

**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  
Friday, March 20, 2009

The meeting was called to order and attendees welcomed by Chair Linda Rasmussen at 1:30pm.

**Present\*:**

Linda Rasmussen (by telephone)  
Kathy Nishimoto  
Mary Taylor  
Al Dorgan  
Cynthia Hurkes

**Excused:**

Patrick Smith  
Tamara Russell

**Staff:**

Rebecca Nance

\*Quorum requirement met

**Guests:**

Bill Fink, OED Deputy Director  
Graham Slater, OED Research Administrator  
Tom Byerley, OED UI Administrator  
Jim Pfarrer, OED B&ES Manager

Chair Linda thanked OED staff for work they are doing especially in light of the economic downturn. She also thanked OED for the legislative work that is being done.

**OED Research Presentation:**

Graham Slater presented information on:

- Green Jobs Survey his section has been engaged in
- unemployment rate (10.8%) & employment numbers
- Occupational Prioritization for Training.

**Unemployment Insurance (UI) Update:**

Tom Byerley presented a variety of UI information, including:

- 165,000 Oregon claims being paid weekly
- \$40M of benefits are being paid weekly
- Legislative package being put forward for 116 new positions, this included positions for the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH)
- Currently just under 70% of UI claims are being filed on line
- Workshare Program Overview
- Federal Stimulus for UI Modernization

Unemployment Insurance Update (continued):

- Oregon is eligible for roughly \$85M in benefits & \$5-6M in administrative funding if we meet criteria
- SB 462 is the piece of legislation that will move OED closer to qualifying for the \$90M
- Other minor legislative tweaks will be needed and are in the works

Business & Employment Integration and Claimant Re-employment Update:

Jim Pfarrer presented current B&ES initiatives:

- Saturday hours at some locations
- Every unattached claimant is now seen in person at a local office
- Although the economy is sour, due to the efforts being made, claimant re-employment is up 16% over last year
- Job listings were down 50 to 60% over a year ago
- Now participating with “Job Central”, the replacement of America’s Job Bank, and listings have bounced back quite a bit
- Described integration model at local level
  - Welcome team
  - Skill assessment team
  - Business & employment team

Legislative Update:

Rebecca Nance discussed the “lay of the legislative land” this session. She spoke of the compound challenges:

- Finalizing the 2007-09 Budget
- Oregon Stimulus Package
- Federal Stimulus Package
- The 2009-11 Budget

The 2009 Legislative “Hot Sheet” was reviewed.

The Council indicated they would like to continue to receive the UI Fast Facts, Hot Sheets, and Unemployment numbers.

Follow Up to Council:

1. Number of job orders and placements from Job Central
2. UI Trust Fund solvency chart

Next Meeting:

Tentatively set for either April 17<sup>th</sup> or 24<sup>th</sup>. Members will be polled to see which date works best.

The meeting adjourned at 2:55pm.