IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BUREAU

SCOTT D RAMEY Claimant

APPEAL 21A-UI-07009-DB-T

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DECISION

ASPLUNDH TREE EXPERT LLC

Employer

OC: 05/03/20 Claimant: Appellant (6)

Iowa Code § 96.19(38) – Total, Partial, Temporary Unemployment Iowa Code §96.4(3) – Able to and Available for Work Iowa Code Ch. 17A – Iowa Administrative Procedure Act Iowa Code Ch. 96 – Iowa Employment Security Act Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-26.8(1) – Appeal Dismissal Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.19(3) – Subsequent Agency Action

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The claimant/appellant filed an appeal from an unemployment insurance decision dated February 26, 2021 (reference 01) that found the claimant was not available for work effective May 3, 2020. Iowa Workforce Development issued a decision dated March 15, 2021 (reference 03) which found the February 26, 2021 (reference 01) decision was null and void and the appeal in this matter is moot. The hearing scheduled for May 12, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. is cancelled.

ISSUE:

Should the appeal be dismissed as moot based on subsequent agency action?

FINDINGS OF FACT:

The available information in the department's administrative file establishes the following facts: The department issued a decision dated February 26, 2021 (reference 01) that found the claimant was not available for work effective May 3, 2020. The department later issued a decision on March 15, 2021 (reference 03) which found the decision issued February 26, 2021 (reference 01) was null and void. Subsequent agency action has made the appeal of the decision dated February 26, 2021 (reference 01) moot.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

Generally, courts and administrative tribunals do not decide issues when the underlying controversy is moot. *Rhiner v. State*, 703 N.W.2d 174, 176 (Iowa 2005). "A case is moot if it no longer presents a justiciable controversy because the issues involved are academic or nonexistent." *Iowa Bankers Ass'n v. Iowa Credit Union Dep't*, 335 N.W.2d 439, 442 (Iowa 1983). The only issue on this appeal is now moot because of subsequent agency action.

DECISION:

The appeal of the unemployment insurance decision dated February 26, 2021 (reference 01) is dismissed as moot. The hearing scheduled for May 12, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. is cancelled.

Dawn Morucher

Dawn Boucher Administrative Law Judge

April 26, 2021 Decision Dated and Mailed

db/scn