



Chair Dresser thanked the staff involved in the state's Zero Based Budgeting efforts, and noted the process is only mid-way, On September 20; they'll meet with EDD to get updated projections as to caseload which will help determine available funding and the related efficiencies that will be required to meet the budget limitations.

Chair Dresser reported that support staff training is beginning soon. There will also be local ALJ training for those who were unable to go to the Los Angeles office in May.

**5. Board Member Reports:**

Vice Chair Howard expressed her thanks and related how much she enjoyed working with CUIAB. She thanked Chair Dresser for giving her the opportunity to serve as Vice Chair and his confidence in her taking on various projects. She thanked her fellow board members for all of their support and expressed confidence in the group to continue the great work of this organization.

Member Ashburn thanked Vice Chair Howard for her service. He commented that she'd been a great board member and extraordinarily active person in her involvement on behalf of the board in helping to improve the organization and improve the services for the people CUIAB serves.

Member Allen commented that he has great affection for Vice Chair Howard and she was most welcoming when he came on in January. She's been a tremendous asset to the organization and to the board. He knows that she has been a great help to the staff, to the Chair and to all of her colleagues.

**6. Public Comment:**

No public comment.

**7. Chief ALJ/Executive Director Report:**

Chief ALJ/Executive Director Gonzales thanked Vice Chair Howard for her service.

Chief ALJ/Executive Director Gonzales reported, as outlined in the summary report, that regarding caseloads, they managed to make time lapse for the seventh month and are on target for the end of September to make it eight months which will serve as the basis for requesting that DOL remove the corrective action status. However, California as a whole, including EDD, is in that status and it may not be

possible to lift it regarding just CUIAB.

Cases at the end of last week were only 24,000 UI cases, with the budgetary issue that poses, and of the open balance of the UI cases also there are 46% extension cases. When those start to go away our caseload is going to drop. She stated that there is a Presiding Judge meeting next Tuesday and Wednesday and one of the topics will be how do we work with this problem. Part of a solution is the DSS loan program and we are going to find spots for 10 judges and start in the fall.

Chief ALJ/Executive Director Gonzales reported that the Best Practices training in the field started today in Fresno. All of the different subject matter experts are training on calendaring, reception, and mail processing. All of the practices will be given to all of the field offices so we'll be standardized and they will be listed on the Bench so everyone will know what we are supposed to be doing in the optimum environment. Then the judges are going to start video NAUIAP training that was given in Los Angeles; the last week of September and the first two weeks of October will be taking place in the Bay Area, Sacramento and Southern California in Los Angeles.

**8. Special Assistant to the Board, Lori Kurosaka Report:**

No report.

**9. Chief ALJ of Appellate Operations, Elise Rose Report:**

Chief ALJ AO Rose added her thanks to Vice Chair Howard. In terms of AO statistics, registrations haven't really changed much from July but at 2,057 it's still far below the average for the calendar year. AO's number of dispositions last month was 2,715. That's actually increased about 450 dispositions over last month probably has to do with summer vacations that had occurred and people are mostly back now. AO's balance of open cases is 2,484; down a little bit from last month but it's still not much above the average for the year. Case aging was at 30.1 days at the end of July but we were at 27.4 at the end of August. All of the registration staff has now been trained in process and so we have effectively combined two units which will serve us well in terms of the downsizing that needs to be done. Time lapse, our goal, the number of cases to be decided within 45 days is 50%, we were at 57% at the end of July and have now bumped up to 77% and we're well within the 75 day and 150 day standards. We're at 94% of the cases being decided within 75 days and 99% within 150 days.

Chief ALJ AO Rose reported that they are working on finalizing two decisions that

have the potential to be precedent decisions.

**10. Chief Information Officer, Rafael Placencia Report:**

CIO Placencia thanked Member Howard for all the help she's provided to the IT branch.

CIO Placencia reported on eCATS, the next generation of CATS. The planning for the release of eCATS is continuing. Their next milestone for the project is a system-wide stress test scheduled for Wednesday, tomorrow, between 11:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. All field offices will be participating in the testing.

CIO Placencia reported on Ca.mail that, as the board knows, we are migrating our locally managed email system to a service provided by the state. The full rollout is currently on hold due to potential impacts to the CUIAB efforts to reach September's caseload targets. The project will resume in mid-October and the project is approximately 30% complete. They hope to have the entire project completed by the end of the year.

**11. Chief Administrative Services, Robert Silva Report:**

Chief Silva also thanked Member Howard and commented that she was very supportive of Admin and he stated he was very appreciative of that and will miss her.

Chief Silva reported the Budget Advisory Committee set for CUIAB's 2013/14 overtime allocation just over \$409,000, which was a significant reduction from what we actually expended in the 2012/13 fiscal year. This report is through the first month of the fiscal year and during that first month we under spent that already reduced allocation by 42% only spending \$19,600. We are continuing to under utilize overtime which is good and consistent with our workload. As a whole, CUIAB is under spending in this category by 64% during the first month of the year so all good news.

Chief Silva reported that they are currently doing bilingual training out in the field. They try to do that every two years so that they can keep interpreters current with our protocols, agency matters and basically what they need to know to perform their job well. Mirella Gomez and Anissa Bell of Admin as well as ALJ Tim McArdle, are out on the road currently doing this training. The attendees receive a certificate of completion and are registered with CUIAB as having attended the program which is a prerequisite for being provisionally qualified to work for us as

an interpreter. Four offices are completed so far. Oakland had 26 attendees, San Diego had 32, Oxnard had 16 and Orange County 14.

Chair Dresser asked if the attendees were interpreters as well as CUIAB staff.

Chief Silva reported that it is both. It is mainly for interpreters but we encourage our staffs to attend to the extent that they can both from the bilingual perspective and for those that have to deal with interpreter paperwork once they submit the paperwork for mailing.

Lastly, Chief Silva reported on the Inland Regional Support Unit that they intended to move them into the Rancho Cucamonga headquarters by the beginning of September. The new move date is October 8.

Chair Dresser asked Chief Silva to send the board a brief summary of the training because his impression is that this is pretty unique training and he doesn't know if other departments with similar needs do this kind of training. They may or may not but he'd like to share with Labor Agency so that if they want they might look to our model to utilize.

## **12. Chief Counsel's Report:**

Chief Counsel Kim Steinhardt also thanked Vice Chair Howard for her service.

He reported that six writ petition cases were closed in August and nine were opened. Of the six that were closed, two were reversals and one was a remand, with no extraordinary issues.

Chief Counsel Steinhardt gave an update on the Labor Commission mediations. CUIAB had agreed to do up to a week's worth of mediation with 10 ALJs. We've To date, there has only been one judge and one mediation due to the Labor Commissioner's calendaring needs.

Chair Dresser asked about other interagency agreements. Chief Counsel Steinhardt stated that right now we are at the very final stages of the interagency agreement with the Department of Social Services which will account for more than a million dollars in revenue to CUIAB through the end of the fiscal year. There will be 10 judges, fulltime, starting in October with hearings beginning in mid-November. CUIAB judges will be hearing appeals of the decisions by Covered California under the Affordable Care Act.

**13. Unfinished and New Business:**

Chief Silva presented the errata to the already approved budget for the 2013/14 fiscal year regarding positions. He referred to the report in the packets that it highlights the estimated number of CUIAB positions for the 2013/14 fiscal year that was approved by the board at the July meeting. That number of positions approved was 1,308.9 positions. The second half of that document shows a corrected estimated number of positions and it reduces the total number to 1,122 at the bottom of the page. This needed correction was due to a formula error that happened in Admin. He wants to state that it has no change whatsoever in dollar figures because the positions are separate from the dollars. In all reality it doesn't really change how we are conducting business because these new updated figures, they really only change the balance of unused positions. So our total temp help positions at 515; we are only utilizing 92. We don't have the dollars or the workload need to fill these 423 temp help positions that are there. Chair Dresser commented 1,122 include the permanent and temporary positions. Chief Silva responded that is correct. It's basically 187 positions less than what was approved back in July.

Motion to adopt the revised budget document was moved and seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Lastly, Member Allen commented to Chief ALJ/AO Rose that in her report she talked about the precedents that AO is working on. He stated that to him, because of the caseload, sometimes he would prefer to have information on the pros and cons of what is being discussed before it comes to the board. Chief ALJ/AO Rose agreed they could do that.

**14. Closed Session:**

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

**Adjournment**