

Employment Security Advisory Board Meeting  
Connecticut Department of Labor  
July 23, 2014  
Minutes

**Members Present:** Mark Sullivan, Eric Gjede, Shawn Coyne, Henry Zaccardi, John Toomey, John Barrasso, Sue Garten, John Olsen

**Agency Staff:** Commissioner Sharon Palmer, Deputy Commissioner Dennis Murphy, Anne Rugens, John Matteis, Carl Guzzardi, Bruce Berman, Brian Richard, Lynne Knox, Ken Petow, Maria Hagen, Christine Paquette, Daryle Dudzinski, Sue Crabb, David Ricciuti, Stephen Lattanzio, Susan DeVito, Carl Schuh

**Presenter:** Lori Pelletier, George Wentworth, Rich Siegel, Doug Hall, Doug Holmes

**Observer:** Jessica Cabanillas, Susan Garcia Nofi, T. Michael Murphy, Chris Wetzel, Brian Anderson, Mark Soycher, Zachary Janowski, John McCarthy

**Introduction**

Mark Sullivan called the meeting to order at approximately 9:08.

**Meeting Presentations**

Lori Pelletier, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of Connecticut ALF-CIO, spoke to the need to address Trust Fund solvency without undermining family solvency and provided a handout of her presentation.

Doug Hall, Executive Director, National Priorities Project, provided a Power Point presentation entitled, UI Trust Fund Solvency and Connecticut's Most Vulnerable Workers.

Richard Siegel, President and CEO of Unemployment Tax Management Corporation (UTMC) as well as Vice President and President Elect of the Association of Unemployment Tax Organizations – AUTO, spoke to modernization efforts in which the employer community is specifically interested and offered suggested methods to improve the Connecticut Unemployment Insurance (UI) system for all stakeholders. Rich Seigel provided a handout of his presentation.

Doug Holmes, President of the National Foundation for Unemployment Compensation and Workers' Compensation as well as President of UWC Strategic Services on Unemployment and Workers' Compensation, spoke to observations on Trust Fund solvency from a national perspective and measures that the employer community envisions to address unemployment tax rates and benefits to address short term and longer term solvency issues. Doug Holmes provided a handout of his presentation.

George Wentworth, Senior Staff Attorney, National Employment Law Project, provided a Power Point presentation entitled, Keeping Connecticut's Unemployment Insurance Program Strong and Fair. The presentation provided information on the performance of Connecticut's UI program during the Great Recession, a comparison of the state of Connecticut's Trust Fund Insolvency in comparison with other states on a national scale, an explanation as to how other states have responded, and recommendations as to how Connecticut should respond – including the concepts of forward financing, maintaining UI as an economic stabilizer, and ensuring that the UI program responds to economic realities of the new labor market.

AFSCME Council 4, Connecticut's Legal Services Program, and Connecticut Working Families Organization also provided handouts.

### **Meeting Dates**

The next scheduled meeting is August 14, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. with additional meetings scheduled for September 10, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. and October 24, 2014 at 9:30 a.m.