



DRAFT MINUTES

NATURAL RESOURCES, AGRICULTURE, AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY APPROPRIATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEE

Thursday, February 5, 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
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 8:04 a.m.

2. Utah Water Ways

[2. Utah Water Ways Presentation](#)

Tage Flint, Executive Director, Utah Water Ways, presented with the assistance of Jill Flygare, Chief Operating Officer, Utah Water Ways.

Rep. Chew requested clarification on one of the graphs shared in the presentation. Tage Flint responded.

Sen. Sandall commented on water used in homes versus water used in outdoor landscaping. Tage Flint responded.

Sen. Blouin asked about a budget item. Tage Flint responded. Sen. Blouin requested clarification on past Utah Water Ways meetings. Tage Flint responded.

Chair Barlow commented on the Slow the Flow media campaign. Tage Flint responded.

3. Utah Geological Survey

[3. Utah Geological Survey Presentation](#)

[3. UGS Survey Notes](#)

[3. Utah Geological Survey Handout](#)

Darlene Batatian, State Geologist, and Director, Utah Geological Survey (UGS), Department of Natural Resources (DNR), presented with the assistance of Ben Dlin, Public Information Officer, UGS.

Rep. Shipp commented on reuse of effluent water. Darlene Batatian responded.

Rep. Arthur requested an update on efforts to eradicate phragmites. Darlene Batatian responded.

4. 8:25 a.m. RFA: Great Salt Lake Cloud Seeding Program (Sen. Sandall)

[4. RFA Form: Great Salt Lake Cloud Seeding Program](#)

[4. RFA Presentation: Great Salt Lake Cloud Seeding](#)

Sen. Sandall presented the request with the assistance of Jonathan Jennings, Meteorologist, Division of Water Resources, DNR.

Rep. Arthur asked about changes in costs with the use of drones. Jonathan Jennings responded. Rep. Arthur asked for an update on recent cloud seeding. Sen. Sandall and Jonathan Jennings responded.

5. RFA: Ukon Arsenic Treatment Water Project (Sen. Sandall)

[5. RFA Form: Ukon Arsenic Treatment Water Project](#)

Sen. Sandall presented the request with the assistance of Derek Oyler, President, Ukon Water.

6. RFA: Tremonton Water Development (Sen. Sandall)

[6. RFA Form: Tremonton Water Development](#)

Sen. Sandall presented the request with the assistance of Lyle Holmgren, Consultant, Tremonton City.

7. RFA: Aquatic Invasive Species Decontamination Dip Tank (Sen. Hinkins)

[7. RFA Form: Aquatic Invasive Species Decontamination Tanks](#)

Sen. Hinkins presented the request.

Sen. Musselman provided additional information on the request.

Chair Barlow asked about time savings from using decontamination tanks. Sen. Musselman and Sen. Hinkins responded.

8. RFA: Colorado River Operational Funding (Sen. Hinkins)

[8. RFA Form: Colorado River Operational Funding](#)

[8. RFA Presentation: Colorado River Operational Funding](#)

Sen. Hinkins presented the request.

9. RFA: Great Salt Lake Aquifer Restoration (Sen. Musselman)

[9. RFA Form: Great Salt Lake Aquifer Restoration](#)

[9. RFA Presentation: Great Salt Lake Aquifer Restoration](#)

Sen. Musselman presented the request with the assistance of Dan Packer, Chief Executive Officer, Bear Pack Resources.

Sen. Winterton commented on the request. Sen. Musselman responded.

10. RFA: Vertical and Assisted Trails (Sen. Winterton)

[10. RFA Form: Vertical and Assisted Trails](#)

[10. RFA Video: Vertical and Assisted Trails](#)

Sen. Winterton presented the request with the assistance of Rep. David Shallenberger.

Rep. Chew commented on proximity of the trails to water sources. Rep. Shallenberger responded.

Rep. Albrecht asked about possible grant money from the Division of Outdoor Recreation, DNR. Rep. Shallenberger responded.

Chair Barlow commented on climbing groups. Rep. Shallenberger responded.

11. RFA: Contaminated Culinary Water Well Repair (Rep. Monson)

[11. RFA Form: Contaminated Culinary Water Well Repair](#)

Rep. Monson presented the request with the assistance of Mike Noel, Executive Director, Kane County Water District.

12. RFA: Wildfire Crews and Detection Technology (Sen. Owens)

[12. RFA Handout: Wildfire Crews and Detection Technology](#)

[12. RFA Form: Wildfire Crews and Detection Technology](#)

Sen. Derrin Owens presented the request with the assistance of Jamie Barnes, State Forester, and Division Director of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands (FFSL), DNR.

Mikayla Baker, Government Affairs Manager, Pano AI, presented additional information on the request.

Sen. Hinkins asked about ongoing technology costs. Sen. Owens and Jamie Barnes responded. Sen. Hinkins asked about hiring. Jamie Barnes responded.

13. RFA: Stewardship and Advancement of Public Lands (Sen. Stratton)

[13. RFA Form: Stewardship and Advancement of Public Lands](#)

Sen. Keven Stratton presented the request with the assistance of Mark Boshell, Deputy Director, Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office, DNR.

14. RFA: Utah Lake Enhancement (Sen. Stratton)

[14. RFA Form: Utah Lake Enhancement](#)

[14. RFA Handout: Utah Lake Enhancement](#)

Sen. Stratton presented the request with the assistance of Ben Stireman, Deputy Director, FFSL, DNR.

15. RFA: RFA for FFA (Rep. Owens)

[15. RFA Form: RFA for FFA](#)

[15. RFA Handout: RFA for FFA](#)

Rep. Doug Owens presented the request with the assistance of Buddy Deimler, on behalf of the Utah Farm Bureau.

Sen. Hinkins asked about funding through the Education Appropriations Subcommittee. Rep. Owens and Buddy Deimler responded.

Rep. Arthur commented on the importance of the FFA program.

Rep. Kohler asked about science credits given for agricultural classes. Buddy Deimler responded.

16. RFA: Mantua Reservoir Restoration (Rep. Peterson, T.)

[16. RFA Form: Mantua Reservoir Restoration](#)

[16. RFA Presentation/Handout: Mantua Reservoir Restoration](#)

Rep. Thomas Peterson presented the request with the assistance of Scott Shuler, Director of Technology and Operations, EutroPHIX.

Sen. Hinkins asked about the request. Rep. Peterson responded.

Rep. Albrecht spoke about bentonite clay and its effectiveness in preventing algal blooms. Scott Shuler responded.

Rep. Arthur commented on the request.

17. RFA: River Restoration Amendments SB0130 (Sen. Fillmore)

[17. RFA Form: River Restoration Amendments](#)

Sen. Lincoln Fillmore presented the request.

18. RFA: Law Enforcement Salary Amendments HB0049 (Rep. Wilcox)

[18. RFA Form: Law Enforcement Salary Amendments](#)

Rep. Ryan Wilcox presented the request with the assistance of Sean Spencer, Utah Conservation Officers Association (UCOA).

Sen. Hinkins commented on funding sources for DNR Law Enforcement salaries. Rep. Wilcox responded.

19. RFA: Waterfowl Habitat Improvements (Rep. Koford)

[19. RFA Form: Waterfowl Habitat Improvements](#)

[19. RFA Presentation: Waterfowl Habitat Improvements](#)

Rep. Jill Koford presented the request with the assistance of Joel Ferry, Executive Director, DNR.

20. Other Business

There was no other business.

21. Adjourn

MOTION: Sen. Hinkins moved to adjourn. The motion passed with a vote of 10 - 0 - 7.

Yeas - 10

Rep. C. Albrecht
Rep. J. Arthur
Rep. S. Barlow
Sen. D. Hinkins
Sen. D. McCay
Rep. L. Monson
Sen. C. Musselman
Rep. H. Nguyen
Rep. R. Shipp
Rep. C. Snider

Nays - 0

Absent - 7

Sen. N. Blouin
Rep. S. Chew
Rep. M. Kohler
Sen. S. Sandall
Rep. T. Shelley
Sen. J. Stevenson
Sen. R. Winterton

Chair Barlow adjourned the meeting at 10:38 a.m.