May 2011, we closed, on average, 40,075 cases a month. This is more than we have ever done in this

department. There are 9,270 en-routes which are unverified cases. The existing open balance through June 10, 2011, is 63,605 cases in all categories.

7. Special Assistant to the Board, Lori Kurosaka Report:

Special Assistant Kurosaka thanked Vice Chair Plescia for his service. She reported that she and Janet Maglinte attended the Department of Labor (DOL) training last week on the 2012 Corrective Action Plan (CAP). The At Risk CAP is due to DOL by August 31, 2011. Secondly, on the Organizational Change Management Engagement, we received 15 vendor bids and had a team of 5 reviewers go through the bids. We anticipate doing a final award on June 27. Janet Maglinte will serve as the Project Manager on that effort. It is a one year engagement and an Executive Change Leadership team of Pam Boston, Rafael Placencia and herself will oversee the entire engagement with the consultant. Regarding the imaging project, we have not received project costs from EDD and we have no word on when they will be completing their estimate. We are calendared with the Labor Agency tomorrow to discuss options on going forward. With regard to the Case Management Project, North Highland is underway with their business analysis and on technology needs here at CUIAB for the case management system. Regarding Electronic Decisions, Agency calendared a mediation session on June 7 with EDD and CUIAB regarding re-launching the Electronic Decisions Project.

Last, Special Assistant Kurosaka reported on the Co-location Pilot. We re-launched that effort on Monday, June 13 under the leadership of Mitzi Robinson out of the Los Angeles field office. Things are going smoothly, their equipment is working and they are ready to register.

8. Chief ALJ of Appellate Operations, Jorge Carrillo:

Chief ALJ AO Carrillo expressed his appreciation to Member Plescia for his support throughout the years. He reported the workload last month continued to be high. AO registered 3,318 new appeals which is 14% above their fiscal year average. AO dispositions were fairly close with 2,994 cases being closed. AO's open case balance is 5,814 with 1,700 cases waiting to be verified so the real balance is somewhere about 7,500 which is a fairly high average. The impact of the high workload is reflected in the number for timeliness measures. For the first month in 18 months AO did not meet the DOL case aging standard. DOL requires AO to be at 40 days or under. At the end of April we were at 38 days; at the end of May it went up 7 days to 45 days. That's the largest single month increase he has seen in the past three years. However, AO is still meeting the 75 days and the 150 days time lapse.

Lastly, Chief ALJ AO Carrillo reported on the FO to AO monthly report. (Attachment G). For last month the statewide average was 4.11 days which is phenomenal given that a couple days is for the post office to deliver the mail and there is always a day for them to get us the appeal up here.

9. Chief Information Officer, Rafael Placencia Report:

CIO Placencia thanked Member Plescia for his support of IT over the years. He reported on the VOIP, IP Telephony. To date they have implemented the service at 13 hearing facilities, 9 additional hearing facilities are scheduled for implementation by the end of June. The next phase would be to move into the field office locations and they hope to get those moving forward with implementation in early July.

CIO Placencia reported on the Cell Phone Reduction Project -- on June 1 they were tasked with submitting cancellation for 50% of our usage. Although we met that date, there may be another round of cuts coming up. Going forward we are not quite sure what that is going to entail as far as what we actually have left. We are now being requested to cut 70 additional devices on top of the 50% that have already been cut.

CIO Placencia reported on the Statewide Email Consolidation Project. We are planning for consolidation as early as 2012 of next year. We are being asked to move toward a service that is being offered statewide for departments but currently we have our own system here in CUIAB.

CIO Placencia reported there is a new process for accessing E-file which is the system the board uses to get their appeals. The new system is a web based system which means you can use any computer, anywhere, to access the system. It is not dependent on CUIAB equipment. Member Ashburn will be testing the new system using an iPad.

10. Deputy Director, Administrative Services Branch, Pam Boston Report:

Rob Silva gave the report on behalf of Deputy Director Pam Boston. On behalf of Administrative Services, Mr. Silva extended his thanks to Member Plescia for his service. Mr. Silva reported on the CUIAB Overtime Usage (Attachment H). He also congratulated the Administrative Services procurement staff. The end of the fiscal year is crunch time for them to get all fiscal year purchasing done. They have a very abridged span of time to work with Program Branch Management, IT and the rest of the agency to get everything taken care of. He believes everything was purchased successfully and he commends them for their hard work and efforts.

11. Chief Counsel's Report:

Staff Counsel Kim Hickox presented the board members' caseload report (Attachment I). She reported there were 14 new cases opened this month and 4 were closed. Two of those cases affirmed the Board and the other two reversed. The reversals were on a procedural issue and factual issue, nothing significant. Lastly, she thanked Member Plescia for his service and commented that they enjoyed having him on the board.

12. Unfinished & New Business:

Rob Silva presented the CUIAB 2011-2012 Budget Proposal via PowerPoint. (Attachment J). Member Garcia asked for this year's operating budget, what portion comes from the State General Fund? Mr. Silva referred her to page four and indicated the total amount was \$484,000. Member Plescia asked if we could offer to let some other state agency administer the tax appeal hearings so we would not have any General Fund impact. Chief ALJ/Executive Director Roldan replied it was an interesting concept. Member Garcia asked if we could explore it.

Member Hollingsworth referred to page 9 and asked what was included in the line item Memberships. He would like to see Memberships, Other Services, and Subscriptions itemized. He stated in the scale of things we are looking at in this budget, those are rather large. He wants to make sure we don't get too loosey goosey on what those cover. He said as the board is looking at making changes in expenditures. For example, if the Security Committee comes back and says we need to spend some money here, he thinks that would be a higher priority than maybe some of those items that are under these three line items.

13. Public Comment:

There was no public comment offered.

14. Closed Session:

The Board went into closed session. No votes were reported.

Adjournment