



LEGISLATURE

MINUTES

NATURAL RESOURCES, AGRICULTURE, AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

Wednesday, January 28, 2026 | 8:00 a.m. | 210 Senate Building

Members Present:

Sen. David P. Hinkins, Senate Chair
Rep. Stewart E. Barlow, House Chair
Rep. Scott H. Chew, Vice Chair
Sen. Nate Blouin
Sen. Daniel McCay
Sen. Calvin R. Musselman
Sen. Scott D. Sandall
Sen. Jerry W. Stevenson
Sen. Ronald M. Winterton
Rep. Carl R. Albrecht
Rep. John Arthur

Rep. Michael L. Kohler
Rep. Logan J. Monson
Rep. Hoang Nguyen
Rep. Troy Shelley
Rep. Rex P. Shipp

Members Absent:

Rep. Casey Snider

Staff Present:

Ivan D. Djambov, Finance Manager
Lacey K. Moore, Finance Officer
Tisha Gibby, Committee Secretary

Note: A copy of related materials and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at www.le.utah.gov.

1. Call to Order

Chair Barlow called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m.

2. Approval of Minutes from January 22nd

No minutes were voted on.

3. Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office

[3. Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office Presentation](#)

[3. R.S. 2477 Handout](#)

Redge Johnson, Director, Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office (PLPCO), presented.

Rep. Albrecht expressed appreciation for Redge Johnson and the information being presented.

Rep. Shipp asked a clarifying question. Redge Johnson responded.

Sen. Musselman inquired regarding R.S. 2477 road mapping progress. Redge Johnson responded.

Rep. Shelley expressed appreciation and also asked about R.S. 2477 depositions. Redge Johnson responded.

Chair Barlow commended Redge Johnson and PLPCO.

4. Watershed Restoration Initiative

[4. Watershed Restoration Initiative Presentation](#)

Tyler Thompson, Director, Watershed Restoration Initiative (WRI), Department of Natural Resources (DNR), presented.

Rep. Albrecht spoke about the effectiveness of the work of the fire fighters and the WRI in preventing the 2025 Monroe fire from spreading further. Rep. Albrecht expressed gratitude and appreciation for fire fighters and the WRI.

Tyler Thompson continued presenting.

Sen. Sandall spoke about evaporation of snowfall in conifer forests.

Rep. Nguyen asked about better informing the public about the work of the WRI. Tyler Thompson responded.

5. Forestry, Fire, and State Lands

[5. Forestry, Fire, and State Lands Presentation](#)

Jamie Barnes, State Forester, and Director of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands, DNR, presented.

Rep. Shipp asked about eradication of Russian Olive trees along the Sevier River. Jamie Barnes responded.

Rep. Chew asked for an update on controlling the spread of Tamarisk trees with beetles. Jamie Barnes responded.

Rep. Arthur asked about how the 2025 fire season compared to past years. Jamie Barnes responded.

Chair Barlow talked about the return on investment of public messaging. Jamie Barnes responded.

Rep. Shelley asked how the value of structures are calculated in relation to fire suppression. Jamie Barnes responded.

6. Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement

Ivan Djambov presented.

Sen. McCay requested clarification on the budget. Ivan Djambov responded.

[6. DNR Law Enforcement Presentation](#)

[6. DNR Law Enforcement Video](#)

Todd Royce, Director, DNR Law Enforcement Division, presented.

Rep. Nguyen asked about the temperature of water in decontamination tanks and how it affects boat paint. Todd Royce responded.

Sen. Musselman spoke about the importance of the dip tanks.

7. Wildlife Resources

Ivan Djambov presented an overview of voting packet information.

[7. Wildlife Resources Presentation](#)

[7. Wildlife Resources Video](#)

Riley Peck, Director, Division of Wildlife Resources (DWR), DNR, presented, with the assistance of Mike Canning, Deputy Director, DWR, DNR.

Rep. Chew asked about Pinyon Jays. Riley Peck responded.

Rep. Albrecht commended Riley Peck and DWR.

Rep. Shipp expressed appreciation to Riley Peck and DWR.

8. RFA: Mule Deer Protection Act Funding (Sen. Musselman)

[8. Coyote Bounty/Mule Deer Protection Act Handout](#)

[8. RFA Form: Mule Deer Protection Act Funding](#)

Sen. Musselman presented the request with the assistance of Justin Shannon, Deputy Director, DWR, DNR.

Rep. Shipp asked about areas being targeted for coyote control. Justin Shannon responded.

9. Outdoor Recreation

Ivan Djambov presented an overview of the voting packet.

[9. Outdoor Recreation Presentation](#)

Jason Curry, Director, Outdoor Recreation Division, DNR, presented.

Sen. Hinkins commented on the need for trail grooming operators. Jason Curry responded.

Sen. Musselman inquired regarding offroad vehicle registration fees. Jason Curry responded.

10. State Parks

Ivan Djambov presented an overview.

[10. State Parks Presentation](#)

[10. State Parks Video](#)

Scott Strong, Director, State Parks, DNR, presented.

Sen. Musselman commended State Parks staff.

11. RFA: East Carbon Coke Ovens Land Purchase

[11. East Carbon Coke Ovens Land Purchase Handout](#)

[11. RFA Form: East Carbon Coke Ovens Land Purchase](#)

Rep. Christine Watkins presented the request with the assistance of Liz Ferguson, former East Carbon city council member.



Sen. Hinkins provided additional information on the coke ovens.

12. Other Business

There was no other business.

13. Adjourn

MOTION: Sen. Hinkins moved to adjourn. The motion passed with a vote of 11 - 0 - 6.

Yeas - 11

Rep. C. Albrecht
Rep. J. Arthur
Rep. S. Barlow
Sen. N. Blouin
Rep. S. Chew
Sen. D. Hinkins
Rep. M. Kohler
Rep. L. Monson
Sen. C. Musselman
Rep. H. Nguyen
Rep. R. Shipp

Nays - 0

Absent - 6

Sen. D. McCay
Sen. S. Sandall
Rep. T. Shelley
Rep. C. Snider
Sen. J. Stevenson
Sen. R. Winterton

Chair Barlow adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m.