

MINUTES

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

November 19, 2008

St. George, Utah

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mayor Kim Lawson, Vice-Chair
Commissioner Chad Johnson
Mayor Robert Crow
Commissioner Clare Ramsay for
Commissioner Maloy Dodds
Mayor Lowell Mecham
Mack Oetting
Commissioner Lois Bulloch
Mayor Bob Rasmussen for
Mayor Connie Robinson
Alan Adams
John Willie for Commissioner Denny Drake
Wes Curtis
Frank Lojko

REPRESENTING

Kane County Mayor Representative
Beaver County Commissioner Representative
Beaver County Mayor Representative
Garfield County Commissioner Representative

Garfield County Mayor Representative
Garfield County Schools Representative
Iron County Commissioner Representative
Iron County Mayor Representative

Iron County Schools Representative
Washington Co. Commissioner Representative
Southern Utah University
Dixie State College of Utah

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Steve Quinn
Marreen Casper
Mike Empey
Jan Thompson
Ken Sizemore
Beth Cottam
Jo Seegmiller
Sherri Dial
Diane Lamoreaux

Hafen, Buckner, Everett & Graff
Senator Hatch's Office
Congressman Matheson's Office
Department of Workforce Services
Five County Association of Governments
Five County Association of Governments

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Commissioner Duke Cox, Chair (Excused)
Carolyn White, Excused
Joe Houston
Mayor Lee Bracken, Excused
Ed Rogers, Excused

Kane County Commissioner Representative
Beaver County Schools Representative
Kane County Schools Representative
Washington County Mayor Representative
Washington Co. Schools Representative

Mayor Kim Lawson, Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order and welcomed those in attendance. The following individuals asked to be excused: Commissioner Duke Cox, Kane County Commission Representative; Ms. Carolyn White, Beaver County School Representative; Mayor Lee Bracken, Washington County Mayor Representative; and Mr. Ed Rogers, Washington County School Representative. Commissioner Clare Ramsay is representing Commissioner Maloy Dodds, Garfield County Commission; Mr. John Willie is representing Commissioner Denny Drake, Washington County Commission and Mayor Bob Rasmussen is representing Mayor Connie Robinson, Iron County Mayor Representative.

I. MINUTES OCTOBER 8, 2008 - REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Mayor Lawson, Vice-Chair, presented minutes of the October 8, 2008 meeting for Board consideration and approval.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER CLARE RAMSAY, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LOIS BULLOCH, TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 8, 2008 MEETING AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED.

II. FY 2008 AUDIT REPORT

Mr. Steve Quinn, Hafen, Buckner, Everett and Graff, provided copies of the FY 2008 audit report for the period ending June 30, 2008. He reported that Chad Michaeli was unable to attend today's meeting but will be available for any questions that Board members might have. The Independent Auditors' Report (page 1) outlines how the audit was conducted, the purpose of conducting the audit and provides a clean opinion for the Association of Governments. This letter of opinion is what entities are hoping to receive. He referenced the Table of Contents outlining items contained in the report. The first financial statement is the government-wide financial analysis which complies with the new reporting model required by the government. Information is contained in full accrual rather than governmental accounting listing all assets and debt. However, the Five County AOG does not have any debt. This report illustrates total assets minus liabilities to equal total assets. The following page contains a statement of activities which is basically administration and general services. The balance sheets that follow are reported in governmental accounting terms. Page 12 of the report contains a reconciliation of the balance sheet of governmental funds to the statement of net assets. A combined statement of revenue, expenditures and changes in fund balance is found on page 13. The combined balance sheet for all fiduciary fund types (non-expendable trust and agency fund) is on page 15.

Mr. Quinn reviewed notes to financial statements contained on pages 18 through 27. He mentioned a special note on page 22 in reference to "custodial credit risk" where the Association of Governments is carrying \$1,529,997 in funding which was uninsured and uncollateralized. This is not a finding but something that the Board should be aware of. The next section of the report beginning on page 28 contains budget to actual comparisons of revenue and expenditures. The following section is the combining and general funds broken down into individual cost centers. He referenced the single audit compliance section beginning on page 65 which looks at all federal programs administered by the Association of Governments. Letters in this section outline compliance with internal control, compliance with requirements applicable to each major program, a summary of the auditor's results, and the auditor's report on state legal compliance. The summary on page 71 outlines no findings related to the financial statements and no findings or questioned costs for federal awards.

Mr. Ken Sizemore introduced Bob Rasmussen, Chief Financial Officer, who makes sure accounts stay in order and Jo Seegmiller, Human Resources Director, who also serves as the Purchasing Manager. He expressed appreciation to both of these individuals for their diligent work in making this clean audit report a reality. Having no questioned findings or costs is a major achievement which requires a lot of hard work.

Mr. Wes Curtis complimented Ken and the staff for all their good work and for the good audit report. This is an accomplishment which the AOG should be very proud of achieving.

Mr. Sizemore reported that he and Jo have worked very hard to eliminate the three day deposit finding which has occurred in previous audit reports. He also noted that last year there were a couple of findings with the RLF program. Since that time, changes have been made in the internal software tracking which feeds into the general ledger to assure that entries matched up this year.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER CHAD JOHNSON, SECONDED BY MR. ALAN ADAMS, TO ACCEPT THE AUDIT REPORT AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED WITH ONE ABSTENTION.

III. 2009 MEETING SCHEDULE

Mr. Sizemore referenced page 11 of the packet containing a draft 2009 meeting schedule. He noted a few adjustments from the second Wednesday to the third Wednesday. These meeting changes are intended to coordinate with meetings hosted by the Utah League of Cities and Towns, Utah Association of Counties and the Washington County Economic Summit. He presented the draft schedule for Board concerns and/or approval.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER CLARE RAMSAY, SECONDED BY MR. JOHN WILLIE TO APPROVE THE FY 2009 MEETING SCHEDULE AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED.

IV. HOMELESS NEEDS PLANNING AND COMMUNITY ACTION CONTRACTS MANAGEMENT REPORT

Mr. Sizemore introduced Sherri Dial who has been hired to assist Beth Cottam with various Human Services projects. He reported that Sherri lives in Santa Clara, and is currently finishing up courses in the Masters of Public Administration Program at Southern Utah University. She has extensive experience in social work in many different facets having previously worked at Dixie State College and in other capacities in the human services arena. He expressed appreciation to Sherri for the work she is accomplishing with the various programs and contracts administered by the Association of Governments. One particular program, the Drop-in Center located in St. George, has recently received coverage in the press. Because of some issues with the center, Sherri has been asked to provide information and to answer any questions in regard to the management of this particular contract.

Ms. Dial reported that the set of contracts she is working with are based on the needs of the homeless. The federal government has the goal to end chronic homelessness in the United States. The state of Utah has taken on projects to end homelessness through outreach to communities to determine how jurisdictions would like to see this happen. This problem is on the rise with the current economic climate. Chronic homeless are individuals who are homeless for longer periods of time and need some types of support to resolve various issues. In her capacity at the AOG, she is dealing with all different levels of homelessness. The Association works with various agencies such as the Erin Kimball Memorial Foundation, the Dove Center, Dixie Care & Share, and a new program, the Resource and

Re-entry Center. These organizations serve victims of domestic violence, provide food and shelter to homeless and low-income individuals, as well as work with inmates who are being released from the Purgatory Correctional Facility. She reported that there is an 82% recidivism rate at Purgatory, which is much higher than the national average of approximately 62%. This provides a large number of issues which could possibly be worked on to prevent inmates return to incarceration. The Resource and Re-entry Program is targeted towards trying to manage this population. She noted that prison is a very expensive way to house homeless people. As inmates are released, many of them do not have local support which is needed in order to integrate back into housing and employment. Educational programs are offered at Purgatory for high school as well as through the Dixie Advanced Technology Center. However, the facility does not have adequate room to accommodate classrooms. The Resource and Re-entry Center has been very successful in working with several individuals coming out of Purgatory. Of the 30 individuals they have served, only one has returned in the past year.

Commissioner Chad Johnson commented that Beaver County used to have a program which was run through the Department of Workforce Services which was very successful in providing training to inmates in making application for jobs, interviewing and other job seeking skills. This program is no longer offered by DWS because of financial limitations. This was an excellent program which really helped particularly with educating inmates to help them understand what it would be like as they are released and looking for employment. It is unfortunate that funding for this program was eliminated. Ms. Jan Thompson, Region Director of Workforce Services, commented that this program was offered through the State Department of Corrections to educate state inmates who were scheduled to be released from prison. Because all state prisoners are now released from Draper, funding for this program was directed back to that facility. This funding allowed DWS to offer assistance to local inmates but as funding was eliminated the service provided was discontinued. Ms. Beth Cottam mentioned that this is an excellent comment which may provide an opportunity to partner with various agencies to reconstruct this program to serve local inmates. This concept will be added to the list of support services for consideration in future Human Services planning. Mr. Mack Oetting also mentioned that Garfield County lost scholarships which were offered through Utah State University for prisoners. These scholarships were very successful in helping to educate several inmates and assisted in preventing their return to incarceration. Commissioner Johnson mentioned that one employer in Beaver County, Circle Four Farms, has partnered with the county to provide employment for inmates who are being released. He noted that in conversations with this company, these individuals have turned out to be pretty good employees. Some of these inmates were local and others were state inmates.

Ms. Dial provided information on the Drop-in Center located in St. George. This facility has experienced some issues with business licensing as well as licensing of personnel. The state of Utah requested the Five County AOG notify the overseeing agency, New Frontiers for Families, of these deficiencies. This organization was able to obtain a business license as well as resolve issues related to zoning. However after a couple of weeks, New Frontiers for Families determined that the project was out of their mission statement and that complications which were occurring were more than they wanted to deal with. Therefore, they asked to turn in their contract. The Association of Governments accepted this contract termination. She explained that one of the issues which happened was that this was a drop-in center which turned into a residential living setting with several of the

young men living in the home. New Frontiers for Families and The Safety Net helped to facilitate housing for all of the boys who had been living at the center. One of the boys involved is actually at Dixie State College pursuing his education. Staff feels that a homeless drop-in center is still a very important component to provide a place for young men and women to get support as well as find out about services and programs which are available. This provides support and encouragement for them to get back into school. Staff is working through some of the problems and is in a negotiation process with the Family Support Center out of Salt Lake City who has made a proposal to keep the center operational. One of the major issues with the Drop-in Center is that the house is owned by a local entrepreneur who may not want to buy into the process. Another issue is the type of guidelines which will be used and what type of community partners will be brought into the process. One other major issue is funding for the center and the need to secure additional funding partners.

Committee members questioned how many homeless boys there are in the Five County area. Ms. Dial responded that there were 11 homeless boys living at the home and a possibility of a number of others which have not been formally documented at this time. Some have indicated numbers as high as 300 but staff estimates numbers to be somewhere between 100-150. This is a transient population going between the Salt Lake City area and St. George area. As these young men turn 18-21, they rent apartments and double up living together as a group. A number are involved with drug issues as well. Ms. Dial pointed out that transition into high school or college is difficult for those leaving the FLDS community because it has not been a part of their culture and education is not considered productive as opposed to working hard. This has created many barriers which makes specialized case management very important for these individuals. She noted that Dixie State College offers an array of remedial classes which are very beneficial. Mack Oetting commented that there are ATC facilities in both St. George and Cedar City which provide alternative training choices. Ms. Cottam explained that the regional Interagency Council sees a huge gap in meeting the needs of homeless youth not just from the FLDS communities. Reports have surfaced of youth staying overnight in parks, etc. A drop-in center might be a place for youth to work towards getting into a secure environment. The problem is that there is not sufficient funding to support this project. The Association of Governments will not be able to enter into a contract with another provider without commitment that they will meet all of the needs that were not being met by the former contract provider. At this point, staff cannot promise that there will even be another contract put in place.

Mayor Lawson commented that one huge issue with the FLDS population is the lack of communication skills. From a very young age they have been expected to work operating heavy equipment and various other employment. They have some acquired skills but have very limited communication skills. This must be an important component of any services provided. Frank Lojko asked for an exact number of youth from Hildale, Colorado City and Centennial Park. Sherri explained that it is difficult to determine where they actually reside because they move back and forth between Hildale and Colorado City. Staff estimates in the range of 100 youth from this area and many require a large amount of hands-on case management.

Ms. Dial indicated that the Family Support Center in Salt Lake City has made a proposal for operation of the facility for a six month period of time. Staff is very concerned about this

time frame and the need for additional funding. Ms. Cottam explained that AOG staff is in agreement with the Department of Community and Culture to turn back the contract rather than open a facility on a temporary basis.

V. USU EXTENSION SERVICE UPDATE

Mr. Jody Gale, USU Extension Service, was not in attendance. No update available.

VI. SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY REGIONAL SERVICES UPATE

Mr. Wes Curtis, Southern Utah University Regional Services, shared a brief update and pictures of an event which occurred last week. He reported that SUU Regional Services has entered into an alliance of education agreement with Zion National Park, Cedar Breaks National Monument, and Pipe Spring National Monument establishing a partnership with the National Park Service and SUU. The university is very pleased for what this means to SUU, its students and to the area in terms of preparing local students to take jobs in these types of agencies and industries related to the outdoors. A tree was planted in commemoration of the event to watch it grow as the partnership grows. In terms of the SUU Outdoor Initiative, it is imperative to understand how important the outdoors, recreation, tourism and everything associated with this is to our social and economic under pinnings.

SUU feels that they can be a key player in making the most of what we have with our natural settings. He noted that a lot of the phenomenal growth in the region is attributed to the natural setting where we are located. It is difficult to put a value on this in terms of the local economies.

He reviewed some of the programs available which are related to the Outdoor Initiative and some of the degrees in outdoor recreation, hotels, resorts, hospitality management, etc. SUU also has a very good program which places interns with the various agencies such as BLM, Forest Service, National Park Service, State Parks, etc. Interviews are being conducted today for a shared position with the National Park Service. This will be a faculty position at SUU which will be a shared Park Service employee who will wear the Park Service uniform and will be housed on the SUU campus. This employee will also be a liaison with institutions to help with internships, research opportunities, educational opportunities, etc.

Mr. Curtis mentioned that SUU owns 1,500 acres of forest up Cedar Canyon which includes the Mountain Center. They are currently working with the State Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands to develop a demonstration forest in this location to show different ways of managing these lands to control fire. Regional Services has also partnered with Iron County in resource management planning. They have also partnered on a number of things related to the Outdoor Initiative which are particularly connected to rural communities throughout the region.

He provided an update on the Business Resource Center which will provide a one-stop main street location for business services. This is a Regional Business Resource Center which is very proactive in reaching out to communities to make sure they can access these services. He reported that Ed Meyer is under contract with SUU Regional Services to assist in that effort. Jim Crisp is also contracted with SUU to be a resource to communities

in the region. Needs in outdoor related things or business, entrepreneur types things should be directed to Regional Services for assistance.

SUU Regional Services is about to begin a business expansion/retention program in Panguitch. This will include students from the resort and hotel management classes who will conduct surveys with all of the businesses in Panguitch to find out where businesses stand, find out their needs and concerns, opportunities which might be available to help grow their business, or to develop new products, etc. This could also address dangers of having to lay people off or close their business. This program is designed to provide resources to help them stay in business.

Commissioner Lois Bulloch expressed Iron County's appreciation at having their Natural Resource Planner in cooperation with SUU Regional Services. She noted that an excellent gentleman was selected to fill this position.

VII. CONGRESSIONAL STAFF UPDATES

Ms. Marreen Casper, Senator Hatch's Office, reported that the Bureau of Land Management has released the final rules governing the issuance of commercial leases for oil shale development on federal lands. This simply provides a road map for companies that may wish to pursue oil shale development on federal lands in the future. The law is clear that the BLM cannot grant commercial oil shale leases until the government consults at great length with the governors and local officials of the impacted states. She read a statement from a news release provided by Senator Hatch as follows: "The Secretary shall consult with the Governor of the States....to determine the level of support and interest in the States in the development of tar sands and oil shale... If the Secretary finds sufficient support and interest exists in a state, the Secretary may conduct a lease sale in that state."

She reported that President-elect Obama has invited former Senator Tom Daschle to serve as the Secretary for Health and Human Services, and he has accepted.

Another item of interest is a new \$100.3 billion stimulus bill has been introduced by Senator Harry Reid. The new bill combines the unemployment insurance extension and the auto industry program previously introduced with additional spending on a wide variety of programs. She highlighted some of the items included in this legislation.

Title I proposes \$37.4 billion in discretionary spending in 2009 on infrastructure, energy and other domestic programs. Funding is proposed to programs including: **1) Agriculture--** \$2.4 billion to fund a crop disaster program and Farm Bill implementation costs; **2) Commerce and Justice--** \$1.7 billion including COPS hiring (\$500 million); **3) Energy and Water Development--** \$5.5 billion which includes a proposed \$500 million for weatherization assistance and funding for Army Corps construction, operations and maintenance; **4) Financial Services--** \$1.2 billion including the small business guaranteed loan program; **5) Homeland Security--** \$2.2 billion including funding for the Coast Guard and border fencing; **6) Interior Department--** \$3.6 billion which includes funding for state and tribal water and sewer assistance grants and \$750 million for the safe drinking water revolving fund; **7) Labor, HHS and Education--** \$5.4 billion including funding in school renovation and pandemic flu preparedness; **8) Military Construction--** \$250 million including funding in

family housing construction; and **9) Transportation, HUD--** \$15.1 billion including \$10 billion in state grants for Federal Aid Highway which will require no local matching funds, funding for airport improvements and temporary foreclosure housing assistance.

Title II contains \$4.4 billion in nutritional assistance from 2009-2018 directing USDA to increase by 10 percent the "cost" of thrifty food plan. USDA is also instructed to provide \$50 million to states to carry out the increased food stamp spending. Title III provides \$38.9 billion in additional spending for state fiscal relief from 2009-2018 increasing the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP). Title IV contains \$5.7 billion in additional unemployment insurance from 2009-2018 and provides up to seven additional weeks of unemployment benefits to individuals in all states. An additional thirteen weeks of unemployment benefits would be provided to workers in states with unemployment rates of six percent or higher. Title V contains \$550 million for the National Park Centennial Fund Act from 2008-2018 creating a Centennial fund to provide for the restoration of National Park Service facilities and development of new programs. Title VI provides \$25 million for the automotive industry direct loan program and Title VII contains \$11 billion for a new Auto Sales Tax Deduction. This deduction is phased out based on income levels.

Ms. Casper commented that the proposed legislation is very interesting, and it will be even more interesting to see how they propose to fund this package.

Mr. Mike Empey reported that the House went into session today but has no votes scheduled on their calendar. They are basically waiting to see what the Senate is going to do with the stimulus package. There is a very extensive debate in regard to the auto industry bail out. Telephone calls coming into the southwest Utah office indicated that constituents are 100% against any bail out for the auto industry. It is not likely that any bills would be voted on unless they felt that there were enough votes for passage. Other items with the House in session are mostly housekeeping to prepare for the 111th Congress. Congressman Matheson was hopeful that there would be an Omnibus Land Bill this week which would include the Turn About Ranch north of Escalante and the Boy Scout land exchange with Brian Head Town. Marreen Casper commented that Senator Hatch's office has had discussions with Senator Reid about a possible land bill. However, the Senator prefers to wait until the 111th Session when more Democrats are in the Senate because they will be able to override Senator Colburn. Senator Colburn has been stalling any legislation using a technical administrative move. Mr. Empey mentioned that Congressman Matheson remains very supportive of these items and is committed to work for passage of legislation. It was noted that the Washington County Land Bill was not included with the two above mentioned items but there appears to be some serious consideration of this bill as well. He also indicated that appropriations requests are once again being solicited. The congressman's legislative director in Washington, D.C. will be conducting an appropriations workshop on December 2nd at the downtown St. George Library from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. to provide assistance in completing appropriation requests. This workshop is geared more toward someone who has not been through the appropriations process before.

VIII. LOCAL AFFAIRS

A. CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Sizemore referenced information contained on page 12 of the packet announcing the "Concept to Company" competition which could result in a \$20,000 reward to individual inventors or small businesses. The contest focuses specifically on encouraging and expanding Southern Utah's technology industry. He encouraged Board members to solicit participation of local businesses or individuals who may benefit from this program. Word is that they are not seeing as many applicants as they had hoped would apply.

B. OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL

Mr. Sizemore referenced page 13 of the packet and outlined an out-of-state travel request as follows: **1) Darren Janes**-- Travel to St. Louis, MO on January 12-16, 2009 to attend the Economic Development Finance Professional training. Darren is working with the Five County Revolving Loan Fund program, and training will be very beneficial in fulfilling successful operation of the program. Staff recommends approval of this travel authorization.

MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. MACK OETTING, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LOIS BULLOCH, TO APPROVE THIS OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL REQUEST FOR DARREN JANES AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED.

C. PERMANENT COMMUNITY IMPACT BOARD APPLICATIONS

None.

D. PLANNING ASSISTANCE

None.

E. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Sizemore reported that over the past 30-60 days several Natural Resource development activities have taken place throughout Southwestern Utah including: **1) Grand Blast**-- Ribbon cutting in Iron County with iron ore once again being extracted out of the iron mines; **2) Grand Opening**-- Raser Geothermal Plant in Beaver County; **3) Ground Breaking**-- For the wind project in Beaver County; and **4) Ticaboo**-- The facility continues to operate in Garfield County. Staff is disappointed at the response to the Ticaboo power issues. A Request for Proposals was published and not one existing power provider showed interest in supplying power to Ticaboo. Commissioner Clare Ramsay mentioned that mini nuclear power plants are very promising as an option. This may be a ways down the road but appears to be something for consideration. Mr. Sizemore indicated that Senator Stowell is carrying legislation to amend statutes to allow a local government to create a utility district in the special districts portion of the statute. This would enable

Garfield County to create a special district for the purpose of generating and transmitting electricity in that area.

As was previously mentioned, the weatherization program is expanding through authorizations which occurred a week prior to the bailout bill. The bill mentioned today could possibly provide an additional injection into this program as well. The weatherization crew is currently based in Cedar City at the office space rented from Iron County. With increased volume resulting from additional funding support, changes will have to be made. The program currently has three different storage units in the Cedar City vicinity to store all of their inventory and equipment. The AOG has recently consummated a lease for an area in the Airport Industrial Commerce Park in Cedar City to consolidate all of the inventory and house the entire crew at this location. It is anticipated that an additional crew will be hired after the first of the new year. In the past, referrals for individuals interested in this program have been coming from in house and staff has not had to advertise the program availability. With increased funding, it will now be necessary to publish advertisements to solicit individuals who meet the qualifications for this program. Mr. Sizemore also reported that an additional part-time employee is being hired to work with the HEAT assistance program which is also receiving an increase in funding.

Another item is in regard to a contract which was received last week providing \$41,000 for the Association of Governments to operate an interoperable emergency communications grant. This contract is from the State Public Safety Department. This is federal money coming through the state of Utah for the purpose of helping law enforcement entities at the local level be able to communicate across jurisdictions. He noted that a lot of this is already happening. Most of this money is intended to help local law enforcement provide training on these systems. The AOG is expected to find out what is already happening, announce that this funding is available, and assist the law enforcement entities in setting up some training for this particular activity. The reason the state wants the AOG's to do this is because they are afraid that the sheriffs are so protective of their own turf that they would not think regionally about these issues. Commissioner Chad Johnson responded that he thinks the state is absolutely wrong with this assumption. He noted that this is surprising because local law enforcement have been working together on these types of trainings for the past two years. It appears to be two years after the fact that we begin to look at training for something which probably already exists.

Mr. Sizemore reported that he will be traveling to Salt Lake City to participate in the Population Estimates Committee meeting. The committee will determine what the numbers are for July 1, 2008 total populations for each of the counties. He reviewed numbers for each of the counties as follows: **1) Beaver-- 6,500; 2) Garfield-- 5,000; 3) Iron-- 46,000; 4) Kane-- 6,600; and 5) Washington-- 144,000.** He asked for input from each of the counties. Commissioner Chad Johnson indicated that Beaver County may be low by about 500. Garfield County representatives indicated that 5,000 is about what they would assume. Iron County numbers are pretty close. Mayor Kim Lawson felt that the Kane County numbers are low and should be reflected at approximately 7,000 to 7,200. John Willie commented that numbers for Washington County should be in the 150,000 range. Mr. Sizemore indicated that he would be arguing the Washington County numbers which appear to be low.

IX. AREAWIDE CLEARINGHOUSE REVIEWS

Mayor Lawson reviewed A-95 reviews, including two late arrivals, as follows: **1) Trust Lands Administration, Special Use Lease Application No. 1603**-- Commercial solar energy facility in the Beryl area; **2) Division of Wildlife Resources**-- Utah Aquatic Invasive Species Management Plan; **3) Trust Lands Administration, Easement No. 1437** -- UNEV Pipeline, LLC easements across state lands in Beaver, Iron and Washington counties; **4) Trust Lands Administration, Special Use Lease Application No. 1615**-- Wind power development on the Mineral Mountains located in Beaver County; and **5) Trust Lands Administration, Easement No. 1456**-- Easement for installation of 6-inch water pipe and power line to service Escalante High School. All reviews have supportive staff recommendations. He presented the reviews for Board consideration.

MOTION WAS MADE BY MAYOR LOWELL MECHAM, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CLARE RAMSAY, TO APPROVE THE A-95 REVIEWS, INCLUDING TWO LATE ARRIVALS, AS PER STAFF RECOMMENDATION. MOTION CARRIED.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 21, 2009 at the Five County AOG office in St. George, beginning at 1:00 p.m. Mr. Sizemore commented that this meeting is scheduled for the third Wednesday to accommodate the "What's Up Down South" economic summit which is scheduled for the second Wednesday.

Meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m.