

**ELECTRIFICATION OF TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE  
STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES**

Thursday, April 3, 2025, 10:00 a.m. to Noon  
Rampton Complex, 4501 South 2700 West, Taylorsville, Utah 84129  
Redwood B Conference Room, First Floor

Electronic Participation

Google Meet: <https://meet.google.com/omj-vffp-vjc?hs=122&authuser=0>

Phone: 219-281-4253, PIN: 990 189 907#

**PRESENT**

Carlos Braceras, Steering Committee Chair,  
UDOT Executive Director

\*Abby Hunsaker, Steering Committee Member,  
GOEO UEOC Program Director

Bryce Bird, Steering Committee Member, UDEQ  
DAQ Director

Hal Johnson, Steering Committee Alternate,  
UTA Director of Innovative Mobility

James Campbell, Steering Committee Member,  
RMP Director of Innovation and Sustainability

Jay Fox, Steering Committee Member, UTA  
Executive Director

\*Steve Handy, Steering Committee Alternate,  
IAB Vice Chair, Stephen G. Handy Marketing

\*Alana Jacquez, UTA

Anca Matcovschi, ASPIRE Chief

Communications and Marketing Officer

\*David Trinko, ASPIRE Lead Research Scientist

\*Dustin Maughn, ASPIRE

\*Fawn Groves, ASPIRE

Harry Hansen UOED, DNR Deputy Division  
Director

Jennifer Selig, ASPIRE

\*Julie Bjornstad, WFRC

\*Kelbe Goupil, Utah Clean Energy

\*Kat Webb

Kyle Goodrick, ASPIRE Senior Power Systems  
Research Engineer

Lyle McMillan, UDOT Strategic Technologies  
Director

Michael Masquelier, ASPIRE Interim Director

Masood Parvnai, ASPIRE

\*Poy Prasurtwong, UOED, Program Specialist

Regan Zane, ASPIRE Engineering Research  
Center Director

\*Seth Stock, ASPIRE

Travis Kyhl, Six County AOG Executive Director

Diane Josie, UDOT Executive Assistant

**ABSENT**

David Eckels, Steering Committee Member, IAB  
Chair, Merge Electric Fleet Solutions

Emy Lesofski, Steering Committee Member,  
UOED Director

\*Indicates virtual participation.

The meeting began at 10:05 a.m.

**1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS - Carlos Braceras**

Carlos Braceras welcomed everyone to the meeting. He invited everyone to provide self introductions.

## 2. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF JANUARY MEETING MINUTES - Carlos Braceras

Bryce Bird moved to approve the minutes. James Campbell seconded. All Steering Committee members voted in favor. The minutes were approved.

## 3. VISION

### a. FEATURES OF ELECTRIFIED TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

- i. Charging Infrastructure
- ii. Power Systems
- iii. Intelligent Coordination and Multi-Modal Hubs
- iv. Workforce and Economic Development

Micheal Mesquelier provided a refresher on the big picture vision. He outlined what they plan to achieve. He summarized the action plan. He talked about the ideal Electrified Transportation System (ETS). They've started a discussion on the new features of ideal ETS. Jay Fox shared information from the transit side. They had a green light to obligate from the electric vehicle award. He's optimistic on the transit side. Hal Johnson talked about some of the planning side of Utah Transit Authority's work.

Lyle McMillan talked about progress on the NEVI project. Carlos Braceras said he thinks we will see impacts of the Buy America Waiver expiring. The group spent some time discussing this topic.

Michael Masquelier said they reached out to High Valley Transit and will make a visit and take a tour the last week of April. They talked about the issues with High Valley Transit going away from electric vehicles.

James Campbell said that Rocky Mountain Power installed two additional NEVI sites. In addition to those three sites, they have Kimball Junction and Millcreek in partnerships. He also talked about NSF engines.

### b. CALL TO ACTION

- i. Survey State Entities

Michael Masquelier talked about a survey to make sure there is a collective representation. Regan Zane said they are considering a process that aligns with the state process. Carlos Braceras said part of the underlying current is to have alignment in the state. Regan asked the committee members to let them know if there are any initiatives being developed. They would like to release the plan this summer. Bryce Bird mentioned the infrastructure contractors and vendors. Regan said they should get a database on the contractors to find the gaps. Carlos said it's important to be thinking about the trades people. If any of the members have thoughts, share them with Micheal and Regan.

#### 4. MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

##### a. Public Outreach and Communications

Anca Matcovschi said they have been adding to the website including an event calendar. They are working on a committee with grant specialists to coordinate activities. They are expanding to new platforms in social media. They've been active at events and had a successful Conference on Electric Roads and Vehicles (CERV) in Park City.

She talked about a video campaign that was conducted. Michael Masquelier said they think the video will roughly mirror the RMP video. Carlos Bracerias mentioned getting the information to GOEO sends the message that we are thinking about the future.

#### 5. INDUSTRY ADVISORY BOARD (IAB)

- a. Members
- b. Reports from IAB
- c. IAB Survey

Michael Masquelier displayed a slide with the members of the Steering Committee. Travis Kyhl said he's been on the AOG for 17 years. His region has 49 communities and they can play a huge role in these types of processes and would love to be part of this. They have done a survey in his region. They want to see electrification of transportation be successful. Jennifer Seelig said she's thrilled to hear about the efforts and desire to meet. If they can get together with the community outreach folks with the agencies, they can help get information out to the communities.

Michael Masquelier provided an update on the Industry Advisory Board. Sara Shaffer put out an IAB questionnaire. Michael summarized the questions and talked about the key takeaways.

Steve Handy talked about a survey he came across recently from the Conservative Energy Network. He provided highlights of the information including Americans support federal investments and electric vehicles that are built by American workers.

Poy Prasurtwong said HB 157 is for the K-2 curriculum so we can educate children on energy starting at the elementary school level. She spoke about Rural Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (REVI). They have awarded two rounds of funding and all the projects will be in the southern part of the state. Harry Hansen talked about funding cuts on the REVI project that happened during the legislative session.

Michael Masquelier said he had a discussion with Abby Hunsaker about some items happening at GOEO. She said overall, they've seen a lot more companies that are interested in energy development and storage. He suggested an RFI to entice more

companies to the state. Carlos Braceras said it boils down to workforce and a commitment from the state for infrastructure. Regan Zane asked if there are any action items to kickstart the connection with GOEO or EDCUtah. Michael said they could pull everyone together to show them what they are doing and leading the nation.

## 6. PROGRAM NEWS/UPDATES

Bryce Bird said they got some great news on some awards. They've only lost one grant award so far. They had to redo the language on emissions for the clean diesel grant. They have a meeting with the EPA at the end of the month. He talked about the Clean Ports Program Grant.

James Campbell said they had some grants paused as well. He said it looks like things are back on track. He summarized the grants that are currently open and paused while they work on the language pieces.

Michael Masquelier said the DOE super truck charge is officially on pause. He talked about the Megawatt charging at the Inland Port. He provided a construction update. He talked about the wireless charging roadway. It's at 5500 West 1100 South. It is Utah's first.

Carlos Braceras said if you have a grant award, but not a grant agreement, that is the dividing line. We are doing a scrub for language using bike lanes. We have to turn some grant applications into wide shoulders. There have been some other interpretations at different levels that bike lanes should not be included.

## 7. LEGISLATIVE DISCUSSION

Jennifer Seelig provided an update. She talked about electric vehicle infrastructure in rural Utah. The cut this year was for \$.5 million. Harry Hansen said the remaining \$2.5 million was already distributed. She brings it up in an offer to get information out.

She talked about HB 157. She said Harry has a wonderful committee they are managing out of his office. She said they are developing a wonderful curriculum to use at fairs, 4H, etc. to educate children and adults. She said HB 249 is a bill that creates a nuclear consortium and the Utah energy council. ASPIRE would love to offer resources to support this board as well. Harry Hansen said if they have names, please send them to him.

Jennifer Seeling said they are watching the national landscape. This is important because our legislators go to national entities to see what the trends are. Carlos Braceras would love to see future legislation from the working plans that this group puts together. Regan Zane asked if there is anyone Jennifer should be working with. Carlos said we need to build toward where the strategic plan is going to take us. Michael

Masquelier said we need to start coordinating now to determine what we would like included in the Governor's budget.

## 8. ANNUAL REPORT

### a. Annual Report Outline

Kat Webb put together the annual report. They would like feedback from the committee by the end of next week. By Friday. The final is due to the legislature on July 31. They want to have a preliminary discussion on the 10, 20, and 30 year format.

## 9. POWER AND TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS - DATA, MODELING, VISUALIZATION

- a. Fleet Database
- b. Fleet and OEM Discussions
- c. Partner Outreach

Kyle Goodrick talked about the modeling efforts and why ASPIRE is doing the modeling. He gave some examples of what modeling can do. He talked about one example which is electrified freight coordination. He talked about another example of fleet electrification planning.

Seth Stock talked about how they're gathering information. For the fleet database, they wanted to get a list of the fleets in Utah. He talked about how he got the information. They identified over 1,000 public and private fleets with 69 having a positive stance on electrification.

Kyle Goodrick talked about battery electric buses and the grid information. He talked about aviation planning and trying to identify what a potential charging system would look like. The final example is the light-duty EV option.

Michael Masquelier said they are going to try to integrate all the information into one database if possible. James Campbell said they can coordinate information from some of their sites this summer.

## 10. BUDGET

### a. Personnel, Contract Services, Outreach, Data, Modeling Services

Michael Masquelier said they still have the same four categories: Personnel, Contract Services, Materials and Other, and Travel. They are required to submit the budget by June 25, 2025. Another meeting of the Steering Committee meeting will be held before June 25.

## 11. STRATEGIC DISCUSSION

### a. Governor Budget Request, Data Centers, Resilience, Administration Change

Michael Masquelier asked about preparing for the 2034 Winter Olympics. Carlos Braceras talked about his experience with the last Olympics. He said there is now a State Olympic Officer. They will start with a listening tour and an organizing committee will be created. There will be individual transportation plans to get to/from every event. It will be much the same as last time.

#### Governor Budget Request Related to Infrastructure and Workforce

Michael Masquelier said that something needs to be in the Governor's budget. Carlos Braceras said we need to tie together policy recommendations, budget requests and figure out who is the right vehicle. Usually we are working on the proposal in August. Michael talked about the funding it will take to take this statewide.

#### Operation Gigawatt

Kyle Goodrick said they are building models and can provide support to operation gigawatt. Harry Hansen said they have researchers doing similar stuff.

#### Data Centers

Bryce Bird talked about data centers. They're a huge concern and the recent proposals have been for natural gas turbines. One data center project overwhelmed the good that was done last year. Bryce said generation outside of the Wasatch front is what we want. DEQ is trying to organize a strategy to deal with this.

## 12. SUMMARY of ACTION ITEMS

- a. Schedule Next Meeting (on or before June 25)

The June meeting could be virtual and less than two hours. The budget and annual report will be on the agenda.

The meeting adjourned at 12:04 p.m.