

MINUTES

FIVE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING February 11, 2015 - 1:30 p.m. 30 West 300 North Beaver, Utah

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Commissioner Dale Brinkerhoff, Chair
Commissioner Mike Dalton, Vice-Chair
Mayor Dutch Deutschlander for
Mayor Connie Robinson
Mayor Nolan Davis
Carolyn White
Commissioner Dell LeFevre
Mayor Jerry Taylor
Ken Platt
Commissioner Jim Matson
Mayor Robert Houston
Commissioner Victor Iverson
LaRene Cox
Mike Olson for Frank Lojko

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Bill Swadley
Bette Arial
Gary Webster
Lisa Taylor
Rick Dustin
Jake Hardman
Don Willie
Craig Wright
Keven Whicker
Bryan Thiriot
Allison McCoy
Gary Zabriskie
Diane Lamoreaux

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Becki Bronson, Excused
Wendy Allan
Donna Law

REPRESENTING

Iron County Commissioner Representative
Beaver County Commissioner Representative
Iron County Mayor Representative

Beaver County Mayor Representative
Beaver County Schools Representative
Garfield County Commissioner Representative
Garfield County Mayor Representative
Garfield County Schools Representative
Kane County Commissioner Representative
Kane County Mayor Representative
Washington Co. Commissioner Representative
Washington County Schools Representative
Dixie State University

Senator Hatch's St. George Office
Senator Lee's St. George Office
Congressman Stewart's St. George Office
Congressman Stewart's St. George Office
Dixie National Forest
Governor's Office of Economic Development
World Trade Center Utah
Beaver City
Beaver County
Five County Association of Governments
Five County Association of Governments
Five County Association of Governments
Five County Association of Governments

Iron County Schools Representative
Kane County Schools Representative
Southern Utah University

Commissioner Mike Dalton, Vice-Chair, welcomed everyone in attendance. Those asking to be excused include Ms. Becki Bronson, Iron County Schools Representative. Mayor Dutch Deutschlander was representing Mayor Connie Robinson, Iron County Mayor Representative.

Commissioner Mike Dalton led the group in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

I. MINUTES JANUARY 14, 2015 - REVIEW AND APPROVE

Commissioner Mike Dalton, Vice-Chair, indicated that a quorum was present for conduct of business and presented minutes of the January 14, 2015 meeting for discussion and consideration of approval. Ms. Lamoreaux indicated that several minor corrections were provided by Mr. Bill Swadley and some typos were also corrected.

MOTION WAS MADE BY MS. CAROLYN WHITE, SECONDED BY MAYOR JERRY TAYLOR, TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 14, 2015 MEETING INCLUDING NOTED MINOR CORRECTIONS. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

II. STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

A. & B. MAYOR & SCHOOL BOARD REPRESENTATIVES - INTRODUCTION

Mayors and School Board representatives provided introductions along with the entire group present.

C. CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR - IRON COUNTY

Commissioner Mike Dalton indicated that the chair responsibilities rotate to Iron County for the upcoming year.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER DELL LEFEVRE, SECONDED BY MAYOR NOLAN DAVIS, TO ELECT COMMISSIONER DALE BRINKERHOFF TO SERVE IN THE CAPACITY OF CHAIR FOR THE UPCOMING YEAR. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

It was noted that a Vice-Chair would also need to be elected.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER DELL LEFEVRE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DALE BRINKERHOFF, TO ELECT COMMISSIONER MIKE DALTON TO SERVE AS VICE-CHAIR. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

III. PERMANENT COMMUNITY IMPACT FUND BOARD (PCIFB) - PUBLIC HEARING

Commissioner Brinkerhoff, Chair, entertained a motion to enter into the public hearing to discuss a Five County Association of Governments application to PCIFB.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER MIKE DALTON TO MOVE INTO THE PUBLIC HEARING TO DISCUSS A FIVE COUNTY AOG APPLICATION TO THE PERMANENT COMMUNITY IMPACT FUND BOARD.

Mr. Gary Zabriskie outlined the purpose of the public hearing and noted that funding from PCIFB can be provided in the form of a grant, loan, and/or combination loan/grant. Loans can be interest bearing or non-interest bearing at the recommendation and approval of the Board. Five County AOG staff submitted an application to the PCIFB by the February 2nd deadline on behalf of each of the five counties to request funding in the amount of \$250,000 for the purpose of completing county resource management plans. This is a statewide

effort that is being introduced during this legislative session. Planning funds are available in the form of a grant from CIB, but these applications require a 50% match amount. It is anticipated that match funding in the amount of \$50,000 for each of the 29 counties in the state will be provided in the state's budget. This effort will assist with public lands management efforts and provide consistency in plans throughout the state.

Commissioner Jim Matson explained that under FLPMA, NPA and NEPA rules federal government agencies are required to coordinate local plans with federal plans to assure consistency. All county resource management plans need to be updated to included lands that should be preserved, protected, etc. If there are no plans available to examine for consistency, then the federal government can proceed as they like with their planning efforts. It is proposed that a consultant would be hired through a process utilizing the AOG procurement. The consultant would work with each of the five counties in development and updating their respective Resource Management Plans. It was noted that the application will not move forward if the legislature does not provide funding as anticipated. Commissioner Matson mentioned that this is a huge opportunity for counties. Kane County has zoned all public and private lands within their county boundaries. Federal officials will have to get used to this concept. Counties have been able to participate as cooperating agencies, but this will provide a much better process for coordination. If counties have adopted resource management plans, federal officials must consider these plans at the table. Differences in plans would be elevated to the Secretary of the Interior level. Commissioner Victor Iverson reported that Washington County recently assigned a staff person to coordinate with Kane County. Mr. Zabriskie indicated that the Association of Governments role will be to pull this process together. The AOG does not have technical expertise in areas such as range management, geologic experts, etc. to write these plans. However, it is important that counties work together to hire one consultant for this project. Senator Ralph Okerlund is sponsoring the bill on the Senate side and Representative Keven Stratton will run the bill through the House. Mr. Bryan Thiriot indicated that the bills are not numbered at this time. He announced that Friday is Rural Legislative Day. AOG staff will be following these legislative bills as they move forward.

Commissioner Mike Dalton mentioned that some type of legislation was mentioned that would provide funding for county surveyors to relocate survey markers. Mr. Zabriskie indicated that this is a separate bill, but it would also provide \$50,000 per county for this effort.

Commissioner Dale Brinkerhoff, Chair, noted no other comments and declared the public hearing closed.

IV. HUMAN SERVICES COUNCIL

A. SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT - FY 2015 APPROPRIATION REVISION

Mr. Clint Cottam explained that the Human Services Council met earlier today to approve allocation of additional FY 2015 Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) roll over funding. The SSBG funds are provided from the federal Department of Health and Human Services through the State of Utah Human Services Department to help move individuals toward self-sufficiency. These funds are typically to help with drug addiction, low-income seniors, senior transportation, domestic violence, youth, etc. The Human Services Council recommendation for allocation of FY 2015 rollover

funding in the amount of \$14,000 is as follows: **1) New Frontiers for Families, \$5,000--** For after school programs and education in all five counties; **2) Special Services for Youth, \$3,000--** To assist with youth at-risk and/or those involved in criminal activity. Funds will be used for the Iron and Washington Counties Youth Court programs and the Foster Grandparent program to mentor and tutor at-risk youth; **3) Home Based Services, \$2,000--** For use in the Senior Companion program; **4) Rapid Re-Housing, \$4,000--** To be utilized by the Canyon Creek Women's Crisis Center and the Dove Center to assist with domestic violence victims.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER JIM MATSON, SECONDED BY MAYOR NOLAN DAVIS, TO APPROVE THE HUMAN SERVICES COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION FOR ALLOCATION OF FY 2015 SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT ROLL OVER FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$14,000 AS OUTLINED ABOVE. MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

V. WORLD TRADE CENTER UTAH - SOUTHERN UTAH INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS FORUM

Mr. Don Willie, World Trade Center Utah, provided background information about the number of World Trade Centers across the nation and numerous chapters that provide service for the international export business. One of their goals is to help businesses think globally to tap into markets outside of the country as a means to grow their business opportunities. A new rural outreach program has been created through the assistance of the Department of Workforce Services. World Trade Center Utah also works with a number of other organizations such as the Chamber of Commerce and Small Business Development Centers throughout the state. Utah ranks #3 in the nation for exports, even though there is not a port available for shipping. Governor Herbert's vision is for Utah companies to share their products and services globally. At this point, approximately 99% of exports from Utah are coming from companies along the Wasatch Front. It is anticipated that businesses in Southern Utah have an opportunity to tap into the export market. The World Trade Center Utah has many partners throughout the world that can be utilized to direct the entry of businesses into the international market.

Mr. Willie provided information outlining a Southern Utah International Business Forum scheduled for February 26, 2015 from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Dixie State University. The event features a keynote speaker and a robust business roundtable to help companies think, act and succeed globally. These business forums are also scheduled in other locations throughout the state of Utah. This provides a great opportunity for businesses to connect with resources that are available. An e-mail was forwarded to Board members to provide easy registration for this forum. A workshop was recently held in Vernal with a number of mayors and commissioners in attendance. Mr. Willie invited Board members to attend the Southern Utah forum.

A card was also provided that presents the World Trade Center Utah mission and four business objectives. The back of this card contains 10 tips to help businesses think, act and succeed globally.

VI. REVOLVING LOAN FUND ADMINISTRATION BOARD APPOINTMENT

Mr. Gary Zabriskie reported that information has been received from the Economic Development Administration that the Revolving Loan Fund Plan needs to be completed, including applicable amendments, within the next 90 days. A board consisting of nine members is in place to assist with loan approval and administration of the program. He explained that this agenda item was deferred during the January meeting. Membership of the RLF Board includes one elected official from the Steering Committee. The Chairman of the Steering Committee typically serves as the Five County AOG representative. Mr. Zabriskie noted that Commissioner Brinkerhoff has expressed his willingness and desire to serve as a representative on the RLF Board.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER JIM MATSON, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER VICTOR IVERSON, TO APPOINT COMMISSIONER DALE BRINKERHOFF AS THE FIVE COUNTY AOG REPRESENTATIVE ON THE REVOLVING LOAN FUND ADMINISTRATION BOARD TO COINCIDE WITH HIS APPOINTMENT AS CHAIRMAN OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE. MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Mr. Zabriskie reported that two other positions on the Board will be forwarded to the Steering Committee for approval within the next few months. Those include a representative from the Department of Workforce Services and a representing the Chambers of Commerce. Notification was received this week that Scott Jolley, Cedar City Chamber of Commerce, who serves on the Board has accepted employment with Upper Limits Aviation. Staff will be seeking nominations from the Chambers of Commerce to fill this vacancy on the Board. The Department of Workforce Services is in the process of reorganizing regional management staff, and an appointment for this Board from DWS will be provided once this process is accomplished.

VII. DIXIE NATIONAL FOREST - SUSTAINABLE RECREATION OUTREACH

Mr. Rick Dustin, Dixie National Forest, explained that the purpose of meeting with the Steering Committee is to engage in a conversation about recreation on the Dixie National Forest and it's relationship to communities. The DNF is seeking input from communities and partners to help develop their recreation strategy. A copy of the Dixie National Forest Visitor Guide publication was provided. Information will be gathered in terms of recreation on the Dixie National Forest from a set of questions that will be provided to those in attendance. Information provided will be analyzed by forest service staff and another meeting will be scheduled in September/October with the Steering Committee to discuss the input that was provided. DNF is interested in sustaining communities and examining things that can be accomplished through partnerships with communities. He shared an example of assistance provided by the Pine Valley Dinner Club stepping forward with some funding which resulted in construction of restrooms at the Pine Valley History Center. The community viewed this as something important and the Forest Service was able to partner in funding this project. Projects that benefit communities could also be favorable to the Forest Service in terms of improving recreational experiences.

The Dixie National Forest hosts 1 million visitors annually, of which 25% are from outside the U.S., 35% travel 100 miles or less, and 40% travel 350 miles. Over 400,000 visitors

stay in DNF campgrounds. The Forest Service is trying to build connections between what they provide and what communities are trying to provide. Visitor responses provided to the DNF include activities such as viewing outstanding scenery, driving for pleasure on Scenic Byways, wildlife viewing, etc. A majority of visitors are staying at least two days. Visitor surveys indicate that most are satisfied with restrooms being clean and adequate, some desire more trip planning, more interpretive sites, and more education. The Forest Service is interested in collaboration in terms of ways to educate the public. The questions provided today are pretty broad in scope. The goal is to deliver recreation to the public in the best fashion with the limited resources which are available. Budgets have decreased 30% over the past six years, which has made it more difficult to deliver recreational opportunities. The forest wide recreation strategy will include a vision, goals and actions to assist in addressing increasing recreation demands while integrating the recreation program with other resource program areas.

There are currently 180 developed recreation sites, trail heads, restrooms, campgrounds, etc. on the Dixie National Forest. Contact information for Mr. Dustin is contained on page 16 of the packet. Mr. Dustin explained that it is difficult for the Forest Service to maintain the current facilities because of budget cuts. The Forest Service realizes that they are not meeting the demand for group camping opportunities, but their budget for capital improvement projects has been eliminated by Congress. It is important to partner and brainstorm ideas that can expand opportunities on the DNF. For example, the Oak Grove Campground water source is bad, but it would cost approximately \$200,000 for a new water system at this site. This is a beautiful area that is utilized from early spring to late fall. There are also egress problems in the fire season and no clear route for escape when a fire occurs. In addition, there also needs to be a long term vegetation plan for this area. The lack of maintenance funding has forced less access to Oak Grove. Commissioner Victor Iverson pointed out that when large amounts of land access is restricted then visitors have to be pushed into a few areas. Commissioner Jim Matson commented that the DNF is at a crossroads with the need for recreation. The DNF needs to care for the land, and at the same time serve the public.

Mr. Dustin asked that members provide responses to the questions provided today to Bryan Thiriot by August. The DNF strategy will cover the next five year period. He encouraged everyone to participate in providing input into this important process. Mr. Dustin will coordinate with Bryan on future meetings with the Steering Committee.

VIII. STATE AGENCY UPDATES

A. GOVERNORS OFFICE

Mr. Jake Hardman reported that Friday is Rural Day at the Legislature. Over 300 people have indicated that they will attend this event. A number of Senators and representatives will participate in the luncheon that day to facilitate questions. Linda Gillmore has been selected as the new rural director to replace Duane Fields. Her official title is Associate Director of Urban and Rural Services. Ms. Gillmore will provide a voice for Rural Utah with participation in upper management meetings.

Mr. Hardman indicated that the Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED) is working on some legislative changes to Enterprise Zones as well as the Rural Fast Track program. They are also working to replenish funding to the

Industrial Assistance Fund during this legislative session. This is very important funding for the business resource centers in providing service to businesses in rural Utah. Another item of importance is funding directed to tourism for in-state promotion. Legislation currently prohibits the use of tourism dollars for marketing in-state. Staff is also working to obtain funding for county strategic planning efforts.

B. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

None.

C. DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE SERVICES (DWS)

None.

IX. SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY AND DIXIE STATE UNIVERSITY UPDATES

Mr. Mike Olson, Dixie State University, reported that the DSU strategic planning process is moving forward with the second town hall meeting held last night. The third meeting is scheduled to occur in March, and it is anticipated that the strategic plan will be completed in June 2015. Additional information regarding this process is posted on the DSU website. Dixie State University is striving to help students complete their college degrees. A bachelors degree in Chemistry has been added at DSU as well as a Dance and Individualized Studies degree. DSU is now offering a total of 139 programs and 57 degrees, 39 of which are bachelor degrees. The university also provides 13 certification programs and 22 minors. Mr. Olson reported that DSU has been selected to participate in a pilot program with the Center for Adult Learning Education (CALE). This will allow students to utilize experience in a specific field to receive credit for a particular class.

X. CONGRESSIONAL STAFF UPDATES

Mr. Bill Swadley, Senator Hatch's Office, reported that Senator Hatch has introduced legislation (S.365) to protect and preserve livestock grazing on Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. This is an ambitious bill that would require the Bureau of Land Management to improve rangeland conditions for wildlife and carrying capacity for livestock grazing. The bill would also restore grazing to the level of usage in those areas that existed when the Monument was created. Representative Chris Stewart has introduced this legislation in the House and Senator Mike Lee has co-sponsored the Senate bill. Mr. Swadley mentioned that the Keystone Pipeline legislation, which Senator Hatch supported, was passed by the Senate. The House of Representatives is now addressing the Senate version of this legislation, but President Obama has threatened to veto any legislation in this regard.

Ms. Bette Arial, Senator Lee's Office, reported that Senator Lee has been delivering speeches, making videos, recordings and appearances to spread his governmental philosophies. She shared a quote from Senator Lee regarding the need for change of how executive orders and regulatory decisions are being made without Congressional input and action. The Senator is gathering bipartisan support of a sportsman act to enhance opportunities for hunters, anglers, outdoor recreation enthusiasts, etc. to improve access to public lands and boost the recreation economy. Ms. Arial reviewed several other pieces

of legislation that Senator Lee is working to achieve including resistance of the Lynch nomination, a balanced budget amendment, calling for a stop of ISIS, abolishment of the Supreme Court Filibuster, a bill directing the Secretary of Interior to sell certain federal lands in several states that were previously identified as suitable for disposal, appeal of the Affordable Care Act, etc.

Commissioner Victor Iverson commented that the wildland fire bill needs to be reintroduced. Commissioner Dale Brinkerhoff mentioned the Dan Love case and his removal from office needs to move forward. Ms. Ariel reported that Senator Lee has written letters, conducted meetings to address this issue and the situation has been communicated.

Mr. Gary Webster, Congressman Stewart's Office, reported that Congressman Stewart has introduced the GSENM Grazing Protection Act with hopes that this will move forward quickly. The House will vote today on the Senate version of the Keystone XL Pipeline legislation. Representative Stewart voted again last week to repeal Obamacare. The Department of Homeland Security is another serious concern in terms of dealing with executive amnesty. The continuing resolution for this piece of legislation expires at the end of this month. The House is being asked to soften language on executive amnesty, but Congressman Stewart will vote against any softening in this regard.

At the end of January, meetings were held with some wild horse advocacy groups in Washington, D.C. However, these groups do not see what is occurring with dozens and dozens of these horses on private land. This is a serious concern that needs to be addressed. Work is continuing with these advocacy groups and environmental groups to gather information that will assist in the drafting of smarter legislation.

Mr. Webster reported that last week Neal Kornze, BLM Director, and Dan Ash, Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, were in Congressman Stewart's office to specifically address the Alton Coal Mine Expansion Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Staff pressed the issue over and over of why the BLM was not willing to publish the draft EIS for public comment. The response was that the Utah Sage Grouse Plan was not ready and the supplemental draft was not in compliance with the still incomplete Sage Grouse Plan. This is despite the fact that the Sage Grouse Plan and the supplemental draft were both reviewed by Juan Palma, State BLM Director. The directors were asked to figure this out and were told that questions would be asked in the future about these documents, especially when they come to justify their budgets.

XI. LOCAL AFFAIRS

A. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

B. OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL

Commissioner Dale Brinkerhoff recommended deferral of this agenda item to the Finance Committee for further discussion on the validity of this out-of-state travel authorization for MSH staff, the ongoing value of the Mutual Self-Help program, and Five County AOG out-of-state travel authorizations in general.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER MIKE DALTON TO TABLE THIS AGENDA ITEM AND TO ADVANCE THE OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION REQUEST TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DELL LEFEVRE AND CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

C. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

XII. AREAWIDE CLEARINGHOUSE REVIEWS

Mr. Gary Zabriskie reviewed one A-95 review contained in packet and one late arrival as follows: 1) **State Trust Lands Administration, Right of Entry 6142 & 6143 - Parker Mountain and Big Water Seismic Survey**-- This action would permit a 2D seismic survey on the Parker Mountain block and the Big Water blocks. The Garfield and Kane County Commissions are supportive of this survey; and 2) **State Trust Lands Administration, Kanab Creek Pipeline, Seeding - Range Improvement Project # 589**-- A grazing permittee proposes to install a 0.5 mile pipeline, one water trough, and 50 acre seeding. The Kane County Commission was contacted and is supportive of this project.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER JIM MATSON, SECONDED BY MR. KEN PLATT, TO APPROVE THE A-95 REVIEWS, INCLUDING THE LATE ARRIVAL, WITH SUPPORTIVE STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS. MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 11, 2015 in Kanab at the Kane County Emergency Services Training Facility beginning at 1:00 p.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER DELL LEFEVRE. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MAYOR JERRY TAYLOR AND CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

The meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.