

**Employment Security Advisory Board Meeting
Connecticut Department of Labor
December 4, 2015
Minutes**

Members Present: Mark Sullivan, Shawn Coyne, Sue Garten, Dave Bosco, Eric Gjede, Robert Niedermeier, John Barasso

Absent: John Olsen

Agency Staff: Commissioner Sharon Palmer, Deputy Commissioner Dennis Murphy, Carl Guzzardi, Daryle Dudzinski, Andy Condon, John Matteis, Heidi Lane, Steve Lattanzio, Anne Rugens, Maria Hagen, Sue Crabb, Dave Ricciuti, Marisa Morello, Fran Stankiewicz, Nancy Steffens, Susan DeVito.

Approval of Minutes

Mark Sullivan called the meeting to order at approximately 9:30 a.m. The minutes of the October 9, 2015 meeting were approved.

Trust Fund Presentation and Discussion

Carl Guzzardi presented a PowerPoint, "Unemployment Insurance (UI) Trust Fund Update." Carl noted that the underlying message of the PowerPoint is the cost to the state and Connecticut employers of taking no action to fix the struggling Trust Fund.

The Advisory Board members discussed the best vehicles to communicate the message of the PowerPoint to legislators and the employer community.

Mark Sullivan noted that an instructional designer could perhaps assist in relaying the message to interested parties. Eric Gjede noted that some benefit reform pages should be added to the PowerPoint to balance out the presentation. Eric and Shawn Coyne noted that the Department of Labor needs to communicate with and educate the business community. Robert Niedermeier suggested the Department present information on both scenarios – the effect on the fund of the Advisory Board's consensus package and a "Do Nothing" approach. Deputy Commissioner Murphy noted that the message, essentially, is "Pay now, or pay more later."

Expressions of Appreciation

Mark Sullivan took a few minutes to thank Commissioner Palmer for her continued support and wished her well in retirement.

Future Agenda Items

Future meetings have been scheduled for February 26, 2016, June 24, 2016 and October 14, 2016. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:35 a.m.