

**BEFORE THE  
EMPLOYMENT APPEAL BOARD  
Lucas State Office Building, 4<sup>TH</sup> Floor  
Des Moines, Iowa 50319  
Website: eab.iowa.gov**

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**BARB A VAN POLEN**

Claimant

and

**OSKALOOSA COMM SCHOOL DIST**

Employer

: **APPEAL NUMBER:** 23B-UI-07133

: **ALJ HEARING NUMBER:** 23A-UI-07133

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: **EMPLOYMENT APPEAL BOARD  
DECISION**

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**SECTION:** 10A.601 Employment Appeal Board Review

**DECISION**

**FINDINGS OF FACT:**

The notice of hearing in this matter was mailed July 21, 2023. The notice set a hearing for August 4, 2023. The Employer did not appear for or participate in the hearing. The reason the Employer did not appear is because he did not receive the Notice of Hearing. The Employer did not know the hearing was taking place.

**REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:**

Iowa Code section 10A.601(4) (2019) provides:

4. Appeal board review. The appeal board may on its own motion affirm, modify, or set aside any decision of an administrative law judge on the basis of the evidence previously submitted in such case, or direct the taking of additional evidence, or may permit any of the parties to such decision to initiate further appeals before it. The appeal board shall permit such further appeal by any of the parties interested in a decision of an administrative law judge and by the representative whose decision has been overruled or modified by the administrative law judge. The appeal board shall review the case pursuant to rules adopted by the appeal board. The appeal board shall promptly notify the interested parties of its findings and decision.

Here the Employer did not participate in the hearing through no fault of the Employer. The Employer did not participate because he did not receive the Notice of Hearing and did not know that a hearing was taking place. For this reason, the matter will be remanded for another hearing before an administrative law judge.

**DECISION:**

The decision of the administrative law judge dated August 7, 2023 is not vacated and remains in force unless and until the Department makes a differing determination pursuant to this remand. This matter is remanded to an administrative law judge who shall conduct a hearing following due notice. After the hearing, the administrative law judge shall issue a decision which provides the parties appeal rights.

Please note the way you appear at the hearing has changed. When you receive the Notice of Hearing, please read and follow the instructions carefully.

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James M. Strohman

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Ashley R. Koopmans

**DISSENTING OPINION OF MYRON R. LINN:**

I respectfully dissent from the majority decision of the Employment Appeal Board; I would the administrative law judge's decision in its entirety.

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Myron R. Linn

AMG/fnv