

MINUTES

**FIVE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
August 12, 2015 - 2:00 p.m.
Garfield County Courthouse, Upstairs Conference Room
55 South Main Street, Panguitch, Utah**

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Commissioner Dale Brinkerhoff, Chair
Becki Bronson
Commissioner Mike Dalton, Vice-Chair
Mayor Nolan Davis
Carolyn White
Commissioner Leland Pollock for
Commissioner Dell LeFevre
Mayor Jerry Taylor
Ken Platt
Commissioner Jim Matson
Mayor Robert Houston
Mike Olson for Frank Lojko

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Bette Arial
Bill Swadley
Gary Webster
David Busk
Shelley Esplin
Jake Hardman
Bryan Thiriot
Allison McCoy
Gary Zabriskie
Clint Cottam
Diane Lamoreaux

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Mayor Connie Robinson
Wendy Allan
Commissioner Victor Iverson, Excused
LaRene Cox, Excused
Mayor Tracy Dutson
Donna Law

REPRESENTING

Iron County Commissioner Representative
Iron County Schools Representative
Beaver County Commissioner 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
Dixie State University

Senator Lee's Office
Senator Hatch's Office
Congressman Stewart's Office
Department of Workforce Services
Department of Workforce Services
Governor's Office of Economic Development
Five County Association of Governments
Five County Association of Governments

Iron County Mayor Representative
Kane County Schools Representative
Washington Co. Commissioner Representative
Washington Co. Schools Representative
Washington Co. Mayor Representative
Southern Utah University

Commissioner Dale Brinkerhoff, Chair, welcomed everyone in attendance. Those asking to be excused include Ms. LaRene Cox, Washington County Schools Representative and Commissioner Victor Iverson, Washington County Commissioner Representative. Commissioner Leland Pollock was representing Commissioner Dell LeFevre, Garfield County Commissioner Representative, and Mike Olson was representing Frank Lojko, Dixie State University Representative.

Ms. Becki Bronson led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

I. MINUTES JUNE 10, 2015 - REVIEW AND APPROVE

Commissioner Dale Brinkerhoff, Chair, indicated that a quorum was present for conduct of business and presented minutes of the June 10, 2015 meeting for discussion and consideration of approval.

MOTION WAS MADE BY MAYOR ROBERT HOUSTON, SECONDED BY MS. CAROLYN WHITE, TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 10, 2015 MEETING AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

II. FINANCE COMMITTEE ACTIONS - MAY 13, 2015; JULY 1, 2015 & AUGUST 12, 2015

Mr. Bryan Thriot explained that actions of the May 13, 2015 Finance Committee would need to be ratified because this item was not covered during the June 10, 2015 Steering Committee meeting. He reviewed actions as follows: **1) Fringe Benefit Package--** Approval of rate for Social Security Match on Gross Salaries, Utah State Retirement on Gross Salaries remains consistent for contributory system, non-contributory system and Tier 2 non-contributory systems, Workers Compensation rate increased slightly, Unemployment Insurance rate with a slight decrease from last year, Salary Deferral Program, Holidays, Sick and Vacation Leave; **2) FY 2016 Indirect Cost Allocation Plan--** The FY 2016 Indirect Cost Allocation Plan was approved at 13.47% as calculated based on a mathematical formula utilizing the AOG's previous fiscal year audit; **3) Pay for Performance System Implementation--** Approval was provided to replace the current merit structure at the AOG with a promotion within a grade and/or promotion to a new grade system and an incentive award implementation to be considered on a case-by-case basis upon vetting of the department head, deputy directors and executive director. The Executive Director will present recommendations to the Finance Committee for formal action; **4) County Participation--** County financial participation was approved at \$15,000 for FY 2016; **5) Rural Foster Grandparent Program--** Approval was granted to continue the Rural Foster Grandparent Program through September 30, 2015, providing that there are no financial ramifications to the Five County AOG, and with the understanding that if a new sponsor becomes available sooner the grant would be relinquished prior to September 30, 2015 date; **6) Out-of-State Travel--** Approval for Amy Brinkerhoff to attend the CMS National Training Program Workshop scheduled for August 24-25, 2015 in Garden Grove, California. Reimbursement up to \$1,500 will be provided by the State Division of Aging and Adult Services to Five County to cover flight, hotel, per diem and mileage; and **7) A-95 Review--** On July 1, 2015, the Finance Committee approved a SITLA review of a wind farm located north of Anderson Junction in Toquerville, contingent upon applicant's compliance with local land use ordinances and processes.

Mr. Bryan Thriot reviewed Finance Committee actions for the August 12, 2015 meeting as follows: **1) Community Development Block Grant Program--** Approval of regional priorities for inclusion in the FY 2016 CDBG Rating and Ranking Criteria.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER JIM MATSON, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MIKE DALTON, TO RATIFY FINANCE COMMITTEE ACTIONS FOR THE MAY 13, 2015, JULY 1, 2015 AND AUGUST 12, 2015 MEETINGS AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

III. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM - FY 2016 RATING AND RANKING CRITERIA APPROVAL

Ms. Diane Lamoreaux explained that the Rating and Ranking Criteria for the CDBG program is reviewed on an annual basis by CED staff to determine if things need to be tweaked for the upcoming application cycle. Copies of the previous year's CDBG Rating and Ranking Criteria were mailed to jurisdictions in the Five County Region on May 28, 2015 and no comments and/or suggestions were received. The state CDBG Policy Committee mandates eight specific criteria that must be included in each AOG's rating and ranking criteria. Mayor Jerry Taylor represents the Five County AOG and also serves as chair of this committee. Mandated criteria include: **1) Capacity to Carry out the Grant--** State of Utah staff rates the applicant's capacity based on past performance; **2) Job Creation--** Projects that create or retain jobs are given additional consideration; **3) Housing Stock--** Projects which expand or improve the community's housing stock, based on the number of units; **4) Affordable Housing Plan--** Applicants are required to address problems associated with the availability of affordable housing to receive extra points; **5) Extent of Poverty--** Applicants are awarded extra points based on the percentage of low income and very low-income persons benefitting either from the project or carried out in a low-income community. Communities are required to conduct low-to-moderate income surveys to determine eligibility for the CDBG program; **6) Financial Commitment to Community Development--** Additional points are required for those communities that show commitment based on criteria selected by the AOG. Five County has broken this criteria down by utilizing the population of communities. Larger sized communities typically have the ability to generate larger amounts of revenue and are required to commit a larger percentage of match funds toward a project; **7) Project Maturity--** Each application must contain a detailed scope of work that contains a narrative description and a detailed engineer's cost estimate. Ms. Lamoreaux reported that the cost estimate submitted for two recent CDBG projects were very low and all bids came in over the cost estimate. These projects have been scaled back in order to move forward. This will likely result in those applicants submitting a subsequent application for additional work on these facilities; and **8) Planning--** The state of Utah emphasizes the importance of incorporating planning in the operation of city government. Accomplishments consistent to these principles are recognized with additional points. Each of the abovementioned criteria have been incorporated into the Five County AOG Rating and Ranking Criteria. Regional priorities were reviewed and approved by the Finance Committee as mentioned under the previous agenda item. Ms. Lamoreaux reviewed regional priorities approved earlier today by the Finance Committee for FY 2016 as follows: 1) Public Safety Activities; 2) LMI Housing Activities; 3) Community Facilities; 3) Public Utility Infrastructure; 4) Projects to Remove Architectural Barriers and 5) Parks and Recreation.

Ms. Lamoreaux explained that each AOG's rating and ranking must outline pre-approved funding. This allows potential applicants the opportunity of knowing the exact amount of funding committed for the upcoming funding cycle. Pre-approved funding for FY 2016 includes \$90,000 to Five County AOG for program administration, consolidated plan update, RLF program delivery and housing planning. In addition, LaVerkin City will receive \$100,000 for the second year of a multi-year project. The state of Utah allocated an extra \$8,847 to the Milford City project. Milford City, on behalf of the Beaver Housing Authority, will receive \$63,599 for the remaining balance of their multi-year project. This funding is outlined in the criteria as well as in the general policies.

Ms. Lamoreaux reviewed rating and ranking criteria modifications as follows: **1) Criteria #5-D, Financial Commitment**-- The wording included in the data sources sheet was modified to include beneficiaries in special service areas, but the point value was not changed; **2) Criteria #10, LMI Housing Stock**-- The wording was changed slightly to reflect the use of CDBG funds for infrastructure for housing units, rehabilitation of units and/or accessibility of units for LMI residents and the number of units was changed to read 1-2 units. The point value was not changed; **3) Criteria #15**-- Wording was included outlining low income as 50% and very low income as 30% of the area median income. This is tabulated for communities utilizing their low-to-moderate income surveys that must be certified by state of Utah CDBG staff; **4) Criteria 17, 18, and 19**-- The worksheet numbers were changed to match criteria numbers; and **5) General Policies**-- The wording on #16 for policy regarding funding of housing related projects was modified slightly to reflect rehabilitation of rental housing managed by a public housing authority. It was noted that Five County AOG no longer administers the HOME program and funding for this purpose needs to flow through a public housing authority. The state CDBG staff has received direction from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) that CDBG funds cannot be utilized for construction of multi-family housing. CDBG funds can however be utilized for rehabilitation of rental units managed by a housing authority or to provide infrastructure development for a multi-family housing projects. The scope of work for recent allocations to the Cedar City Housing Authority and Beaver Housing Authority have been modified to comply with HUD regulations.

Acknowledging no comments or questions, Chairman Brinkerhoff entertained a motion to approve the FY 2016 CDBG Rating and Ranking Criteria.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER MIKE DALTON, SECONDED BY MAYOR NOLAN DAVIS, TO APPROVE THE FY 2016 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) RATING AND RANKING CRITERIA AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

IV. HUMAN SERVICES COUNCIL

A. COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (CSBG) - FY 2016 FUNDING ALLOCATION RATIFICATION

Mr. Clint Cottam recapped the composition of the Human Services Council which includes county commissioners, low-income representatives and members of the community at large. He reported that the Human Services Council met on July 8, 2015 to discuss and allocate Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) funding for FY 2016. This funding is provided through the Department of Workforce Services with the main objective of empowering low-income individuals to become self-sufficient. Requests were solicited for those agencies interested in making application for CSBG funding.

Mr. Cottam outlined funding recommendations of the Human Services Council as follows: **1) Beaver County Food Network**-- A total of \$18,000 was awarded, an increase of \$5,000 due to come confusion on the Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) funding; **2) Dove Center**-- A total of \$6,000 was approved which is about the same amount as last year's allocation; **3) Garfield County Care & Share**-- A total of \$15,000 was awarded to meet increased needs in Garfield County; **4) Iron**

County Care & Share-- An increase to \$17,500 was provided to permit the use of CSBG funds as match for a Continuum of Care Permanent Supportive Housing grant. Mr. Cottam explained that CSBG funds are one of a few federal funds that can be utilized to match other federal funding; **5) Kane County Care & Share--** A \$15,000 allocation was approved; and **6) New Frontiers for Families--** Awarded \$9,000 to provide services in Beaver, Garfield and Kane counties. A total of \$80,500 was approved for allocation to sub-grantees.

Ms. Becky Bronson asked for a definition of permanent supportive housing. Mr. Cottam explained that homeless clients coming out of a shelter are typically housed in permanent supportive housing units where case management services are available. The majority of these individuals have mental health issues which require more intensive case management.

Mr. Cottam reviewed funding recommendations for the Five County CAP for salary, wages, fringe benefits, travel, space costs, consumable supplies, communications, and equipment. He noted a slight decrease in salaries and wages, an increase in fringe benefits, a major decrease in travel, a decrease in consumable supplies, and a slight decrease in equipment. Decreases in various areas were initiated to offset the increase in fringe benefits. Total allocation to the Five County CAP is \$165,917. It was noted that fringe benefits include FICA tax, health insurance, retirement, workers compensation, unemployment insurance, etc. Funding recommendations for Unclassified Other include increased funding for direct client services in Beaver, Garfield and Kane counties to \$2,000 per county to help with flexible gas vouchers as an employment support. Funding decreased to Iron County Care & Share for direct client services because additional funding was provided to match the Permanent Supportive Housing grant. Funding to Washington County for direct client services also decreased because a lot of Five County staff case management is spent serving clients in Washington County.

The Human Services Council approved an emergency discretionary response fund in the amount of \$6,120 which would also receive any increased funding that may be made available in the contract with the state of Utah. The Human Services Council will have direct involvement in allocation of these emergency discretionary response funds. Because the Dixie Care & Share closed it's doors, there may be a need to allocate some funding to cover operational costs for a food pantry in the Hurricane area. Switchpoint Community Resource Center did not apply for funds but requested that additional supports be considered for a pantry in Hurricane. Total allocation of Unclassified Other is \$47,520. The total recommended allocation for FY 2016 CSBG funding is \$292,937. It was pointed out that the amount of funding requested by the Iron County Care and Share in the table provided on page 24 of the packet was in error.

Chairman Brinkerhoff complimented Mr. Cottam on the excellent job that he is doing in operation of the Five County Community Action Programs (CAP). He entertained a motion to ratify the Human Services Council recommendation for FY 2016 Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) funding.

MOTION WAS MADE BY MAYOR NOLAN DAVIS, SECONDED BY MAYOR JERRY TAYLOR, TO APPROVE THE HUMAN SERVICES COUNCIL

RECOMMENDATION FOR THE FY 2016 COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (CSBG) FUND ALLOCATION. MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

V. STATE AGENCY REPORTS

A. GOVERNORS OFFICE

Mr. Jake Hardman, Governor's Office of Economic Development, provided updated information regarding Enterprise Zone tax incentives for counties and cities that are designated for a five year period. He reported that designations for Beaver County, Milford and Minersville have all expired. Staff is working with Scott Albrecht to update these designations. Designations for Garfield County and Tropic have also expired. Iron County has never had an enterprise zone designation and staff would like to work toward a designation. The designation for Parowan City has expired. The Kane County enterprise zone designation is up-to-date and Washington County is not eligible for designation. Enterprise zones are only applicable for counties with 50,000 or less population.

Mr. Hardman reported that the Business Expansion and Retention (BEAR) program is moving through the contract process for the upcoming year. Some changes have been implemented in conjunction with this program, including the designation of a county BEAR team that will be utilized to provide input into county and community problems and/or issues that arise with businesses. Costs associated with these meetings would be paid through the BEAR program. It is intended that through discussion solutions would be developed. These teams are encouraged to meet twice a month, but at a minimum of once a month. Teams should develop 3-5 target industries to focus their efforts. There were 22 applications submitted statewide by counties and 10 had a focus on tourism. Manufacturing was the second focus and technology and retail was the third focus. This program will also continue to provide funding for seminars and conferences held in communities that address business needs.

A new program will be initiated this year called "Train the Trainer". These sessions will be provided to match up with AOG boundaries throughout the state. GOED staff proposes to invite state and federal agencies from along the Wasatch Front to locations in the Five County Region to provide one-on-one training to local businesses, cities, elected officials, chambers of commerce, etc. to better develop personal relationships with people in the area. This will enhance their knowledge of local programs and business needs. It will also help to build better relationships. These conferences will be begin over the next few months.

Mr. Hardman referenced a new network called "The Can Network". This is through the Utah Manufacturers Association. The purpose of this network is to connect larger manufacturers with smaller manufacturers throughout the state to promote their goods. A large manufacturer may have been contracting with firms outside of the United States for items that are available from smaller manufacturers within the state of Utah. The BEAR program will be able to pay for anywhere from 3-6 businesses to be partners in the program. Local businesses would have to contribute \$50.00 and the BEAR program would pick up the remaining cost of

\$300.00. It is hoped that this will create more collaboration within the state in the manufacturing community.

Under the Rural Fast Track Program, they are trying to increase the roles of local economic development directors. In order to do a Rural Fast Track grant in any county, permission from the local economic development director is required. High paying jobs is the new focus with Rural Fast Track. Every Rural Fast Track will be required to have at least one job that pays 110% of the counties average wage. The goal is to create jobs that pay a good living wage within the county. Improved tracking will also be in place to better document results of the program. This program has been very successful over the past few years. It is hoped that with better documentation some additional funding can be put in place.

B. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

None.

C. DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE SERVICES (DWS)

Mr. David Busk, DWS, highlighted local area events to reach out to employers to conduct on-site recruitment to meet their hiring needs. There have been several successful events held where job seekers are invited into the employment center to interview with potential employers. DWS is planning to conduct one on-site recruitment each month going forward. MSC Aerospace did an on-site recruitment in Cedar City and was successful in hiring some machinists. T.J. Maxx also held an on-site recruitment in Cedar City and had 260 applications received over a three day period. Approximately 40% of these applications were considered A+ definitely hire category versus 30% that were in the no way category mainly because of poor interview skills. DWS will be focusing on making the public more aware of tools that are available at the employment centers to assist in improving interview skills. This process is being successful in bringing job seekers and employers together in a positive setting.

Mr. Busk reported that the DWS executive officers are trying to visit more distant offices throughout the state to meet with community partners and share initiatives with family focus case management. The directors of Unemployment Eligibility, HCD Refugee, Workforce Development, Division of Housing and Community Development, etc. will be in the Cedar City area on September 23, 2015 at the employment center. Invitations will be provided via email to local elected officials and various partnering agencies.

Ms. Shelley Esplin, DWS, mentioned that employment opportunities with solar projects in the area are very lucrative at this time. These companies are hiring from 1200 to 1400 workers out of the Cedar City employment office. The jobs will last from 1-2 years and these companies are trying to hire local workers. The starting wage is \$14.00 per hour, and there is a lot of opportunity for employment right now. These are construction jobs only. Once the solar farms are operational, there may be approximately 38-40 permanent positions. However, these companies are installing solar farms all over the country and there is some opportunity for workers to follow the company for employment elsewhere. Mortensen Construction

interviewed approximately 140 individuals in one day at the Cedar City Employment Center, about 50 at the Beaver Employment Center, and 53 at the St. George Employment Center. Job offers for safety crews, electricians, truck drivers, etc. are now being extended to those individuals who were interviewed.

Commissioner Leland Pollock reminded attendees that the largest coal reserve on the North American continent sits on the Kaiparowits Plateau in Garfield and Kane counties and it would provide employment for people for about 900 years. However, this reserve is off limits because it is located inside the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. Garfield County recently declared a state of emergency in Escalante because of the lack of jobs in the area. It was also noted that there are a lot of people being laid off in Carbon and Emery counties because of mine closures. Commissioner Dale Brinkerhoff indicated that there are 14 solar farms on the books in Iron County totaling \$654 million dollars across 1100 private acres of land. Incentives in place will go away December 2016, and companies are scrambling to get all of their solar farms operational as soon as possible. Commissioner Mike Dalton commented that the Geothermal Plant in Beaver County applied for a 3 megawatt solar project to run their plant, and the geothermal energy will be sold to Los Angeles, California.

VI. SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY & DIXIE STATE UNIVERSITY UPDATES

Mr. Mike Olson, Dixie State University, reported that the groundbreaking for the new student dorms is scheduled for August 28, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. It is anticipated that construction will be complete for occupancy in the fall of 2016. A copy of photographs of the renderings were passed around for viewing. There are three different floor plans including private and shared rooms with a common living space for students. The students had a large amount of input into the dorm design. The addition, the Burns Arena expansion is scheduled for completion in October/November 2015. This addition will hold 60 offices including the Human Resources, Security Development and other small departments. Four new staff members were hired in the Development Office forming a new development team that includes John Bowler, Lance Brown, Lori Blackner, and Ken Beazer. Mr. Olson reported that DSU is trying to secure money for a Health Performance Building with construction slated to begin next year. Fall enrollment is up and there will be a huge push over the next few weeks to increase enrollment numbers.

VII. CONGRESSIONAL STAFF UPDATES

Ms. Bette Arial, Senator Lee's Office, reported that the Senator is working on legislation titled "The Antiquities Modernization Act" which would allow the President to designate a monument for the protection of resource, but the designation would not be permanent until it is approved by the state in which the land resides as well as Congress. This would end the top down land grabs and encourage a more open public process from the ground up. Mr. Bryan Thiriot proposed amending the language so that each state receives the same amount of acreage proposed for the monument. Mayor Jerry Taylor indicated that he would like to see language where the state and county impacted with the designation of a monument receive fair market value in terms of taxes every year on land that was taken away for a monument. This land has essentially been removed from the county and state for their use and/or development and it becomes public land. Therefore, the public should be required to pay fair market taxes to counties and states for this land.

Mr. Bill Swadley, Senator Hatch's Office, reported that the Senate is out of session this week. Senator Hatch has been working on introducing a Wild Horse bill in the Senate which would transfer the responsibility for management to the states and Indian Tribes rather than the Bureau of Land Management. The Senator has also been working on a bill to authorize a Northern transportation route in Washington County which would need approval from the BLM. The Senator also voted to de-fund Planned Parenthood but this bill did not gather enough votes to move forward. A vote is anticipated on the Iran bill when the Senate goes back into session. Some Democrats are now voicing scepticism to this legislation. A recent telephone conversation with the Regional Director of the National Park Service included discussion of the Glen Canyon Management Plan which affects multiple counties in this area. The Regional Director was encouraged to visit the area to look at the land to see what might be appropriate and realistic on the ground.

Mr. Gary Webster, Congressman Stewart's Office, reported that Congressman Stewart will be in the District working on several issues during the recess. Mr. Stewart is paying particular attention to the Federal Lands Action Group. This groups first meeting with other Representatives recently held their first forum with academia, legal, and natural resource experts. He invited members to visit Congressman Stewart's website to listen to audio of the forum and the perceptions of those participating. International travel will increase with Congressman Stewart's appointment to the Intelligence Committee. Mr. Stewart's briefings and information regarding national security issues are available on his house website.

VIII. LOCAL AFFAIRS

A. CORRESPONDENCE

Copies of correspondence from the Utah State Department of Natural Resources were provided for informational purposes regarding expansion of leases for the Alton Coal Development, LLC. This expansion includes privately owned land only.

B. OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL

Mr. Bryan Thiriot referenced information beginning on page 25 of the meeting packet requesting approval of out-of-state travel for Nancy Morrill to attend the Rosalynn Carter Institute (RCI) National Summit in Plains, Georgia scheduled October 22-23, 2015. The Summit will help improve the delivery of services to family caregivers in our communities. RCI is covering more than 50% of the cost and funding is available in the aging administrative budget to cover required expenses without impacting the service budget. Total cost to the Aging budget will be \$580.00.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER JIM MATSON, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MIKE DALTON, TO APPROVE THE OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL REQUEST FOR NANCY MORRILL AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chairman Brinkerhoff asked that a follow-up report be provided by Ms. Morrill to the Steering Committee upon return from this training.

C. REVOLVING LOAN FUND BOARD APPOINTMENT

Mr. Gary Zabriskie referenced information contained in the packet on pages 32-33 which outlines establishment of the Revolving Loan Fund, the purpose of providing supplemental gap financing to businesses in the Five County region, and capitalization of the fund. In 25 years of operation, the RLF has injected more than \$8 million into over 128 business deals, resulting in the creation of 900 jobs. Mr. Zabriskie briefly reviewed composition of the 9 member RLF Board. He reported that Mr. Scott Jolley, CEO of the Cedar City Chamber of Commerce was the chamber of commerce representative serving on the RLF Board until he left earlier this year to take a position with Upper Limit Aviation. This leaves a position on the Board open. Membership from another chamber of commerce was solicited, but that person left for other employment prior to obtaining permission from her Board to serve in this capacity. Mr. Chris McCormick, CEO of the Cedar City Chamber of Commerce, has agreed to serve in this role if approved by the Steering Committee. Staff is proposing appointment of Chris McCormick to fill this open position.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER LELAND POLLOCK, SECONDED BY MAYOR JERRY TAYLOR, TO APPOINT CHRIS MCCORMICK AS THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE REPRESENTATIVE TO THE REVOLVING LOAN FUND BOARD. MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Mr. Zabriskie reported that he is currently working with approximately five potential deals that may be presented to the RLF Board for consideration. Because this is gap financing, the banks and SBA must approve and bring deals to staff for consideration. There is a balance of approximately \$900,000 available for lending. All loans are current and the new pharmacy recently opened in Kanab. Terms for RLF loans are typically 5 to 7 percent for 5-7 years, but the term may extend longer as deemed appropriate. There is also a micro loan program available for businesses to receive up to \$25,000 and this does not require primary bank lending. However, the applicant must produce a letter indicating that a bank or credit union has rejected their loan application. Businesses in smaller counties are encouraged to call for information regarding the micro loan program.

D. OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioner Leland Pollock provided a brief update on the state of emergency declared in Garfield County. The Garfield County School Superintendent and School Board brought this issue before the Garfield County Commission because of the dramatic decrease in enrollment in Escalante grades 7-12. There are only 51 students that will enter school in Escalante. The School District has requested assistance with economic development that could potentially provide increased enrollment in Escalante. Declaration of the state of emergency has garnered the attention of Governor Herbert, news media outlets, state legislators and the congressional delegation. Everyone is concerned and people are finally listening to leaders in regard to the dire situation. A consultant has been hired that has developed a strategy for Garfield County. This individual understands economic development and federal land management issues. Things are very difficult where the county only has 3.5% of the land that is under local control. This strategy will

eventually be published and provided to the news media. The county will be proposing a pilot project for the community and county to try and mitigate this situation. Governor Herbert will travel to Garfield County to meet with the County Commissioners on Friday, August 14, 2015.

IX. AREAWIDE CLEARINGHOUSE REVIEWS

None.

The next Steering Committee meeting is scheduled for October 14, 2015 in Cedar City at the Heritage Center.

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

DRAFT