

**Employment Security Advisory Board Meeting**  
**Connecticut Department of Labor**  
**February 25, 2015**  
**Minutes**

**Members Present:** Mark Sullivan, Shawn Coyne, Henry Zaccardi, John Toomey, Sue Garten, Dave Bosco, John Barasso

**Absent:** John Olsen, Eric Gjede

**Agency Staff:** Commissioner Sharon Palmer, Deputy Commissioner Dennis Murphy, Carl Guzzardi, Bruce Berman, Daryle Dudzinski, Ken Petow, Steve Lattanzio, Anne Rugens, Maria Hagen, Celeste Valakos, Ken Petow, Sue Crabb, Dave Ricciutti, Marisa Morello.

**Approval of Minutes**

Mark Sullivan called the meeting to order at approximately 9:32. The minutes of the November 19, 2014 meeting were approved.

**UI Program Update**

Unemployment Insurance (UI) Benefits Director Daryle Dudzinski provided an update on UI Benefits – specifically the ongoing claim load, adjudications and Merit Rating’s mailing of the 2015 tax rates. Additionally, Daryle discussed the Department’s integrity efforts – e.g. 100 arrests reached in the prosecution efforts and the Treasury Offset Program – and the status of certain projects (SIDES and REA).

**Legislative Update**

Anne Rugens referenced handouts pertaining to: Agency legislative testimony, the Agency’s Raised Bill No. 6793, and summaries provided to the Labor and Public Committee pertaining to the Advisory Board’s Consensus language. Commissioner Palmer noted that, in addition to providing the summary, the Department also offered to present an Unemployment Insurance Conference at the Legislative Office Building for the legislators. Sue Garten expressed her appreciation for the Commissioner’s efforts. Mark Sullivan advised the Commissioner that the Advisory Board was ready to provide any assistance to support the Commissioner’s efforts.

**Unemployment Trust Fund Update**

Tax Director Carl Guzzardi discussed the legislative handouts. In regards to the Consensus language handouts, Carl noted the catastrophic effect a recession would have on the Trust Fund, and the dramatic improvement the Advisory Board’s Consensus language would effectuate on the Fund. At Sue Garten’s request, Carl noted that the Average High Cost Multiple goal, referenced in the law, was to reach 1.5 Billion by 2019.

Deputy Commissioner Murphy and Shawn Coyne commented on the quality of the proposal and submission to the Labor Committee.

**Closing**

Next meetings scheduled for June 5<sup>th</sup> and October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 9:30 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:06.