

**ELECTRIFICATION OF TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE
STEERING COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

Friday, April 3, 2026, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Calvin Rampton Complex, 4501 South 2700 West, Taylorsville, Utah 84129
Lester Wire Conference Room

PRESENT

Carlos Braceras, Steering Committee Chair, UDOT Executive Director
*Bryce Bird, Steering Committee Member, UDEQ DAQ Director
Gary Straker, Steering Committee Member, IAB Chair, Power Innovations
*Hal Johnson, Steering Committee Alternate, UTA Innovative Mobility Director
Harry Hansen, Steering Committee Alternate, OED Dir. of Govt. and External Affairs
Jeff Howcroft, Steering Committee Member, Rocky Mountain Power
Jay Fox, Steering Committee Member, UTA Executive Director
*Lance Soffe, Steering Committee Member, GOEO Economic Growth Sr. VP
Andrew Gruber, WFRC Executive Director
Lyle McMillan, UDOT Strategic Technologies Director
Kyle Goodrick, ASPIRE Senior Power Systems Research Engineer
James Campbell, ASPIRE Electrified Transportation Planning Director
Jordan Lee, UDOT Communications
*Sara Shaffer, ASPIRE IAB Coordinator
*Lisa Burr, UDEQ D Environmental Program Manager
*Bekah Ashley, UDEQ Division of Air Quality
*Christiana Johnson
*Kat Webb, ASPIRE Content Director
*Kelbe Goupil, Utah Clean Energy
*Julie Bjornstad, WFRC Long-Range Planning Deputy Director
*Mat Carlile, UDEQ Division of Air Quality Environmental Planning Consultant
*Spencer Hall, IAB Vice Chair, Torus, Head of Government Affairs
Diane Josie, UDOT Executive Assistant

*Indicates virtual participation.

The meeting began at 10:08 a.m.

1. WELCOME AND APPROVAL OF OCTOBER MEETING MINUTES - *Carlos Braceras*

Carlos welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited attendees to provide self-introductions.

Jay Fox motioned to approve the minutes. Gary Straker seconded. All Committee members voted in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

2. LEGISLATIVE SESSION OVERVIEW – *Lyle McMillan*

Lyle reviewed several bills from the recent legislative session related to electrified transportation.

3. UPCOMING PRIORITIES – *James Campbell*

- Annual Report

James said the annual report is due August 1st. They will try to get the draft to the committee by the end of May. Feedback to be returned by mid-June.

He mentioned the Building Utah Conference scheduled for April 13-14 in Richfield.

He mentioned the Critical Minerals Workshop which is being held August - September at USU campuses throughout the state.

4. UTAH PROGRAM OVERVIEW – *James Campbell*

- Industry Advisory Board (IAB)

New Chair: Gary Straker

Gary introduced himself and spoke about Power Innovations International (Pii), two years ago they brought him in to take over. Pii is the only manufacturer of EV equipment in the state. They employ 90 people. He said a student cohort from ASPIRE will be visiting the PII facility in June.

New IAB Members

Spencer Hall - Vice Chair, Torus

Spencer introduced himself and spoke about Torus. He does Government affairs work at Torus. They're working on some of the distributive energy storage.

Aaron Organ - UVU

Jordan Buckley - Young Toyota Automotive

Jake Barker - RMP

- Case Studies

James said they are doing some analysis and case studies. He presented a list of case studies ASPIRE is currently working on and recapped the activities.

Sector

Light Duty Public

Transit – Bus

Transit – School Bus

Use Case

Bluff NEVI Fast Charging

UTA Bus Charging Cost Optimization

School District Charging Infrastructure Analysis

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Aviation / AAM | Charging Infrastructure Optimization |
| Heavy Duty – Vocational | Applied X (Excavation and Hauling) |
| Heavy Duty – Non-road | Inland Port |
| Mining & Off-Road | Deseret Power Mining Fleet and Ops |
| Transit – Train | Battery Electric Train |

He provided more details regarding installing chargers in Bluff. The energy isn't available and the Bluff substation cannot support the installation. An upgrade cost is in the millions.

Lyle talked about some of the current issues with the regulations on the NEVI program. He said about half of the states have managed to obligate funding under the previous regulations. Utah is one of the states, and it will be a \$35M program spread over the next couple of years.

James discussed the supply chain and critical minerals. He said they are creating a special group to address this issue. The group will meet and draft a white paper focused on critical minerals related to electrification and the State of Utah. They will present the results throughout the state in workshops in August-September.

5. COMMITTEE UPDATES – *Carlos Bracer*

- State Agency Updates

Division of Air Quality

Bryce introduced his team from the Division of Environmental Quality. Bekah Ashley is a grant program manager at DEQ. She shared an update on the funding that DEQ has available.

Over \$240M for vehicle incentive programs. \$212M is dedicated to electric vehicles and more than 94% is dedicated to replacement of heavy-duty vehicles. She presented an overview of the heavy-duty incentive programs. Fleets are asked to submit a pre-application form and DEQ will find the best program for the applicant. The programs are focused on the fleet owner regardless of the manufacturer.

Go to the website at cleanfleet.utah.gov to see the programs. Bekah is at rashley@utah.gov

Bryce thanked his team and the great work they did.

UTA

Jay said they had no updates.

WFRC

Andrew said over the past year with the uncertainty around electrification, it's heartening to see progress on this effort.

2034 Olympics

Carlos mentioned that we have a 2034 Olympic Transportation Working Group that has been meeting. He's going to form a small working group to create a vision for what we want transportation to look like in 2034. James will work on the subgroup. We want Utah to be the most advanced transportation system in the world.

6. ASPIRE PROGRAM UPDATES – *Regan Zane*

July 2026 Council of State Governments will be in Salt Lake City. ASPIRE has been selected to host a tour at the Inland Port to showcase the charging and vehicles. James will provide info to share with the Committee.

7. OTHER ITEMS/ADJOURN - *Carlos Braceras*

- Next meeting(s)

Carlos assigned the Committee to take their time to review and provide comments on the draft annual report. It's the Committee's responsibility to take the time to review it. The focus of the next meeting will be the annual report.

He also reminded the Committee that if we want to implement something and it needs funding, we need to know that in August so it can be included in the Governor's budget.

The meeting adjourned at 3:17 p.m.