



Minutes of the Employment Advisory Council Meeting  
Department of Workforce Services – Virtual Meeting  
**December 14, 2023 – 1:30 p.m.**

<b>Council Members Present:</b>	Dave Davis	Employer Representative, Utah Retail Merchants Association
	Steve Van Valkenburg	Employer Representative, Employer Advocates, LLC
	Brian Somers	Employer Representative, Utah Mining Association
	Melisa Stark	Employee Representative, Commissioner of Apprenticeship Programs
	Jeff Worthington	Employee Representative, Utah AFL-CIO
	Kelly Thornton	Employee Representative, Department of Workforce Services
	Kevin Shingleton	Public Representative
	Candace Daly	Public Representative, CJD & Associates
	Eileen Rivera	Public Representative, Retired
<b>Council Members Excused:</b>	Matthew Hilbig	Employer Representative, OCM/Lee Hecht Harrison
	Todd Bingham	Employer Representative, Utah Manufacturers Association
	Joey Gilbert	Employer Representative, Associated General Contractors of Utah
	Sheila Oelerich	Employee Representative, Department of Workforce Services
	Ryan Mecham	Public Representative, Utah Manufacturers Association
	William Starks	Public Representative
<b>DWS Staff Present:</b>	Justin Williams	Director, Unemployment Insurance
	LeeAnn Madsen	Chief, UI Benefits
	Jolynn Badame	Chief, Programming
	Bradley Salmond	Program Manager, Unemployment Insurance
	Melissa Hodgson	Research Consultant, Unemployment Insurance
	Dan Schuring	Financial Manager II, Unemployment Insurance
	Patrick Frost	Research Consultant, Unemployment Insurance
	Maria Torres	Field Audit Manager, Unemployment Insurance
	Jared Mendenhall	Department of Workforce Services Communications
	Mark Knold	Research Consultant III, Unemployment Insurance
Cheryl Christiansen	Administrative Assistant, Unemployment Director	

Agenda Item	Discussion
Welcome	Justin Williams, Director, Unemployment Insurance welcomed the group.
Approval of Minutes	The Minutes for the August 2023 minutes were approved.
Employment Advisory Council Meeting Members Update	Mr. Williams stated we must have a minimum of five representatives under each category. The Council is short one Employee Representative. He asked if anyone knows anyone who may be a good Employee Representative on the council, please reach out to him.
Economy Update	Mr. Mark Knold, Research Consultant III, presented and gave an economic update.
Open and Public Meetings Act	Ms. Amanda McPeck, Director of Legal Services, provided a required yearly training regarding the Open and Public Meeting Act.
Employer 2024 Rate Notices	Ms. Maria Torres, Field Audit Manager, gave a presentation regarding employer rate notices for 2024. The rate for 2024 stayed at .003% and 78% of our employer rate base is at that lowest rate.
Fraud Update	Mr. Williams talked about the current fraud situation.
Discussion of the 2024 Meeting Schedule	It was proposed by Mr. Williams that the EAC Meeting be held twice a year instead of the current three times a year. It was agreed upon unanimously.
2024 Meeting Dates	May 16, 2024 and November 21, 2024.
Round Table	N/A
Adjourn	Mr. Worthington motioned to adjourn the meeting at 3:14 pm and Mr. Somers seconded the motion, all were in favor and the motion carried.