

Meeting Minutes
REEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE ADVISORY COUNCIL
Microsoft Teams Meeting
July 21, 2021 1:30 p.m. CDT

Members Present: Secretary Marcia Hultman (Chair), Robert Anderson, Kari Karst, David Owen, Douglas Severson, Pam Roberts, Nathan Sanderson, Mark Rogers

Members Absent: Dan Schmidt

Others Present: Pauline Heier, Dawn Dovre, Amber Mulder, Deb Mortenson, Julie Albano, Debra Owen, Representative Mark Willadsen, Donna Leslie

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

David Owen made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting on Dec. 29, 2020. Robert Anderson seconded the motion. **MOTION PASSED** by an 8-0 roll call vote (1 absent).

Secretary Hultman discussed the federal programs (FPUC, PUA, PEUC) that ended on June 26, 2021, and reviewed statistics of initial and continued weekly claims processed since mid-March 2020 and the benefit amounts paid from each program (State, FPUC, PUA and PEUC).

Pauline Heier informed the Council the maximum weekly benefit increased on July 1, 2021, from \$428 to \$466. The June 30, 2021, Trust Fund balance was above the average high-cost multiple (AHCM) threshold triggering the reduced rate table for 2022. The Council received an update, and discussion was held on the current state of the UI Trust fund, including financial projections for the remainder of 2021.

Secretary Hultman discussed future legislation that may include review of third-party cross-matching functionality to combat the challenges and urgencies of UI fraud and Indexing that ties unemployment insurance to economic conditions. The changes would ensure people move back to work quickly during times of low unemployment, and it provides a temporary safety net during times of high unemployment. Also discussed was a codified law change that would allow for paperless/electronic filing of appeals.

Secretary Marcia Hultman opened the floor for public comment. There was no public comment.

Robert Anderson made a motion to adjourn. Doug Severson seconded the motion. **MOTION PASSED.**

Meeting adjourned at 2:12 p.m. CDT.