

MINUTES

FIVE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

October 12, 2016 - 2:00 p.m.

Heritage Center, Room #1

105 North 100 East, Cedar City, Utah

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Commissioner Mike Dalton, Chair
Mayor Nolan Davis
Carolyn White
Commissioner Dell LeFevre
Commissioner Dale Brinkerhoff
Mayor Dutch Deutschlander for
Mayor Connie Robinson
Becki Bronson
Commissioner Jim Matson
Mayor John Bramall
Frank Lojko
Donna Law

REPRESENTING

Beaver County Commissioner Representative
Beaver County Mayor Representative
Beaver County Schools Representative
Garfield County Commissioner Representative
Iron County Commissioner Representative
Iron County Mayor Representative

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

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Representative John Westwood
Michael Clay
Jake Hardman
Bette Arial
Courtney Brinkerhoff
Adam Snow
Jim McConnell
Clayton Wilson
Shelley Esplin
Rob Dotson
Bryan Thiriot
Gary Zabriskie
Kristina Raner

Utah State House of Representatives
Brigham Young University
Governor's Office of Economic Development
Senator Lee's Office
Senator Hatch's Office
Congressman Stewart's Office
Utah Department of Transportation
Utah Department of Transportation
Department of Workforce Services
Enoch City
Five County Association of Governments
Five County Association of Governments
Five County Association of Governments

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Mayor Jerry Taylor, Excused
Ken Platt
Mayor Robert Houston
Wendy Allan
Commissioner Victor Iverson, Excused
LaRene Cox, Excused

Garfield County Mayor Representative
Garfield County Schools Representative
Kane County Mayor Representative
Kane County Schools Representative
Washington Co. Commissioner Representative
Washington Co. Schools Representative

Commissioner Mike Dalton, Chair, welcomed those in attendance. Mayor Jerry Taylor, Garfield County Mayor Representative, Ms. LaRene Cox, Washington County Schools Representative, and Commissioner Victor Iverson, Washington County Commissioner Representative asked to be

excused. Commissioner Dalton also acknowledged and welcomed Mayor John Bramall as the new Washington County Mayor Representative.

Commissioner Mike Dalton led the group in the pledge of allegiance.

I. MINUTES AUGUST 10, 2016 - REVIEW AND APPROVE

Commissioner Mike Dalton, Chair, indicated that a quorum was present to conduct business and presented minutes of the August 10, 2016 meeting for discussion and consideration of approval.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER DALE BRINKERHOFF, SECONDED BY MS. CAROLYN WHITE, TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 10, 2016 MEETING AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

II. FINANCE COMMITTEE RATIFICATIONS - OCTOBER 12, 2016

Commissioner Mike Dalton reported that the Finance Committee approved two actions in their meeting earlier in the day. The first action was the appointment of Bryan Thiriot to the Dixie National Forest Resource Advisory Committee (RAC).

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER JIM MATSON, SECONDED BY MAYOR JOHN BRAMALL, TO RATIFY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT OF MR. BRYAN THIRIOT TO SERVE ON THE DIXIE NATIONAL FOREST RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE. MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

The second action of the Finance Committee was a pay for performance increase for Mr. Clint Cottam, who serves as the Community Action Program Director. This action increases his salary from \$3,595 to \$4,062 per month.

MOTION WAS MADE BY MS. CAROLYN WHITE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DALE BRINKERHOFF, TO RATIFY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE ACTION APPROVING A PAY FOR PERFORMANCE INCREASE FOR MR. CLINT COTTAM AS OUTLINED. MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

III. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM - FY 2017 RATING AND RANKING CRITERIA APPROVAL

A. FIRST PUBLIC HEARING FOR FIVE COUNTY AOG CDBG APPLICATION

Commissioner Mike Dalton declared the public hearing open. Mr. Gary Zabriskie explained that each year the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program requires jurisdictions considering submission of an application to conduct a public hearing. The purpose of this first public hearing is to solicit comments from the general public and/or board members on what the scope of an application could contain. The Five County AOG application is somewhat unique because in August funding to the AOG was pre-approved as part of the approval of the Rating and Ranking Criteria. The amount approved was \$90,000 to cover CDBG program administration, development of capital improvements lists, update the consolidated

plan, technical assistance, and community planning functions. The Consolidated Plan must be updated on an annual basis in order for any community to be eligible to receive CDBG funds. Funding to all of the AOGs is approved in this manner in order to facilitate operation of the CDBG program without competing directly with other projects throughout the region.

Mr. Gary Zabriskie provided a list of eligible activities under the CDBG program to those in attendance. He also explained activities to be covered under the scope of work by Five County AOG. The amount of funding to the Five County region is anticipated to be approximately \$760,000 for the upcoming CDBG program year. This will be discussed further in agenda item # III-C. There are no carryover multi-year projects in this program year.

Commissioner Dalton called for comments from Board members and/or the public. No comments were provided. Commissioner Dalton declared the public hearing to be closed.

B. CDBG “HOW-TO-APPLY” APPLICATION WORKSHOP(S) ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. Gary Zabriskie explained that the CDBG program announcement was provided in the AOG newsletter that was distributed via mail last week. This publication also contained the announcement of the How-to-Apply Application Workshops. The newsletter is provided to all cities, towns, counties, special improvement districts, and non-profit organizations throughout the region. It is mandatory that entities have a representative in attendance at a How-to-Apply workshop in order to be eligible to make application for CDBG funds. A representative can be designated by entities, but this designation must take place prior to and be delivered in writing at the workshop. However, jurisdictions are encouraged to have a town board member, city council member, mayor or commissioner in attendance. The workshops are scheduled for Thursday, November 3, 2016 in St. George at the Five County AOG office beginning at 6:30 p.m. and on Friday, November 4, 2016 at the Panguitch City Fire Station beginning at 10:00 a.m. A post card reminder will be mailed next Monday to all jurisdictions, special service districts and non-profit organizations in the Five County region. This serves as the final reminder for these workshops. The newsletter is also posted on the AOG website for public access.

C. STEERING COMMITTEE DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING PROPOSAL BY STATE CDBG STAFF TO ALTER CDBG ALLOCATION FORMULA

Mr. Gary Zabriskie provided handouts containing information regarding the CDBG method of distribution, summary of proposed funding scenarios, and a map outlining the number of people in poverty by county, excluding entitlement counties and cities. Some background information was shared outlining discussion from a previous CDBG policy committee meeting and retreat held this past June. It was noted that Mayor Jerry Taylor serves as the Five County AOG representative and as Chairman of the CDBG Policy Committee. Each region has a representative who serves on the committee and participates in setting policy for the CDBG program. State CDBG staff discussed the need to look at alternative funding methodologies for distribution of funds. The current method of distribution has been utilized for the past 35 years

that the program has been administered in the state of Utah. The funding formula has always been based on the population of each region, excluding entitlement counties and cities. Approximately 10 years ago, the base amount of funding to each region increased from \$150,000 to \$300,000. Each of the seven regions receives a base allocation of \$300,000 and the remainder of their allocation is based on the population of their non-entitlement communities. The Five County region allocation excludes the population of St. George City, which is an entitlement community. Entitlement counties and communities receive an allocation of funding directly from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). He explained that Tooele County and a portion of Weber County do not have entitlement status. Funding to these entities is administered through the Wasatch Front Regional Council. The Five County region received \$776,439 in 2016, and funding to other regions is also included on the handout.

Discussion at the June Policy Committee meeting was centered around examination of a possible alternative allocation process that may better serve the CDBG program. Items of discussion included utilization of poverty, age of housing and other possible scenarios. State staff assured members that any proposed changes to the funding formula would be returned to the committee for discussion. An email was provided last week announcing the next Policy Committee meeting. Information was also included that outlined several potential funding scenarios, one of which has been printed on the back side of the first handout. Mr. Zabriskie read information from the email including the overall goals of the CDBG program. The email indicates that state staff has done exhaustive research to develop several allocation scenarios that would most closely address goals of the program. He reviewed criteria listed in the email and noted that the methodology and data sources would be discussed in depth at the Policy Committee meeting. The email included charts depicting how each region ranks in each of the scenarios, and asks that a review of the information take place prior to the meeting. It goes on to state that it is the Policy Committee's responsibility to approve the allocation funding formula at the fall meeting. State staff then provided their recommendation to Policy Committee members for approval of scenario #1 for the 2017 CDBG program year. It continues that this scenario mirrors the HUD funding formula and advances the goals of the state of Utah Small Cities CDBG program. This email initiated a landslide of concern from AOG regions because no contact had been made with any staff at any of the AOGs to discuss or solicit input into the process and/or proposed changes. There was no methodology of where the data was taken from included with the email. The only information provided includes the resulting scores for each of the AOGs. Five County would rank #4 in Scenario 1 and this would result in allocation of 14% of the funding for a total amount of \$621,000. This would be a decrease of \$150,000 from the 2016 allocation amount. Wasatch Front Regional Council would rank #6 under Scenario 1 and would receive \$575,000, a decrease of \$500,000 from the 2016 funding allocation. The concern is that Scenario 1 only utilizes the three following criteria: 1) Population, 2) Percent in poverty, and 3) Pre-1940 housing. It is impossible to determine how these numbers were derived. The formula proposes utilizing the percent of people in poverty as a percent of the overall population. This is particularly a cause for concern. The second handout depicts a map of the state of Utah with poverty numbers for each county. The Five County region has 22,767 persons in poverty as of 2014, which is the largest number of people in poverty over any other region in the state of Utah. The Wasatch Front has the second largest

number with 21,611 people in poverty. He reviewed the number of people in poverty in Six County (11,043), Southeastern (9,708), Bear River (6,394), Uintah Basin (5,956), and Mountainlands (5,262). Five County has the largest number of people in poverty, but if you use the percentage of the overall population, we have 3.2% in poverty. Using the percentage of overall population, Six County has the highest percentage in poverty at 4.33% because they have a much smaller population base. If this formula is utilized and carried on in subsequent years, the number of people in poverty in our region will likely increase but the percentage in poverty will continue to decrease because of increases in population. This will result in the Five County region receiving less and less funds over time because the poverty line is weighted at 50% of the allocation value. Population is weighted at 25% and pre-1940 housing is also weighted at 25%. However, the percentage of pre-1940 homes will continue to decrease because of the number of new homes being built in the non-entitlement areas of the Five County region. None of the AOG staff has been invited to participate in the discussion or development of the allocation scenarios. This has been accomplished at the state level with absolutely no transparency. Mr. Zabriskie reported that Andrew Gerber, Executive Director at the Wasatch Front Regional Council, sent an email to Jonathan Hardy, Director of Housing and Community Development, regarding this issue. A response was received indicating that staff will be working on a remedy to retract the recommendation and explore several alternate scenarios that will provide an opportunity for participation of the AOGs. State staff has asked that each AOG present this issue to their Executive Boards to receive direction. Staff is recommending that the Chair of the Steering Committee sign a letter requesting that utilization of the proposed scenario be postponed until there has been an open and diligent process where AOG staff, executive directors, and CDBG Policy Committee members can participate in a workshop to examine and participate in a process to identify a funding formula for use moving forward. It was noted that HUD is not requiring that the state of Utah re-examine their funding allocation formula. It may be determined that the old formula is working well and will continue to serve the program into the future. Staff is also suggesting that the Steering Committee recommend the current allocation formula and process be utilized for the 2017 program year.

MOTION WAS MADE BY MAYOR JOHN BRAMALL, SECONDED BY MS. CAROLYN WHITE, AUTHORIZING STAFF TO SEND A LETTER TO THE STATE CDBG PROGRAM MANAGER AND THE STATE CDBG POLICY COMMITTEE CHAIR RECOMMENDING THAT THE CURRENT ALLOCATION FORMULA BE UTILIZED FOR THE 2017 PROGRAM YEAR UNTIL ALL PARTIES INVOLVED HAVE VETTED THE FORMULA AND PARTICIPATED IN AN OPEN PROCESS TO DEVELOP A BETTER SOLUTION FOR A METHOD OF FUND ALLOCATION. MOTION WAS AMENDED TO SEND A COPY OF THE LETTER TO LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR SPENCER COX. MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

IV. STATE OF UTAH 911 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP REAPPOINTMENT OF JUSTIN GRENIER

Mr. Bryan Thiriot referenced correspondence contained on pages 12-13 of the meeting packet. Mr. Eric Parry is recommending that Justin Grenier be reappointed as the representative of the Five County Association of Governments to serve on the 911 Advisory Committee. Justin was elected to serve as Chair of this committee in 2015. It is also the

recommendation of Dean Cox that Justin continue to serve for another four year term.

MOTION WAS MADE BY MAYOR JOHN BRAMALL, SECONDED BY MAYOR NOLAN DAVIS, TO REAPPOINT JUSTIN GRENIER FOR AN ADDITIONAL FOUR YEAR TERM AS THE FIVE COUNTY REPRESENTATIVE ON THE 911 ADVISORY COMMITTEE. MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

V. STATEWIDE LAND USE MODELING - DR. MICHAEL CLAY, BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY- PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION

Dr. Michael Clay, Director of the Urban and Regional Planning Program at Brigham Young University, reported that his consulting firm has contracted with the Kem C. Gardner Policy Institute at the University of Utah to assist in creating the official demographic and economic projections for the state of Utah at statewide and county levels. He explained that various monies coming into the state of Utah are redistributed to counties and cities based upon population and population forecasts. The Governor's Office of Planning and Budget (GOPB) previously created the official demographic and economic projections. As GOPB changed to the Governor's Office of Management and Budget it was determined that this function would be contracted out to the University of Utah. The Kem Gardner Policy Institute is now doing state level and county level population forecasts. Dr. Clay's consulting firm has been engaged to develop all of the sub area forecasts for the state. The purpose of meeting with the Steering Committee is to begin the process of working collaboratively with local governments. A land use model is used on the Wasatch Front in determining how Department of Transportation funds are spent in this area. This type of modeling is not in place outside of the Wasatch Front. Meetings have been scheduled with all of the AOGs to discuss this important project. BYU has also contributed funds to this project. A team of students is engaged with Dr. Clay to collect data from local entities. The group is basically looking to local officials for information on any imminent changes on companies moving in, companies closing their doors, companies that are expanding, and any other changes to major employers in the area. Because employment is directly related to population, this is their keen interest. Events or festivals that bring in a significant number of people or vendors throughout the year are also of interest. The Dixie Metropolitan Planning Organization (DMPO) is assisting in the collection of data as well. The soft release date for state and county numbers is February 2, 2017. He stressed the importance of making sure that all of Utah is represented in this process that directly relates to allocation of various funds coming into the state.

Dr. Clay also reported that the Regional Planning Program at BYU works on planning projects throughout the state. Students have worked to develop general plans, economic development strategic plans, and various other types of planning activities. Local jurisdictions can contact him to propose a project that may be needed in their community and/or county.

Commissioner Jim Matson mentioned that a large amount of land in Kane County is federally owned. He asked how land use planning factors into this process given the small amount of land that is privately owned. Dr. Clay noted that energy is being forecasted separately because it is so different from other uses. All land by ownership is input into the model, but currently this model does not exist outside of the Wasatch Front. It is their hope to be able to build the model for use in other areas of the state. It is important that staff at the local level be very forthcoming with students when they call to collect data. A lot of

Geographic Information System (GIS) data is being developed as part of this process, and this will be given back to the counties. This system looks at all land ownership, uses, zoning, soil issues that may impact development, surface water, mineral rights, etc. Mayor John Bramall commented that a lot of cities have all of their water lines, sewer lines, power lines, etc. mapped into their GIS. Dr. Clay explained that this process will mostly deal with the potential for growth and capacities for growth. The process will look at build out potential at different densities. A card with contact information is provided for ease in contacting Dr. Clay.

VI. REFLECTION ON 45 YEARS OF ESTABLISHMENT OF ASSOCIATIONS OF GOVERNMENTS IN UTAH

Mr. Bryan Thiriot reported that most of the AOGs in Utah have been in existence for approximately 45 years. The Five County Association of Governments was organized in 1972 and has existed for 44 years. Information contained in the meeting packet outlining aging services, community development, economic development, housing, and various programs provided by the AOG is for informational purposes. It also outlines how these organizations came into existence.

VII. FIVE COUNTY AOG CEDAR CITY OFFICE RELOCATION TO 585 NORTH MAIN STREET

Mr. Bryan Thiriot reported that the Five County AOG office has been operational out of the Fiddlers Canyon office building in Cedar City for the past number of years. The office was recently relocated to 585 North Main Street adjacent to the Iron County tourism building. Programs functioning out of this office include Care About Child Care, HEAT, and Aging Case Management. An open house will be scheduled sometime in the future. Meeting room space is available for scheduling in the tourism building, but the conference rooms are quite small.

VIII. STATE AGENCY UPDATES

A. GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

Mr. Jake Hardman, Governor's Office of Economic Development, reported that the Rural Fast Track Grant and the Business Expansion and Retention programs funding is derived from the Industrial Assistance Fund. The Industrial Assistance Fund receives funding at the discretion of the Utah State Legislature. The last time this program received funding was in 2014. Funding has continued to decrease as allocations are provided to cities and counties with no additional funds to replenish the account. Counties were provided less funding from the BEAR program this year as well, and the Rural Fast Track Grant program is experiencing the same crunch. Both of these programs will be in trouble if another appropriation is not received next year. These are good programs that encourage private investment in communities throughout the region. Committee members are encouraged to voice support of these programs and the replenishment of funding when speaking with local legislative representatives.

Mr. Hardman provided information regarding new funding sources. The Stem Action Center, which is within GOED, is introducing a computer science and IT

systems pathway, and some funding is available to assist high schools in developing this program. This encourages student involvement early on for these types of jobs. Further information is available by contacting Mr. Hardman. In addition, U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development announced new funding under the Community Facilities Program that is available specifically to rural areas. This funding is provided to communities that have run successful programs to help reduce poverty. Twenty-six community development organizations, including one in Utah, have been approved for funding to provide long-term low interest financing to be relented to local entities to build, acquire, maintain, or renovate essential community facilities. Funds can also be used for capacity building and to finance essential community services such as education, health care and infrastructure. Funding in Utah will flow through the Rural Communities Assistance Corporation (RCAC). The next meeting of the Governor's Rural Partnership is scheduled for November 28, 2016 in Nephi. The agenda and additional information will be sent out via email.

Ms. Carolyn White left the meeting at this point.

B. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Mr. Jim McConnell, UDOT, reported that he has changed positions and is now the Region Four Construction Program Engineer. He introduced Clayton Wilson who is now the West District Engineer based in Cedar City.

Projects currently underway in Washington County include the following: **1) Washington County I-15--** Auxiliary lane project from milepost 8-10 that also includes the Mall Drive underpass. Completion of interstate construction is anticipated by the end of November and the entire project completion is set for the end of the year; and **2) State Route 9--** Reconstruction of the highway from 700 West to 300 West. This portion did not get included in an earlier project. Future projects include: **1) Bluff Street, Sunset Boulevard to St. George Boulevard--** Widening to three lanes in each direction. Advertisement is slated for September 2017 with construction commencing in the fall and winter months; **2) State Route 9, Rockville to Zion National Park--** This project is from Rockville to the south entrance of the park. It has been split into two projects because of some environmental issues in Springdale in terms of intersection design, bike paths, historic rock ditches, etc. Work will commence this winter on the Rockville to south Springdale section. Late fall to winter of the next year will include work on the Springdale to Zion National Park section. Total reconstruction of the highway through Springdale will be very challenging as it will include new curb, gutter, and sidewalks as well as the roadway; **3) State Route 34, St. George Boulevard 900 East to 1000 East--** This project is slated for advertisement in December 2016. It will provide an additional left turn lane eastbound on St. George Boulevard at 1000 East; **4) State Route 18--** This project will include the Bluff Street/Sunset Boulevard interchange redesign that will be accomplished as part of the other Bluff Street project utilizing the same contractor; **5) Rockville Town--** Structure rehabilitation on the old bridge over the Virgin River going out to Grafton. A temporary structure will be placed beside the old bridge while rehabilitation is occurring; **6) I-15, Milepost 22 to 28--** An additional passing lane between the Leeds interchange and the Anderson Junction interchange. This project will advertise in October 2017; and **7)**

I-15, St. George Welcome Center-- A new welcome center will be constructed at Exit two.

A project was recently completed in Iron County on State Route 20 to provide additional passing lanes from milepost 10 to 12 using a 3-D design concept. This was the first 3-D design project in the nation on a horizontal. A 3-D design project is slated on State Route 10 by Price, and one is slated for next year on State Route 130 widening from the north interchange in Cedar to Midvalley Road in Enoch. Other projects in Iron County include: **1) State Route 14, Milepost 17 to 21--** Shoulder improvements to the top of the canyon; **2) Coal Creek Road from I-15 to Main Street--** Local government road project slated for opening later this month; **3) State Route 10, Milepost 0.5 to 20--** Runaway truck ramp at the bottom of the hill toward I-15; **4) State Route 130--** Cedar Main Street lighting project; and **5) State Route 143--** A culvert replacement above the Parowan Cemetery for drainage improvements is slated for advertisement in November; and **6) I-15 Deer Fence--** This recently completed project runs from exit 57 to exit 52.

Mr. McConnell reported that a project on State Route 153 in Beaver City has been completed to re-pave intersections on 200 North from Main Street up to 600 East. An upcoming project is slated to advertise in February 2017 on State Route 21 from Minersville to Milford for lane leveling and chip seal. Projects in Kane County include: **1) State Route 14, Milepost 30 to 31--** Installation of guard rail near Duck Creek Village; **2) US-89, 400 East to Fairway Drive--** Storm drain system installation; **3) US-89, Orderville--** Installation of curb and gutter on the east end of Orderville; **4) US-89, Johnson Wash--** UDOT will work with the county and city on this drainage project; and **5) US-89, Milepost 44 to 48--** Passing lanes.

Projects in Garfield County include the following: **1) State Route 63--** Improvements near Bryce Canyon; **2) State Route 12, Henrieville to Milepost 79.4--** This will consist of a bonded pavement application where the tack coat is right on the paver. It is anticipated that this new application will last longer than previous applications.

C. DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE SERVICES

Ms. Shelley Esplin, DWS, reported that their intergenerational poverty program has been implemented throughout the state. This is a big focus in the Five County area because of the high poverty levels. A training is scheduled to take place Thursday and Friday for all co-chairs and facilitators. It is anticipated that plans will be implemented next year. This is a big issue that DWS is trying to find some resolve in assisting people to move them out of poverty.

IX. CONGRESSIONAL STAFF UPDATES

Ms. Bette Arial, Senator Lee's office, reported that the Utah congressional delegation is working very well together in particular with the Bears Ears National Monument proposal. Senator Lee, along with Congressman Stewart, are very concerned and troubled over the young man that was kidnaped by North Korea. He also feels it is important for President Obama to come to the U.S. Congress to obtain approval for a war declaration, especially if the U.S. will be bombing Syria. This is a very serious issue in the Middle East. Senator Lee is also working hard to stop the Obamacare bail out that will cost billions of dollars. He

is also very much against the ten week Continuing Resolution that is now in place. This type of action is allowing many things to be added to the budget that increase our national debt. Rule 41 has had a major change, and it has been approved by the U.S. Supreme Court to go into effect on December 1, 2016. This gives sweeping power to the Department of Justice. Since Britain exited the EU, President Obama has made it more difficult for Britain to trade with the United States. This is very concerning given the fact that the United States does not have a lot of friends in other nations and this one needs to be safeguarded. Senator Lee is also working to stop arms sales to Saudi Arabia.

Ms. Courtney Brinkerhoff, Senator Hatch's office, provided information related to the Josh Holt situation where he was arrested by the Venezuelan government for trafficking fire arms. It is believed that those allegations are false, but he has been imprisoned. Senator Hatch is working diligently on this issue, but the judge did not show up for the hearing scheduled for yesterday. Vice President Biden and Secretary Kerry are working directly with Senator Hatch to address this issue. Senator Hatch is in Utah doing outreach working with various groups, and he will be in southern Utah at the end of the month. The Utah Test and Training Range bill was included in the House and Senate national defense bill that is now in conference. Most of the issues with this bill have been worked out, but the holdup is now sage grouse. Senator Hatch has introduced legislation to expedite Visas for missionaries of the LDS church. The Senator feels that the Bears Ears National Monument designation will happen. There have been a number of hearings, letters of protest, and the Utah congressional delegation is united in opposition of this designation.

Mr. Adam Snow, Congressman Stewart's office, reported that Congressman Stewart is also enraged with the Obamacare bailout. The House of Representatives has filed a lawsuit against President Obama obtaining additional funds to keep the program afloat. At this point it does not seem likely that the Senate will pass the appropriations bill. The good news is that there is not a lot of opposition to the language in the Omnibus bill in terms of sage grouse, wild horses, etc. More concern is centered around funding levels as opposed to language. Congressman Stewart is sponsoring the Judgement Fund Transparency Act to provide more transparency in the federal government. This would limit cash payments such as the one made to Iran. The Congressman is also supportive of the Veterans TRICARE Choice Act which would provide better access to health care.

X. SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY AND DIXIE STATE UNIVERSITY UPDATES

Ms. Donna Law, SUU, provided a sheet outlining 20 highlights of the University over the past year. She acknowledged that SUU is very pleased to host elected officials in various forums. Governor Herbert, Senator Hatch, Senator Lee, and Congressman Stewart will all be hosting meetings on the SUU campus over the next few weeks. Committee members are encouraged to attend these events at the Leavitt Center for Politics. SUU had the best graduation rate last year of all public and/or regional universities in the eight Intermountain West states. Current enrollment is at 9,229 students at SUU for an increase of 4.71% over last year. There are now over 500 international students representing 50 different countries attending SUU. During the first week of school, the largest field trip ever was conducted to visit the national parks. Over 4,200 students participated in over 100 field trips around southern Utah and Arizona. The new Beverly Center for the Arts, including the new home for the Shakespeare Theater and Southern Utah Museum of Art are now open. Funding was approved last year for construction of a new business building at SUU. The aviation program will be brought in-house with more fixed wing training.

Mr. Frank Lojko, Dixie State University, reported that DSU has their largest freshman class with over 2,100 students. The increase in Full Time Equivalent (FTE) students was 7.38%, and the head count of 8,993 an increase of 5.76 percent. The Board or Regents and the Building Board ranked DSU Human Performance Building as number two. The top four rankings included the University of Utah Medical Center, DSU Human Performance Center, Weber Social Science Building and State Ag Building. DSU will also be hosting a number of Senators and Congressman at their Institute of Politics.

XI. LOCAL AFFAIRS

A. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

B. OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL

Mr. Bryan Thiriot presented three out-of-state travel requests as follows: **1) Cindy Rose--** To travel with the Youth Volunteer Corps to attend the annual YVC Summit scheduled from October 6-9, 2016 in Philadelphia, PA; and **2) Curt Hutchings and Myron Lee--** To attend the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations annual conference scheduled for October 24-28, 2016 in Fort Worth, TX. Mr. Hutchings covers the regional aspect of transportation while Mr. Lee will focus on the urban transportation aspect.

MOTION WAS MADE BY MAYOR JOHN BRAMALL, SECONDED BY MAYOR NOLAN DAVIS, TO APPROVE THE OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL FOR CINDY ROSE, CURT HUTCHINGS AND MYRON LEE AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

C. CIB APPLICATIONS - REGIONAL CLEARINGHOUSE REVIEW

Mr. Gary Zabriskie reported that three applications were submitted to the Permanent Community Impact Board by jurisdictions in the Five County region during this trimester. Applications were submitted by the October 1, 2016 deadline. If approved, applicants will receive funding in February 2017. Each Association of Governments must provide comment for applications submitted in their region. He presented applications as follows: **1) Brian Head--** Funding to develop a Storm Drain Master Plan. The town is participating with \$27,500 match and requesting \$27,500 from CIB; **2) Tropic Town--** Road and drainage improvements totaling \$600,000. The town is asking for \$180,000 as a grant and \$270,000 as a 20 year loan. The town is pledging \$180,000 in B&C road funds; and **3) Hurricane City--** The city is requesting a CIB planning grant in the amount of \$50,000 to update their Transportation Master Plan. The Dixie MPO will provide \$50,000 and Hurricane City is providing \$4,000 cash match.

MOTION WAS MADE BY MAYOR NOLAN DAVIS, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER JIM MATSON, TO SUPPORT ALL THREE APPLICATIONS TO THE PERMANENT COMMUNITY IMPACT BOARD AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

D. OTHER BUSINESS

The next meeting is scheduled for November 16, 2016 in St. George at the Five County AOG Tonaquint Center office building.

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:08 p.m.

DRAFT