

Meeting Minutes
REEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Microsoft Teams Meeting
August 13, 2026, 1:30 p.m. CDT

Members Present: Secretary Marcia Hultman (Chair), Robert Anderson, Kari Karst, David Owen, Michael Plank, Pam Roberts, Nathan Sanderson, Douglas Severson, Kelsey Smith

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Julie Albano, Dawn Dovre, Pauline Heier, Jerry McCabe, Deb Mortenson, Mark Willadsen, Dawn Williams

Secretary Hultman called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. Julie Albano took roll call. A quorum was present.

Kari Karst made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2025, meeting. David Owen seconded the motion. **MOTION PASSED.**

Pauline Heier informed the Council the maximum weekly benefit amount will increase from \$553 to \$575 for new claims filed on or after July 5, 2026, and Schedule C will be in effect for 2027.

Pam Roberts requested an analysis of how the annual inflationary increase in the maximum weekly benefit amount has affected the Trust Fund.

The Council received an update on the current state of the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund, including financial projections for the remainder of 2026 and projected 2027.

The Council also discussed that the projected trust fund balance may cause the Average High-Cost Multiple (AHCM) to fall below 1.5% on June 30, 2027. If this occurs, it will trigger the next higher tax schedule (Schedule B). David Owen recommended that the Department brief legislative committees during the 2027 session on the potential tax rate increase. Nathan Sanderson requested that the Council convene a meeting prior to June 30, 2027.

Jerry McCabe reviewed with the Council South Dakota's Open Meeting Laws guide. Pam Roberts made a motion to acknowledge the law guidance review. Bob Anderson seconded the motion. **MOTION PASSED.**

Secretary Hultman opened the floor for public comments. There were no comments.

Nathan Sanderson made a motion to adjourn. Pam Roberts seconded the motion. **MOTION PASSED.**

Secretary Hultman adjourned the meeting at 1:56 p.m. CDT.

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