

Members:

Linda Rasmussen, Chair
*Communications Workers
of America*
Labor

Al Dorgan
*United Steelworkers
of America*
Labor

Cynthia Hurkes
*Oregon Child Care
Resource & Referral
Network*
Public

Kathy Nishimoto
*Duckwall-Pooley Fruit
Co.*
Management

Tamara Russell
Barran Liebman LLP
Management

Patrick Smith
*Lane, Coos, Curry,
Douglas Building
Trades*
Labor

Mary J. Taylor
Freeman Marine
Management

Meeting Minutes
Thursday, December 3, 2009

The meeting was called to order, attendees and guests welcomed by Chair Linda Rasmussen at 1:32pm.

Present*:

Linda Rasmussen, Chair
Al Dorgan
Cynthia Hurkes
Kathy Nishimoto (by telephone)
Tamara Russell (by telephone)
Patrick Smith (by telephone)

Staff to Council:

Rebecca Nance

*Quorum requirement met

Others Present:

Laurie Warner, Employment Department Director
Mary Wood, OED UI Economist

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Kathy Nishimoto to approve the minutes from the September 30, 2009 meeting. Motion seconded by Al Dorgan. No discussion. Minutes were approved as presented.

February Legislative Session Update

Rebecca Nance reviewed the draft schedule for the upcoming legislative session and will send the draft calendar to Council members.

The need for an extension of the date for the recently passed Federal Unemployment Insurance extension legislation was discussed. The current expiration date is December 31, 2009. If this date stands, a large number of claimants Nationwide will no longer be eligible for the additional 20 week Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC).

UI Fast Facts & Oregon's UI Trust Fund Balance

UI Economist Mary Wood reviewed the November UI Fast Facts (October data) with the Council. There were fewer initial claims filed during this period. The trust fund balance is about \$1.2 billion.

Review of Draft UI Diversion Letter

The consensus of the Council was that the draft letter to Legislators stating their position against UI Diversions for any purpose was good as is. The Governor, Tim Nesbitt, Governor's Deputy Chief of Staff, and OED Director will be copied.

Discussion of Timing of the Letter Transmission

The Council would like the letter sent to legislators the 1st week of January.

Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Reauthorization and Federal Jobs Program Update

Rebecca reported that US Senator Patty Murray (WA) is starting to advocate for the reauthorization of the WIA, she has reached out to US Senator Jeff Merkley (OR).

President Obama is likely to propose a Federal Jobs program as was discussed during the economic summit hosted at The Whitehouse.

Good of the Order

Chair Linda announced that she will be retiring from the Communications Workers of America on January 5, 2010.

Follow Up Items:

1. Draft legislative calendar to be emailed to Council
2. UI Diversion Letter to be send to Council Members for their original signatures
3. Letter to be drafted and sent to Congressional delegation supporting extension date for additional weeks of EUC

Meeting Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 2:35pm.