

MINUTES

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING August 13, 2014 Panguitch, Utah

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Commissioner Jim Eardley, Chair
Commissioner Mark Whitney for
Commissioner Mike Dalton
Mayor Nolan Davis
Commissioner Clare Ramsay
Mayor Jerry Taylor
Commissioner Dale Brinkerhoff
Mayor Dutch Deutschlander for
Mayor Connie Robinson
Commissioner Jim Matson
Mayor Robert Houston
Cal Durfey
Mike Olson for Frank Lojko

REPRESENTING

Washington Co. Commissioner Representative
Beaver County Commissioner Representative

Beaver County Mayor Representative
Garfield County Commissioner Representative
Garfield County Mayor Representative
Iron County Commissioner Representative
Iron County Mayor Representative

Kane County Commissioner Representative
Kane County Mayor Representative
Washington County Schools Representative
Dixie State University

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Lisa Taylor
Bette Arial
Jake Hardman
Paul Hancock
Bryan Thiriot
Allison McCoy
Gary Zabriskie
Clint Cottam
Toni Tuipulotu
Diane Lamoreaux

Congressman Stewart's Cedar City Office
Senator Lee's Office
Governor's Office of Economic Development
US Forest Service, Powell Ranger District
Five County Association of Governments
Five County Association of Governments
Five County Association of Governments
Five County Association of Governments
Five County Association of Governments
Five County Association of Governments
Five County Association of Governments

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Carolyn White, Excused
Ken Platt, Excused
Becki Bronson
Wendy Allan, Excused

Beaver County Schools Representative
Garfield County Schools Representative
Iron County Schools Representative
Kane County Schools Representative

Those in attendance recited the pledge of allegiance.

Commissioner Jim Eardley, Chair, welcomed everyone in attendance. Those asking to be excused include Ms. Carolyn White, Beaver County Schools Representative; Mr. Ken Platt, Garfield County Schools Representative and Ms. Wendy Allan, Kane County Schools Representative. Commissioner Mark Whitney was representing Commissioner Mike Dalton, Beaver County Commissioner Representative and Mayor Dutch Deutschlander was representing Mayor Connie Robinson, Iron County Mayor Representative.

I. MINUTES JUNE 11, 2014 - REVIEW AND APPROVE

Commissioner Jim Eardley, Chair, indicated that a quorum was present for conduct of business and presented minutes of the June 11, 2014 meeting for discussion and consideration of approval. Mayor Nolan Davis provided one correction on page seven, Governor's Office update, which should read Mr. Jake Hardman.

MOTION WAS MADE BY MAYOR JERRY TAYLOR, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CLARE RAMSAY, TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 11, 2014 MEETING, INCLUDING THE ONE NOTED CORRECTION. MOTION CARRIED.

II. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION - COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (CEDS)

Mr. Bryan Thiriot referenced information provided on pages 14-18 of the packet containing an overview of the CEDS for the Five County district that is currently available for review and public comment. The complete 71 page document is available on the AOG website for review. The purpose of the CEDS is to promote a coordinated regional approach to accomplish desired economic development objectives in southwestern Utah. Upon completion of the 30-day comment period, the CEDS document will be submitted to the Economic Development Administration (EDA) for review and acceptance. The plan highlights priorities of each of the five counties including: **1) Beaver County--** Establishment of an Economic Development Council and development of a strategic plan; **2) Garfield County--** To include work with Panguitch City and Garfield County on an industrial park study; **3) Iron County--** Implementation of the Utah Cluster Acceleration Program (UCAP) to provide proper training to individuals residing in the area. This grant has been awarded to Iron County; **4) Kane County--** 'Rourism' to promote tourism in the area; and **5) Washington County--** Workforce development to support technology based industries. Mr. Thiriot outlined a number of corrections that will be made in the document as follows: **1) Population Numbers--** Garfield County population numbers are in error and will be corrected; **2) Housing and Scenic Byways--** Information on these two subjects was omitted, but will be included in the final draft; **3) Financial Numbers--** The University of Utah has released updated financial information that will be revised for each county in terms of travel and tourism; **4) Coal--** A profile of the state of Utah Coal Study will also be included in the document prior to submission to EDA. A short survey is posted on the Five County website that committee members are encouraged to complete. The Steering Committee will be asked to formally approve the document once the public review, associated comments, and any recommended changes from EDA have been incorporated into the plan. Mr. Scott Hirschi, Washington County Economic Development Director, e-mailed his comment that a lot of work went into the document and it is very comprehensive and well done. Mr. Thiriot encouraged those in attendance to visit www.fivecounty.utah.gov to review the entire CEDS document as well as to complete the short survey.

III. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM - FY 2015 RATING AND RANKING CRITERIA APPROVAL

Ms. Diane Lamoreaux mentioned that proposed changes to the Rating and Ranking Criteria for FY 2015 were reviewed during the June 11, 2014 meeting. She briefly reviewed recommended changes of the Community and Economic Development Staff that have been

incorporated into the criteria as follows: **1) Allocation Amount**-- Maximum amount per year to a jurisdiction is \$200,000; **2) Multi-Year Projects**-- Maximum years for a multi-year project is two years for a total amount of \$300,000 (year 1 @ \$200,000 and year 2 @ \$100,000); **3) Capital Improvements Lists**-- Jurisdictions are required to submit lists by January 8, 2015; **4) Land Acquisition**-- Addition of #17 into the General Policies regarding procurement of land for single family homes which will be limited to Public Housing Authorities for rental units; **5) Pre-approved funding for FY 2015**-- Funding is approved to Five County AOG (\$90,000) for program administration, technical assistance planning, RLF and HOME program delivery; and to Enterprise City (\$142,308) for the second year of their multi-year project to construct a new fire station; **6) Regional Priorities**-- The Executive Director in consultation with the Finance Committee established regional prioritizations. Those priorities include the following: #1. Public Safety Activities; #2. LMI Housing Activities; #3. Community Facilities; #4. Public Utility Infrastructure; #5. Projects to Remove Architectural Barriers; and #6. Parks and Recreation. Community and Economic Development staff have been conducting site visits to fire stations throughout the region and have found a number of significant deficiencies that impact health and safety of residents associated with inadequate fire equipment and/or facilities. Because it is imperative to have adequate fire protection for communities, housing needs to be a lower priority until some of the other issues are addressed. A copy of the draft rating and ranking criteria with the above mentioned revisions is included in the Steering Committee packet on pages 19 through 32.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER CLARE RAMSAY, SECONDED BY MAYOR NOLAN DAVIS, TO APPROVE THE FY 2015 RATING AND RANKING CRITERIA FOR THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

IV. HUMAN SERVICES COUNCIL

A. COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT - RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FY 2015 FUND ALLOCATION

Ms. Toni Tuipulotu noted that funding information contained on page 33 of the meeting packet did not reflect total funding to the Five County AOG. The state of Utah has provided an updated contract amount for this program. A handout with revised numbers was provided. The Human Services Council recommendations for allocation of FY 2015 Community Services Block Grant are based on percentages to each subcontractor as follows: **1) Beaver County Food Network**-- \$13,009; **2) Canyon Creek Women's Crisis Center**-- \$7,079; **3) Dove Center**-- \$6,000; **4) Erin Kimball Foundation**-- \$6,000; **5) Garfield County Care & Share**-- \$13,009; **6) Iron County Adult Education**-- \$4,181; **7) Iron County Care & Share**-- \$13,805; **8) Kane County Care & Share**-- \$13,009; **9) Milcreek High School**-- \$6,000; **10) New Frontiers for Families**-- \$8,954; **11) Switchpoint (St. George Resource Center)**-- \$6,000; and **12) Washington County Adult Education**-- \$6,000. The Human Services Council determined that funds would be re-allocated according to percentages received in previous years. The food pantries were level funded. The Dove Center, Erin Kimball, Milcreek High School and Switchpoint were given equal percentages. New Frontiers for Families was given a slightly higher

percentage because they serve several counties. Five Counties funding was level to last year's totaling \$190,242. The total allocation for FY 2015 is \$293,288.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER JIM MATSON TO APPROVE THE HUMAN SERVICES COUNCIL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FY 2015 COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM FUND ALLOCATION AS PRESENTED. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DALE BRINKERHOFF, AND CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

V. MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL NATURAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN (NHMP) UPDATE

Mr. Gary Zabriskie provided background information regarding the Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan that will be undertaken by the Association of Governments next fiscal year. In advance of the actual plan development, the Steering Committee is asked to adopt the resolution contained on page 34 of the meeting packet. Funding for Natural Hazard Mitigation Plans is provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). This is the third round of FEMA funding to complete multi-jurisdictional plans. Counties and/or communities must be active participants throughout the planning process in order to adopt the hazard plan for their jurisdiction. The last planning effort undertaken in 2011 resulted in participation of each county and the majority of communities within the Five County region. An application has been submitted to the state of Utah Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security. This application has been packaged with several other applications and sent to the FEMA office in Denver for consideration. It is anticipated that funding for these applications will be announced by September/October 2014. The actual planning process would begin July 1, 2015 and continue through the fiscal year. Jurisdictions will be encouraged to actively participate in the planning process. It should be noted that jurisdictions are not eligible to apply for mitigation funding unless they participate in the planning process and formally adopt the plan. Five County is agreeing to meet requirements for multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation plans. During the planning process, each community in the Five County region will be encouraged to participate and approve the plan that is developed. The application has been submitted requesting \$79,000 in funds to be matched with Community Impact Board funds provided to the AOG for the RPP planner. The budget includes a line item for planning interns that will assist with the GIS mapping. Staff will review the previous hazard mitigation plan for the Five County region to analyze projects and report on mitigation that has been completed. Staff is asking for Steering Committee consideration of the resolution contained on page 34 for the meeting packet.

MOTION WAS MADE BY MAYOR ROBERT HOUSTON, SECONDED BY MAYOR DUTCH DEUTSCHLANDER, TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL NATURAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE. MOTION CARRIED.

VI. STATE AGENCY UPDATES

A. GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

Mr. Jake Hardman, Governor's Office of Economic Development, provided an update regarding county priorities as well as the state of Utah Coal Study that is

currently in progress. He reported that Garfield and Beaver counties have hired a consultant, Better Cities, whose principal is Matthew Goodfrey. The consultant will develop a strategic plan for these counties. The Garfield County plan will include the Garfield County/Panguitch industrial park. A lot of good work is anticipated to result from this planning effort. Kane County has received funding as one of four pilot projects in support of tourism. Emery, Daggett and Box Elder counties will also be participating in this project. These counties have done an awesome job of attracting tourists into the area. The study will determine if they have accomplished the task of delivering on promises made in promotion advertisements. Projects will be determined that could be presented to the legislature for funding consideration. Washington County is working with Scott Hirschi, Washington County Economic Development Director, on workforce development. It is hoped that some type of scholarship funds will be made available in support of this effort. Iron County is in the process of hiring a new economic development director because Brennan Wood was recently hired as the Director of the Southwest Applied Technology College.

Mr. Hardman reported that the state of Utah Coal Study is being undertaken by a team of planners hired by the Community Impact Board. A website has been established in conjunction with the study titled: www.ruralplanning.org/coalstudy. The website is very impressive and has a lot of comprehensive data. The study concentrates on three scenarios as follows: 1) Coal Survives; 2) Coal Thrives; and 3) Coal Dives. It is noted that events and new technology will play important roles in coal development and it's future in Utah and around the country. Commissioner Eardley noted that coal may not be available at some point in the future at any price. Mr. Hardman noted that the study does not outline the planners opinion. It is implied that at a minimum they would like to see the coal survives scenario and ultimate would be coal thrives. He encouraged those in attendance to visit the website to view the study components and data.

B. DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE SERVICES (DWS)

Mr. Steven Lisonbee, DWS, asked to be excused.

C. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

A representative from UDOT was not in attendance.

VII. SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY AND DIXIE STATE UNIVERSITY UPDATES

A representative from Southern Utah University was not in attendance.

Mr. Mike Olson, Dixie State University, announced that DSU has selected Dr. Richard "Biff" Williams to serve as the new President. He comes from Indiana State where he was Provost Vice President of Academic Affairs. School begins August 25th and enrollment is up 1 percent. The FTE is 6,034 and the head count is 7,658. They are very excited about the number of applications received and feel that recruiters are doing a good job in bringing transfer students who are pursuing bachelor degrees. DSU is still in the process of securing purchase of East Elementary property from the Washington County School District.

VIII. CONGRESSIONAL STAFF UPDATES

Ms. Bette Arial, Senator Lee's Office, reported that the Senate is now in recess. Senator Lee is holding a Regulators Conference on August 20-21, 2014 in Salt Lake City at the Little America for federal and state regulators to discuss the burden of regulations. This conference is free to those who are interested in attending. A town hall meeting is also scheduled for August 28 at 7:00 p.m. at Dixie State University in St. George to address topics including water rights, sage grouse, grazing, roads, etc. She noted that Senator Lee is very aware of these issues and associated problems. Staff have been traveling the 11 county region to meet with citizens to discuss issues and problems. Elected officials and citizens feel that listing new species would be detrimental to their economy. Receiving letters, resolutions and other comments is very helpful to the Senator. San Juan residents are against a monument designation, but feel that it is a foregone conclusion that it will become a reality. This type of designation would lock up gas and other natural resources.

Commissioner Clare Ramsay stated that this would be another case of the President using the Antiquities Act which is an abuse of power. He indicated that the Act does not give authority to the President to make a designation such as the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument (GSENM), and he would like to see the actions challenged in a court of law. The Act references objects of antiquity that could be protected, but in size not greater than needed to protect the objects. Mr. Jake Hardman mentioned an article that was published in the Salt Lake Tribune and comments were posted that quoted people from Ogden and Bountiful who were opposed to having the opinion of local residents considered. These individuals just wanted the monument to be designated without any input from those living in the area. Mayor Jerry Taylor stated that the monument designation locked up land to prohibit the development of coal fields as well as other minerals in the area. The BLM is now removing dinosaur bones from the area and taking them out of the county for study. The objects should not be removed from the site, but should be left and studied on-site in Garfield and Kane counties. Museums should be built to display the artifacts in the local area for residents and tourists to view. Mayor Robert Houston commented that the state of Utah will face these types of designations forever because of the amount of pristine lands. One thing that needs to be protected is the State and Institutional Trust Lands (SITLA) sections that are disbursed throughout the state. Residents and elected officials need to protest trading of SITLA lands for value. These land exchanges created more problems for the state of Utah. Arizona has passed legislation that does not allow their state lands to be exchanged. This should be a high priority for the state of Utah to pass some type of legislation that does not allow the Governor to trade SITLA land for like value. The exchange of SITLA land actually hurt areas worse than the designation of the GSENM. Had the land remained under state control, some mineral resources could have been extracted that would have resulted in additional revenue for the state of Utah. Commissioner Clare Ramsay acknowledged that a number of companies were ready to move ahead with gas extraction when the lands were exchanged and projects were halted.

Ms. Lisa Taylor, Congressman Stewart's Office, reported that the Congressman will be traveling to Turkey with other representatives to observe the situation on the ground. Congressman Stewart co-sponsored the house bill addressing the southern border immigration crisis. This legislation was passed in the House of Representatives and has been sent on to the Senate for consideration. The Wild Horse Oversight Act of 2014 was also passed. Commissioner Mark Whitney referenced the BLM feeble effort to round up

140 horses. This does not make much of a difference when taken into consideration the number of horses that are over the allowed allotment.

Ms. Taylor mentioned that Upper Limit Aviation, a program offered in conjunction with Southern Utah University, experienced some problems recently with the Veterans Administration approval. Upper Limit Aviation employed 75 mechanics and private teachers in association with this operation. Approximately 80% of the students enrolled in the aviation program are veterans. The Veterans Administration initially approved the program and then when Salt Lake Community College complained, that approval was withdrawn. The loss of this program would have been devastating to Cedar City with an approximate loss of \$20 million in revenues generated by Upper Limit Aviation. SUU stepped up and hired the instructors, mechanics and trainers in-house in order to assure that the program would remain in Cedar City. Because SUU is VA approved, the problem was solved. The area is premier in terms of elevation, terrain and flight certification. EMS training is also offered under the aviation program. Once pilots are trained, jobs are available with pay in the range of \$75,000 to \$80,000 annually. EMS pilots earn higher rates of pay around \$100,000 to \$200,000 annually.

Congressman Stewart is the co-sponsor of HR 5078, Waters of the United States Regulatory Overreach Protection Act of 2014. This is a bill that questions regulations being placed on waters of the U.S. However, all bills passed by the House are sitting on Harry Reid's desk with not much hope of reaching the Senate floor. Another meeting has been scheduled with Dan Ash, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, to discuss Prairie Dog issues.

Mr. Bryan Thiriot reported that Mr. Bill Swadley, Senator Hatch's Office, asked to be excused. Senator Hatch provided a statement on the proposed monument designation which Bryan read.

IX. LOCAL AFFAIRS

A. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

B. OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL

Mr. Bryan Thiriot indicated that three out-of-state travel requests are included in the meeting packet beginning on page 35. Requests were reviewed as follows: **1) Levi Roberts--** Authorization to attend the National Conference on Rural Public and Intercity Bus Transportation on October 26-29, 2014 in Monterey, California; **2) Curt Hutchings and Myron Lee--** These two staff members are requesting authorization to attend the 2014 Annual Conference of the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (AMPO) scheduled for October 21-24 in Atlanta, GA. Copies of conference agendas are included in the packet and funds are available in the FY 2015 budget to cover conference and travel related expenses. Commissioner Dale Brinkerhoff questioned the need to send two staff members to the same conference. Mr. Gary Zabriskie explained that Curt Hutchings serves in the capacity of Transportation Planning Manager at the AOG and Myron Lee is the Dixie Metropolitan Planning Organization Director. Rural and

urban tracks are offered at the conference, which provides different sessions for each of these individuals to attend in their particular area of expertise.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER CLARE RAMSAY, SECONDED BY MAYOR NOLAN DAVIS, TO APPROVE OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION FOR LEVI ROBERTS, CURT HUTCHINGS AND MYRON LEE AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED.

C. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

X. AREAWIDE CLEARINGHOUSE REVIEWS

Mr. Gary Zabriskie reviewed three A-95 reviews for Board consideration as follows: **1) Utah Department of Natural Resources, Division of Oil, Gas and Mining--** A notice of tentative approval to commence large mining operations at the Blawn Mountain Mine has been issued. Beaver County has been contacted and indicated no concerns with the application for the Blawn Mountain project; **2) Utah State Trust Lands Administration--** SITLA has received a residential lease application for 20 acres of Trust Lands in the West Desert in Beaver County. The applicant proposes to build a cabin on the property which will be used as a secondary home and for recreational purposes. Beaver County indicated that they did not have concerns with this project as long as all applicable state and local building, health and zoning requirements are adhered to by the applicant. This review is conditional based on aforementioned requirements; and **3) Utah State Trust Lands Administration--** A SITLA grazing permittee proposed to install a two mile long pipeline to transfer water from a nearby well on SITLA property to an existing livestock watering facility on an adjacent SITLA property in northwestern Iron County. Iron County has property they purchased from SITLA a few years ago that is adjacent to the SITLA property that has a conservation easement for Utah Prairie Dog mitigation. Since the pipeline will be crossing the county property, Iron County has written a request to the easement holder (DWR) to approve the project. Based on Iron County's comments, the staff recommendation for this review is supportive. The Steering Committee has the option to approve staff recommendations, not support recommendations or remain neutral.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER JIM MATSON, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CLARE RAMSAY, TO APPROVE THE STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE THREE REVIEWS AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 8, 2014 in Cedar City at the Heritage Center.

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.