

**MINUTES  
FOR THE REGULAR MEETING  
CALIFORNIA UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BOARD  
Docket No. 5708**

**Open Session**

The Appeals Board meeting convened at 11:00 a.m., December 11, 2024, with Chair Michael Allen presiding.

<b>1. Roll Call: <u>Members</u></b>	<b><u>Present</u></b>	<b><u>Absent</u></b>
Michael Allen, Chair	X	
Laura Kent-Monning, Vice-Chair	X	
Mike Eng	X	
Bob Wieckowski	X	

**2. Approval of Minutes:**

The Board approved the November 20, 2024, Meeting Minutes.

**3. Chair's Report:**

Since the last meeting, the Board resolved approximately 709 second-level appeals, 701 of which were issued within CAMS. Chair Allen thanked the CUIAB staff for their work.

**4. Board Member Reports:**

Vice-Chair Kent-Monning expressed her appreciation for CUIAB's work since the onset of the pandemic to reduce the inventory of open cases and improve efficiency. Vice-Chair Kent-Monning also congratulated Member Wieckowski on his performance in the Nutcracker ballet and thanked Aida Zavala and staff for preparing holiday decorations at CUIAB's headquarters.

Member Eng expressed his gratitude for the work completed on CAMS during 2024.

Member Wieckowski discussed the recent Legislative Analysts' Office report regarding the unemployment fund and expressed his gratitude for the CUIAB staff.

**5. Public Comment**

No public comment.

**6. Chief ALJ/Executive Director, Michael Cutri Report:**

In November, the average daily appeals intake remained relatively static, similar to the incoming appeals levels during 2019 and 2020. The field offices issued approximately 20,000 decisions, reducing the backlog by approximately 3,700 cases. The average case age decreased to 61 days, significantly ahead of the 192-day national average.

In the last month, CUIAB moved over 2,500 cases via CAMS in order to normalize wait times. Chief Cutri expressed his gratitude to the staff and ALJs for their work.

**7. Supervising ALJ for Appellate Operations, Rebecca Bach Report:**

Supervising Judge Bach reported that during November, 79.2% of second-level appeals were resolved within 45 days, and 97.8% within 75 days. The average case age was 32.9 days.

Supervising Judge Bach advised that CUIAB's precedent decisions are now available on LexisNexis.

**8. Chief of Administrative Services, Robert Silva Report:**

Chief Silva reported that two support staff were recently hired, with 13 pending. Over the last 90 days, there has been attrition of five staff.

CUIAB engaged in the biannual bilingual audit during November. The audit results will be available later.

CUIAB is in the process of renewing the Pasadena Office of Appeals lease. The walkthrough with the Department of General Services and the Lessor went well.

Chief Silva thanked the Administrative Services staff for their work throughout 2024.

Member Wieckowski inquired about the ownership of the Pasadena Office of Appeals building. Chief Silva confirmed the building is privately owned. Member Wieckowski also asked whether any remaining IT contract work involved CAMS. Acting CIO Mark Smith confirmed there is no remaining IT contract activity pertaining

to CAMS.

Member Eng asked if translators are provided by CUIAB. Chief Silva confirmed that CUIAB provides translators via contracted vendors. Member Eng noted that there are instances in which individuals express concern about the quality of the translation services. Chief Silva advised that any complaints received are reviewed by CUIAB's internal review team and appropriate action taken when needed. Member Eng requested data involving these types of complaints over the past year.

**9. Acting Chief Information Officer, Mark Smith Report**

Acting CIO Smith reported that IT is completing the next group of CAMS enhancements and is in the process of hiring two support staff.

Member Eng offered that it would benefit CUIAB to create a questionnaire for Board members to provide feedback on CAMS and asked about stakeholder feedback. Acting CIO Smith advised that there is a feedback form on the portal. CUIAB reviews this and addresses issues as needed. Member Eng requested additional information regarding stakeholder comments and recommendations.

**Closed Session:**

There was no closed session.

**Adjournment**