MINUTES

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
April 21, 2010
Parowan, Utah

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE	REPRESENTING
Commissioner Lois Bulloch, Chair	Iron County Commissioner Representative
Alan Adams	Iron County Schools Representative
Commissioner Chad Johnson	Beaver County Commissioner Representative
Mayor Mark Yardley	Beaver County Mayor Representative
Carolyn White	Beaver County Schools Representative
Commissioner Maloy Dodds	Garfield County Commissioner Representative
Mayor Janet Oldham	Garfield County Mayor Representative
Gladys LeFevre	Garfield County Schools Representative
Commissioner Douglas Heaton	Kane County Commissioner Representative
Brian Cottam for Wes Curtis	Southern Utah University

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE	
Senator Dennis Stowell	Utah State Senate
Brian Thiriot	Senator Bennett's Office
Marreen Casper	Senator Hatch's Office
Mike Empey	Congressman Matheson's Office
Elissa Black	Ut. Prairie Dog Recovery & Implementation Plan
Amy White	Citizen
Ken Sizemore	Five County Association of Governments
Diane Lamoreaux	Five County Association of Governments
Darren Janes	Five County Association of Governments
Ken Richards	SUU Intern with Five County AOG

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE	
Mayor Connie Robinson, Excused	Iron County Mayor Representative
Mayor Nina Laycook, Excused	Kane County Mayor Representative
Wendy Allan, Excused	Kane County Schools Representative
Commissioner Denny Drake, Excused	Washington Co. Commissioner Representative
Mayor Tom Hirschi	Washington Co. Interim Mayor Representative
LuAnne Forrest, Excused	Washington Co. Schools Representative
Frank Lojko, Excused	Dixie State College of Utah

Commissioner Lois Bulloch, Chair, welcomed everyone in attendance. Those asking to be excused include: Mayor Connie Robinson, Iron County Mayor Representative; Mayor Nina Laycook, Kane County Mayor Representative; Wendy Allan, Kane County Schools Representative; Commissioner Denny Drake, Washington County Commission Representative; Ms. LuAnne Forrest, Washington County Schools Representative and Frank Lojko, Dixie State College Representative. It was also noted that Mr. Brian Cottam would be representing Wes Curtis, Southern Utah University.

I. MINUTES MARCH 10, 2010 - REVIEW AND APPROVE

Chairman Bulloch noted that a quorum was present and presented minutes of the March 10, 2010 meeting for Board consideration and approval.

MOTION WAS MADE BY MS. CAROLYN WHITE, SECONDED BY MAYOR JANET OLDHAM, TO ACCEPT MINUTES OF THE MARCH 10, 2010 MEETING AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED.

II. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTION

Mr. Ken Sizemore reported that the Executive Committee met earlier today to consider fiscal matters required for crafting the FY 2011 budget for the period July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011. Items approved by the Executive Committee include the following: **1) Fringe Benefit Package--** Health insurance costs have continued to escalate through the current provider with a 15% increase for the upcoming year. As per instructions from the Executive Committee to shop around for coverage, a broker was enlisted to obtain quotes from various providers. The Executive Director and Executive Committee determined that the AOG should switch providers from PEHP to Select Health which provides a slate of benefits that mirror the current insurance coverage provided to AOG employees. The cost of insurance with the new carrier will increase 6% over last year's cost. The remainder of the fringe benefit package was approved and costs remained the same as last year; **2) Cost-of-Living Adjustment--** No cost-of-living adjustment was requested for the upcoming fiscal year because of the current economic climate; **3) County Participation--** Each county contributes $15,000 on an annual basis towards the administration of the Association of Governments. This established amount will continue for the next fiscal year; **4) Executive Director Salary Adjustment--** A three percent salary adjustment was approved for the Executive Director. Commissioner Lois Bulloch explained that this increase mirrored what counties provided to their employees; **5) Indirect Cost Allocation Plan--** This was approved at 12.5% which is the same percentage as last year; **6) Personnel Policies and Procedures Grievance Policy that affect the Executive Director--** Amendments to the grievance policy were vetted by the Washington County Attorney's office and approved by the Executive Committee. This will allow a pending grievance to move forward; and **7) Kane County Volunteer Center Operations--** The committee also entertained discussion in regard to the Kane County Volunteer Center and it's operations. It was determined that any operational changes would take effect with the new fiscal year on July 1, 2010. Mr. Sizemore reported that he will meet with the Kane County Commission on Monday to continue dialogue on this issue.

Commissioner Doug Heaton noted that the grievance policy amendment provides 15 days for the individual to officially file a grievance. Commissioner Maloy Dodds explained that the reason for amending the policy was to outline the procedure for filing a grievance against the Executive Director, and the new policy provides protection for both the person filing the grievance as well as the Executive Director. Mr. Sizemore presented actions outlined for ratification of the Board.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER CHAD JOHNSON, SECONDED BY MR. ALAN ADAMS, TO RATIFY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTIONS AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED.

III. LEGISLATIVE REPORT - SENATOR DENNIS STOWELL

Senator Stowell provided a brief summary of legislation which will impact local government as follows: **1) Drivers License Offices--** This was a big item of contention during the past

legislative session. Apparently a decision was made by the Drivers License Division to close offices in many of the rural communities throughout Utah. Representative Dave Clark was able to put intent language into the divisions budget for these offices to be reopened. Offices in the Five County region that were in danger of being eliminated included those located in Beaver and Garfield counties. Beaver County was able to accommodate the division by committing dedicated space to the Drivers License Division. The old conference room will be remodeled and open every 1st and 3rd Tuesday beginning June 1st. Garfield County will be able to accommodate space requirements in the new Senior Citizens Center located in Panguitch. This is something that the legislature will be following closely; **2) Board of Regents Representation--** Legislation was passed which provided two rural seats on the Board of Regents. However, an attachment to the legislation provided an engineering program at Weber State University; **3) Stream Access--** This legislation protects private property rights. It allows individuals to float the river but they cannot touch the bottom of the stream. Provisions are included where you can leave the craft for safety reasons or if the craft is hung up to push it free. Individuals can also walk around a fence that is on private land. These issues were precipitated by fishermen and hunters who wanted greater access along rivers and streams. A task force was established with the intent of further discussion and perhaps a fishing field trip to further study problems. Public hearings will also be held to discuss these issues. There was also an amount of $300,000 provided to purchase walk-in access from private property owners. The task force will work to identify some of these areas; **4) Local Health Bill--** The intent was to establish a dedicated county mill levy but counties were in opposition. The Lieutenant Governor and Senator Stowell agreed to pull the bill and work with the Department of Health to find some type of solution to solve this problem. Apparently the local health departments apply for various grants which have to be channeled through the State Department of Health. As the money flows through the state, only approximately 20% is allocated back to the local health departments. It is important that fund allocation be determined prior to when the application is submitted. The Senator will accompany the Lieutenant Governor to the Governance Committee meeting to try and reach resolution to this issue. Commissioner Lois Bulloch mentioned that she serves on the Southwest Utah Health Department Board of Directors and information has been provided in terms overstaffing at the State Department of Health level in comparison with local health departments. This is an issue that local elected officials would like to have addressed through this process; **5) Ethics--** Senator Stowell explained that the state constitution provides direction for the house and senate to govern over their own people in terms of ethics. A petition was being circulated to get this on the November ballot but the group has not obtained the required number of signatures. Work will continue until August to gather signatures but it may not hold up in court. Establishment of an Ethics Commission would amount to another layer of government that sets their own budget. Legislators felt that establishment of this commission should be determined by a vote of the people and it would require a constitutional amendment, which will be on the November ballot. The group pursuing establishment of this committee also wanted to use electronic signatures to advance the measure to the November ballot. However, it was determined that signatures could not be obtained electronically because language stipulates signatures in written form; **6) Byway Legislation--** Legislation that passed consisted of compromises with the Lieutenant Governor, the State Division of Tourism and outdoor advertising industry representatives. The legislation requires that all corridor management plans are approved by the Utah State Legislature. Mr. Sizemore indicated that the Highway 9 document is slated for approval this year and will need to be introduced during the next legislative session. A formal request will be made for Senator Stowell to open a bill file for this purpose.

Ms. Carolyn White thanked Senator Stowell for his support and assistance provided to public education in protecting their budgets. Senator Stowell explained that all state departments took cuts in their budgets. Public education was held to a 6.5% decrease, but on-going monies were restored to their budget. The legislature retained one-half of the rainy day fund to cover another year of on-going budget items. Mayor Mark Yardley also thanked Senator Stowell for assistance provided to Beaver City and conveyed the same message from the Beaver County Hospitals. Members of the Board thanked Senator Stowell for his efforts to assist local government in fixing various problems.

Commissioner Chad Johnson mentioned that a bill impacting force account labor allowable costs would eliminate assistance from counties to small municipalities for projects such as road chip and seal. Many of the smaller jurisdictions are not able to purchase necessary equipment for these projects but have been able to provide materials for the county to complete the work. Commissioner Maloy Dodds agreed that this would greatly impact small communities that have no budget. During the past year, Garfield County provided this type of service to Escalante and Panguitch cities. This was protested by a contractor who stated that the county was in competition with private industry. Commissioner Johnson indicated that jurisdictions within their governance should be entitled to services provided by the county and deemed to be in the best interest of their constituents, including the use of equipment to assist with maintenance of roads. This ultimately saves tax dollars and should be allowable as long as the dollar amount is below force account established levels. He asked the Senator to follow this issue and provide input expressed by local government.

IV. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM

A. FY 2010 RATING AND RANKING ADJUSTMENTS

Ms. Diane Lamoreaux provided a handout outlining the final allocation amount for the FY 2010 CDBG program cycle. The Five County Association of Governments will receive $856,333 for allocation throughout the region. Rating and Ranking was previously approved by the Steering Committee to fund projects until funding was exhausted. The final allocation will fully fund the first year of the Beaver County Housing Authority project and leave a balance of $33,273 for allocation. Staff recommendation is to award this amount to the number one ranked project, Cedar City Housing Authority, increasing the allocation for the first year of their project to $183,273 and adjusting the amount of funding for the second year to $116,727. This would provide full funding of $300,000 to this multi-year project. The other option would be to fund $33,273 to Ivins City, but staff determined that this would not be in the best interest of the program. A similar situation was encountered last year, but the amount was somewhat higher at $76,000 for engineering and environmental work. However, the applicant has not utilized this funding to complete the environmental or engineering work. Instead they waited until the second year allocation was in place to move the project forward. Staff recommendation as outlined in the handout was presented for Board consideration.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER MALOY DODDS, SECONDED BY MS. CAROLYN WHITE, TO APPROVE STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOR FY 2010 RATING AND RANKING ADJUSTED AMOUNT AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED.

B. POLICY COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT

Ms. Lamoreaux reported that the Steering Committee previously nominated Mayor Connie Robinson to serve an additional term on the CDBG Policy Committee. Information was provided by staff at the Division of Housing and Community Development that Governor Herbert did not want individuals to serve multiple terms on any board or committee. Therefore, information was presented during the March meeting requesting an alternate member for this appointment. However, no one volunteered to serve in this capacity. Mayor Robinson's nomination was presented to the Governor's office for consideration. Governor Herbert has authorized an additional term for Mayor Robinson but has noted that a new representative will need to be selected upon expiration of her term.

V. PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE/REVIEW

Mr. Sizemore introduced Darren Janes, Community Planner with the Five County AOG, and Ken Richards, an intern from Southern Utah University. He reported that Darren is working with the Revolving Loan Fund and has recently completed an economic development finance certification course. He is also proficient in community planning and is working on a number of planning projects including the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan. Ken Richards is an intern with SUU who has handled the majority of Geographic Information System (GIS) work on the hazard mitigation plan.

Mr. Darren Janes expressed his appreciation to meet with the Board and provide an update on this important planning process. He provided an abbreviated explanation of the plan and background information on the previous plan which was developed five years ago. This is an update of that plan and is the mechanism used to access hazard mitigation funds. The plan provides quantitative data and mitigation measures. Staff has followed specified requirements directing how the plan is written and has then taken data down to county level information. Each county can refer to information specific to their county which relates to hazards and identification of hazards. The main goal of this update is to develop mitigation measures that could be implemented or are highly likely to be implemented within the next five years. This planning process has also provided additional GIS layers of information at a county level. Some counties have very limited GIS layers and county expertise was utilized throughout the update process.

The plan is in draft form available for review and comment, and is posted on the AOG website at: www.fivecounty.utah.gov/hazards.html The comment period will continue for 30 days and after revisions have been made will be submitted to the state of Utah and FEMA. The plan will be presented to all jurisdictions and each county in the Five County region for adoption.

Mr. Ken Richards explained that nine different hazards were addressed in this plan, with six on the county level. He reviewed some of the county maps in an overhead presentation outlining major earth quake, landslide, flood, and wildfire risk. He also provided a regional level map depicting radon risk and noted that parcel maps were utilized to develop some of the mapping. In closing, Darren encouraged Board members to review their specific county sections and provide comments as appropriate.

VI. TENTATIVE JUNE 14, 2010 RECEPTION/LUNCHEON AT GOVERNOR'S MANSION

Mr. Ken Sizemore reported that Governor Gary Herbert has tentatively scheduled June 14, 2010 for a reception/luncheon at the Governor's mansion to honor the Associations of Government for being in existence for 40 years. The event will celebrate accomplishments of the AOG's as well as provide formal dialogue with the Governor. Board members from several of the counties mentioned that this date conflicts with their county commission meetings and asked if the date might be shifted. The meeting date conflict will be passed along to Mike Mower, State Planning Coordinator, who is organizing this event.

VII. SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY (SUU) GOVERNMENT RELATIONS AND REGIONAL SERVICES UPDATE

Mr. Brian Cottam, SUU Government Relations and Regional Services, reported that the final budget decreases to higher education for state funding was 12.5%. The administration was fairly pleased with the final outcome and level of funding that was approved considering some of the higher percentages that were discussed. A copy of the new brochure outlining the mission and services provided through their office was distributed. Other handouts included an article recognizing the University Service and Learning Center and a new program for SUU to deliver venture courses to low-income individuals. This program offers hand picked courses to low-income individuals at no cost and also provides books, child care and transportation at no cost to these students.

An announcement of the rural summit scheduled for August 12-13, 2010 was provided. The 23rd Annual Utah Rural Summit "The Great Recession: Putting it in the Rearview Mirror" will be held at the SUU Hunter Conference Center. More information will be forthcoming as keynote speakers are selected. An announcement was also provided for the Milford Renewable Energy Fair that will be held next week at Milford High School. He reported that this has grown into a very impressive event and encouraged Board members to attend.

Mr. Cottam introduced Elissa Black who began work at SUU in February as Southern Utah's new "prairie dog czar". In this new position, she will coordinate efforts for the Utah Prairie Dog Recovery Implementation Program (UDRIP). Elissa reported that she moved from Washington County to accept this position and is very excited to coordinate efforts with various agencies and jurisdictions to ensure that efforts do not overlap or are redundant. Commissioner Lois Bulloch commented that the Cedar City Airport has their own habitat conservation program that operates independently. She noted that they rely heavily on biology information provided through the Division of Wildlife Resources and it may be good to have an independent biologist involved in this process. Because only approximately 10% of dogs survive transplant, it appears that there may be options available that would improve this success ratio.

VIII. DIXIE STATE COLLEGE UPDATE

Mr. Frank Lojko requested to be excused and no update was provided.

IX. CONGRESSIONAL STAFF UPDATES

Ms. Marreen Casper, Senator Hatch's Office, reported that Senator Hatch has met with Secretary Geithner in regard to the country's financial crisis to voice his concerns with legislation that is being pushed down their throats without any consideration for financial implications. He has also expressed concerns with the current administration's position on NASA and the space industry. Utah has the potential to lose a large number of jobs and exorbitant costs will be associated in using another nation's transportation system to carry astronauts to the international space station. A number of space programs were far along in terms of development and to scrap them does not make a lot of sense. Bi-partisan legislation has been announced which would modernize how federal tax refunds are reviewed and provided. The financial committee has discussed this for a long time. Senator Hatch is supportive of Utah obtaining an additional seat but does not want it to be an at-large seat. He is confident that the U.S. Census will prove the need for this additional representation. The Senator met with President Obama this morning to discuss the replacement for Justice Stephens. He has encouraged the President to nominate an individual that would judge on law and not as an activist judge. He also blasted that administration for settling an energy related case out of court and feels that the administration has sold out Americans through this action. He believes that this nation needs to provide for our own energy needs instead of borrowing from other countries.

Mr. Brian Thiriot announced that Senator Bennett is also concerned about the nomination for Justice Stephens replacement. He is also very concerned with proposed NEPA analysis of climate change and legislation introduced by Senator Dodge for financial reform. This legislation is extremely flawed and will hurt small banks. Senator Bennett will also be working with the administration to address programs that have been cut from NASA.

Mr. Mike Empey, Congressman Matheson's Office, indicated that the House of Representatives pulled the D.C./Utah 4th seat bill in favor of waiting for the U.S. Census numbers. Congressman Matheson also had concerns about an at-large seat and is pleased that this was taken off their calendar. The Congressman voted against health care and is concerned that as it revolves into rule making and implementation various issues could become problematic. It appears that there is a lot of pressure on Department of Health and Human Services to get results right away and this is very concerning. Congressman Matheson will co-sponsor legislation to expand RECA exposure coverage to assist citizens in the state of Utah in receiving those benefits. This proposal increases the amount of payment to cancer victims exposed to radiation. Mr. Empey reported that their office is continuing to work with Beaver and Piute counties on their land bill and the Congressman is supportive of this process. He is also very concerned about potential monument designations and is keeping his eye on this issue.

X. LOCAL AFFAIRS

A. CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Sizemore provided copies of correspondence in regard to prescribed burns scheduled throughout the region and noted that the largest is in Beaver County on the Greenville Bench area. This notice is provided in regard to recent concerns of the Steering Committee to BLM and Forest Service fire managers. A press release

announcing the first annual Prairie Dog Day at Bryce Canyon National Park was provided for information purposes.

B. OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL

Mr. Sizemore reviewed one out-of-state travel that was received after packet was mailed out. Carrie Schonlaw is requesting out-of-state travel to attend the National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Conference to be held in Las Vegas, Nevada on June 2-4, 2010. This training will provide invaluable tools and resources in her new role as the Five County AAA Director. The costs associated to this conference are minimal and travel budget is in place to cover those costs.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER MALOY DODDS, SECONDED BY MS. GLADYS LEFEVRE, TO APPROVE OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL FOR CARRIE SCHONLAW AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED.

C. PERMANENT COMMUNITY IMPACT BOARD APPLICATIONS

No applications for were received for review and comment.

D. PLANNING ASSISTANCE

None.

E. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

XI. AREAWIDE CLEARINGHOUSE REVIEWS

Mr. Sizemore reviewed the two A-95 reviews included in the packet to provide range improvements in Garfield County. One late arrival is provided as a handout for the Escalante City Municipal Airport runway rehabilitation. All reviews have supportive staff recommendations.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER MALOY DODDS, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CHAD JOHNSON, TO APPROVE THE AREAWIDE CLEARINGHOUSE REVIEWS, INCLUDING THE LATE ARRIVAL, AS PER STAFF RECOMMENDATION. MOTION CARRIED.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for May 12, 2010 at the Panguitch City Council Chambers beginning at 1:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m.