

MINUTES

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

February 8, 2012

Kanab, Utah

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Commissioner Clare Ramsay, Chair
Ken Platt
Commissioner Chad Johnson
Craig Wright for Mayor Mark Yardley
Carolyn White
Commissioner Dale Brinkerhoff
Mayor Dutch Deutschlander for
Mayor Connie Robinson
Commissioner Douglas Heaton
Mayor Nina Laycook
Commissioner Denny Drake
Brian Cottam for Dorian Page
Rick Palmer for Frank Lojko

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Ellen Schunk
Mike Empey
Jan Thompson
Walt Steinvorth
Bette Arial
Rick Arial
David Jones
Hyrum Durfee
Ken Sizemore
Diane Lamoreaux
Curt Hutchings
Myron Lee

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Mayor Jerry Taylor, Vice-Chair (Excused)
Alan Adams (Excused)
Wendy Allan
Mayor Darrin LeFevre
LuAnne Forrest

REPRESENTING

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

Kane County Commissioner Representative
Kane County Mayor Representative
Washington Co. Commissioner Representative
Southern Utah University
Dixie State College of Utah

Senator Lee's Office
Congressman Matheson's Office
Department of Workforce Services
Utah Department of Transportation
Southerland Institute
Dave Clark Campaign
Utah National Guard Community Covenant
Utah National Guard Community Covenant
Five County Association of Governments
Five County Association of Governments
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Garfield County Mayor Representative
Iron County Schools Representative
Kane County Schools Representative
Washington Co. Mayor Representative
Washington Co. Schools Representative

Commissioner Chad Johnson, Chair, welcomed everyone in attendance. He acknowledged Mayor Dutch Deutschlander, representing Mayor Connie Robinson, Iron County Mayor Representative and Craig Wright, representing Mayor Mark Yardley, Beaver County Mayor Representative. Those asking to be excused include Mayor Jerry Taylor, Garfield County Mayor Representative and Alan Adams, Iron County Schools Representative.

I. MINUTES OF JANUARY 18, 2012 - REVIEW & APPROVE

Chairman Johnson noted that a quorum was present for conduct of business and presented minutes of the January 18, 2012 meeting for Board consideration.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER DENNY DRAKE TO ACCEPT MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 18, 2012 MEETING AS PRESENTED. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MS. CAROLYN WHITE. MOTION CARRIED.

II. STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

A. MAYOR REPRESENTATIVES - INTRODUCTION

Mr. Ken Sizemore introduced mayor representatives for the upcoming year as follows: **1) Beaver County--** Mayor Mark Yardley, Beaver City; **2) Garfield County--** Mayor Jerry Taylor, Escalante City; **3) Iron County--** Mayor Connie Robinson, Paragonah Town; **4) Kane County--** Mayor Nina Laycook, Kanab City; and **5) Washington County--** Mayor Darrin LeFevre, Toquerville City.

B. CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR - GARFIELD COUNTY

Mr. Sizemore explained that the chair and vice-chair positions rotate this year to Garfield County. Commissioner Clare Ramsay will serve as Chair and Mayor Jerry Taylor will serve in the capacity of Vice-Chair.

III. UTAH NATIONAL GUARD COMMUNITY COVENANT PROGRAM

Captain David Jones indicated that he would assist Sergeant Durfee in presenting information on the Utah National Guard Community Covenant program. This video has been tailored from a similar presentation that is provided to mayors and city councils throughout the state of Utah. The major focus is to develop partnerships to support veterans and those soldiers who are being deployed into battlefields. The program allows communities to come together to pledge support for military family members. Signers of the covenant recognize and commit to acknowledge the sacrifice of service members. As soldiers are deployed, their families find strength through community awareness of their challenges and needs. Typical steps involved in establishing local participation in the program were outlined as follows: 1) Draft a city resolution designating a military liaison to the city for coordination of services and resources; 2) Form a collaborative group; and 3) Organize a community covenant signing ceremony. This is a formal way to acknowledge programs and combine resources and services that may be available. Several examples of signing ceremonies were shared and military staff are available to assist communities in creation of the covenant document. The Utah National Guard has established a goal to have each city and town in the state of Utah hold a signing ceremony. Each city is unique and the program is tailored locally with key leaders and organizations signing the covenant. Local media are also encouraged to attend these ceremonies to provide coverage of these events. It was reported that seven cities in this region have signed covenants and staff is currently working with another seven jurisdictions.

Mayor Laycook indicated that Kanab City is at the point where they need assistance in formulating the covenant document. A handout was provided which includes contact

information to obtain assistance in establishing this program. Commissioner Chad Johnson suggested that efforts be made to tie-in with local veteran's organizations that may exist in these communities as many of these groups are shrinking as members age and pass away. It is very important that support is offered to veterans who have served our country and younger veterans need to become more involved with these groups. Sergeant Durfee explained that their contact with other branches of the service and veterans is limited but communities can structure programs that reach out to veteran's organizations. Commissioner Denny Drake commented that Washington County and St. George City partnered in the covenant signing ceremony that was scheduled as part of a deployment event.

Mr. Sizemore asked that the Chair proceed to Agenda Item #V in order to accommodate previous commitments of Mr. Walt Steinvorth.

V. UTAH DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TRI-COUNTY COAL HAULING STUDY

Mr. Walt Steinvorth, UDOT, reported that Region 4 UDOT staff requested assistance to analyze the needs and impacts associated with the Alton mine coal haul route. Three potential routes were studied, with the preferred route beginning on SR-89 to U-20, connecting with I-15 and proceeding to SR 56 towards Iron Springs. Pavement on these roadways is mostly in fair to good condition. The study took into consideration environmental constraints; safety of the corridor, including accident history; existing pavement and bridge constraints; and traffic analysis of intersection. The study of intersections determined that for the most part the level of service in these areas is acceptable. Construction implementations were grouped into three levels as follows: **1) Short Term--** Safety improvements for the period 0-3 years; **2) Medium Term--** Operational improvements to add lanes and widen shoulders; and **3) Long Term--** Capacity improvements/large capital investment projects including passing lanes and additional lane capacity at signalized intersections.

Mr. Steinvorth reviewed specific improvement projects recommended for each of the following roadways: **1) U.S. 89/S.R.143; 2) S.R. 20/I-15; 3) S.R. 56/Iron Springs Road; 4) U.S. 89/S.R. 14; 5) U.S. 89/Alton Road; 6) U.S. 89; 7) U.S. 89/S.R. 12; 8) U.S. 89/S.R. 20; 9) Northbound I-15/S.R. 56; and 10) S.R. 56.** The total cost of the improvements outlined in the study is \$14.5 million. Local government projects will also be required to provide improvements on Alton Road and the Iron Springs Road. The total cost for local projects is \$1.5 million. It was noted that the mine is not fully operational and is not running trucks to Iron Springs. Current mining operations are confined to private land and the coal is currently being shipped to Delta. It is anticipated that all coal on private land will be extracted within the next three years. Expansion onto adjacent federal land would increase the mine's life expectancy to approximately 40 years. At full operation, there will be 300 trips daily (150 trucks making round trips).

Commissioner Douglas Heaton acknowledged that the Alton Road is already experiencing deteriorating pavement problems that will increase as mining operations expand. He expressed interest in working with UDOT engineers to examine permanent solutions for local roadways. It was suggested that Kane County initiate contact with Monte Aldridge, UDOT Engineer, stationed in the Richfield office (435-893-4799) to discuss improvements that could address various roadway issues. Mr. Steinvorth explained that it is very

important to maintain safety for those individuals traveling on the Alton Road. He also suggested that initiating contact with UDOT Region 4 would be very beneficial to assist in moving projects up in priority. Region 4 staff are grappling with various road issues as well as finding money to address the most critical areas. Commissioner Heaton mentioned that truck drivers have been very good to stay within posted speed limits. Commissioner Denny Drake commented that as the mine expands onto federal land another funding option will become viable with the Permanent Community Impact Fund Board. Once mineral lease dollars come into play, it will become easier to access this funding mechanism.

Mr. Ken Platt encouraged elected officials to pursue assistance from UDOT earlier in the process rather than waiting for the mine expansion to occur. Mr. Steinworth recommended that requests to UDOT need to be specific in terms of addressing the most critical projects first. He also suggested that elected officials work closely with Jim McConnell, Cedar City, to discuss maintenance dollars that may be available.

IV. REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING OVERVIEW

Mr. Curt Hutchings provided background information regarding transportation programs administered by the Association of Governments. Those programs include: **1) Eastern Washington County Rural Planning Organization (RPO)**-- This RPO includes the communities of Hurricane, LaVerkin, Toquerville and Leeds as well as Washington County; **2) Iron County Rural Planning Organization**-- The Iron County RPO includes the communities of Cedar City, Enoch, Parowan, Paragonah, Brian Head and Kanarraville as well as Iron County; **3) Dixie Metropolitan Planning Organization (DMPO)**-- The DMPO includes the communities of St. George, Santa Clara, Ivins and Washington as well as Washington County; **4) Coordinated Human Service Transportation Planning**-- A coordinated transportation plan is required by the federal government when submitting application to fund items such as vans used to support senior citizen populations; and **5) Mobility Management**-- Provides the implementation side of coordinated transportation plan efforts. The Dixie MPO develops and prioritizes projects for funding in the St. George urbanized area. Both of the RPO's develop and prioritize project lists for submission to UDOT for funding consideration. He reviewed some of the results of these programs and transportation projects for which the DMPO has provided seed monies. Participation in the above-mentioned transportation programs allows local elected officials the opportunity to become engaged in funding and decision making processes.

Myron Lee explained that the Dixie MPO has two different budget processes. The \$500,000 listed on the handout provides funding for salaries and benefits, with approximately one-half of this budget set aside to fund various types of transportation studies in the urbanized area. The MPO also receives federal funding of approximately \$2 million each year that is programmed into various projects as seed money. Once funding is programmed to many of these projects, the Utah Transportation Commission recognizes local commitment and has typically provided large amounts of state funds to support construction of projects such as the Dixie Drive Interchange, Milepost 2 Exit, and the Southern Parkway. Other projects such as the widening of Dixie Drive and Washington Fields Road have resulted from programming of these federal funds. It was noted that jurisdictions must also provide match funding towards these projects. He reviewed a transportation road network map taken from the Dixie MPO Long Range Transportation Plan depicting future demand on local roadways out to the year 2040.

VI. U.S. FOREST SERVICE FACA COMMITTEE NOMINATION(S)

Mr. Sizemore referenced information contained on pages 18-20 of the packet containing a nomination for the FACA National Advisory Committee which will be used for implementation of the National Forest Service Land Management Planning Rule. Southern Utah University has provided a nomination for Dr. Briget Eastep, Director of Outdoor Engagement and Assistant Professor of Outdoor Recreation, for consideration on this committee. Committee members felt that it was vital that several nominations be provided in order to protect public lands. It was pointed out that the deadline for nominations is February 13th. Brian Cottam reported that Dr. Eastep is an expert on outdoor education and serves on the resource advisory committee for the SUU mountain ranch. Mr. Sizemore commented that he has also worked with Dr. Eastep and feels that she would do a good job in this capacity. This is a national committee that will consist of 21 members that will be chosen from three categories as follows: **1) Category 1--** Public at large, state elected official, county or local elected official, American Indian Tribes; **2) Category 2--** Environmental conservation, dispersed recreation, archaeology, historic or scientific organization; **3) Category 3--** Timber, grazing, energy, community development, outdoor recreation, off highway vehicle, etc. Each category will ultimately consist of seven individuals to make up the 21 member committee. There is no limit to the number of nominations that can be submitted. The committee will meet 3-4 times annually or as determined at the federal level, but the notice does not say where these meetings will be held.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS HEATON TO NOMINATE COMMISSIONER JIM MATSON FOR THE TIMBER/ENERGY SLOT. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DALE BRINKERHOFF AND CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS HEATON TO NOMINATE COMMISSIONER DIRK CLAYSON FOR THE COUNTY ELECTED OFFICIAL SLOT. A short discussion ensued and Commissioner Heaton withdrew the nomination.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER DENNY DRAKE TO NOMINATE COMMISSIONER ALAN GARDNER FOR THE COUNTY ELECTED OFFICIAL SLOT. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CHAD JOHNSON. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS HEATON TO NOMINATE BYARD KERSHAW FOR THE PUBLIC AT LARGE SLOT. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MAYOR NINA LAYCOOK. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS HEATON TO NOMINATE DUSTIN COX FOR THE GRAZING SLOT. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. KEN PLATT AND CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER CHAD JOHNSON TO NOMINATE MIKE NOEL FOR THE STATE ELECTED OFFICIAL SLOT. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DALE BRINKERHOFF. MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER CHAD JOHNSON TO NOMINATE DR. BRIGET EASTEP FOR THE SCIENTIFIC SLOT. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MS. CAROLYN WHITE. MOTION CARRIED.

Mr. Sizemore asked that commissioners followup with those nominated to request biographical information that will be required to submit the nomination.

VII. GOVERNOR'S OFFICE UPDATE

None.

VIII. UTAH DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE SERVICES UPDATE

Ms. Jan Thompson, DWS, indicated that information regarding the proposed merger with DWS and Housing and Community Development is provided on pages 21-22 of the packet. Over the past month, the DWS deputy directors have met with each of the AOG executive directors to answer questions and discuss issues associated with melding these departments. Strategic partnerships have been outlined and DWS has committed to make no program changes through at least FY 2013. Governor Herbert has promised no changes to local service delivery. Any program changes must be agreed upon by DWS and the AOGs with final approval by the Governor. In addition, there will be no changes made in how CIB funds are managed. Mr. Sizemore pointed out that the physical move is happening and the Division of Housing and Community Development is moving into a DWS building. Legislation has been filed to address changes that will be required in state code. It appears that all promises have been kept in terms of structure of the division. However, both DWS and the AOGs are keeping a close eye on this legislation to monitor how it proceeds. One major concern of the AOG Directors is that nowhere in state government will there be any reference to community development.

Ms. Thompson stressed that the Department of Workforce Services has employees in each of the local employment centers to provide on-site assistance to clients. There are also local telephone numbers at each of these employment centers. A handout was shared containing economic information for each of the five counties. For the first time since the recession, positive job growth is being reported in each of the five counties.

IX. SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY UPDATE

Mr. Brian Cottam, Southern Utah University (SUU), reported that Dorian Page was in northern Utah working with the Legislature to address issues of importance to the University. The largest endowment of \$4 million was recently provided to SUU by Walter Gibson to provide scholarships and research projects. The new Science Center will be named after Mr. Gibson and will house the SUU Museum of Natural History. The grand opening of the new science center is scheduled for April 2, 2012. The Sorenson Foundation has provided a \$1 million donation for the Southern Utah Museum of Art (SUMA). There has currently been \$9 million dollars in contributions for SUMA and the total project cost is estimated at \$12 million. Ground breaking for this facility is anticipated to occur sometime this summer. SUU has been named to the Princeton Review's 2012 Best Value Colleges.

Mr. Cottam announced that the Southern Utah Renewable Energy Fair is scheduled for April 26th at the Milford High School. During this event, the new renewable energy mobile trailer will be unveiled. The mobile trailer will be utilized in conjunction with the Southwest ATC to provide education, information and training throughout the region. He also announced that the next Southern Utah Planning Authorities Council (SUPAC) meeting will be held March 13, 2012 at the Interagency Visitor Center in St. George. One item of interest in conjunction with this meeting is a morning field trip provided by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to discuss jurisdictional waters as well as visit sites in and around St. George. Members of the Steering Committee are encouraged to attend and participate in the field trip and afternoon meeting. An update will also be provided on Secure Rural Schools and PILT funding.

Mr. Cottam reminded committee members that the Regional Services Office at SUU is still working with contract employees in Washington and Kane counties. Mr. Ed Meyer is on contract in Kanab with SUU to partner with a number of economic development groups.

X. DIXIE STATE COLLEGE (DSC) UPDATE

Mr. Rick Palmer, Dixie State College, reported that Frank Lojko is also at the Legislature working to secure additional funding for various programs and projects. The Jeffrey Holland Centennial building is on schedule and the move into this facility is scheduled to occur in June. He reported that several older buildings including the Whitehead building will be torn down. A number of new buildings are planned to accommodate program growth as well as the newly approved arts, music, and science degrees. Dixie State College is continuing to experience rapid growth with approximately 9,000 students this year.

XI. CONGRESSIONAL STAFF UPDATES

Ms. Ellen Schunk, Senator Lee's Office, indicated that Marreen Casper sends her apology for not being able to attend today's meeting. Senator Lee will be spending a considerable amount of time working to de-regulate various things that the federal government does that impact businesses. He will also continue to pursue a balanced budget amendment prior to increasing the debt limit. She reported that the comment period for sage grouse has been extended to March 23, 2012. Efforts are underway to develop a state management plan for sage grouse. Prairie Dog issues are continuing to surface with additional problems being brought forth. There is currently no legal solution, but staff is pursuing alternative options to deal with the issues. She provided copies of a news release from Senator Lee in regard to the Constitution authorizing the president to appoint federal judges and executive officers under certain conditions. President Obama recently made several appointments without Senate approval by stating that the Senate was in recess. Senator Lee is challenging these appointments because no formal steps were taken for the Senate to be in recess.

Mr. Mike Empey, Congressman Matheson's Office, reported that a new transportation bill introduced in the House of Representatives is in committee and is expected to be on the floor next week for debate. This is a five year bill for legislation that expired two years ago. However, there is concern that there may not be enough votes to pass this legislation. As currently drafted, the bill would eliminate scenic byways which are used to connect most of the national parks. It also threatens continuance of the transportation enhancement program. Language in the bill may also eliminate smaller Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs). Congressional staff requested a letter from the Dixie MPO that

addresses concerns regarding the possible elimination of smaller MPOs. A transportation bill has also been introduced in the Senate but it only provides for two years of funding and is very different from legislation introduced in the House. Leaders now fear that it may not be possible to pass a new transportation bill.

Congressman Matheson sent a letter to Secretary Salazar regarding sage grouse and the recent reduction of areas available for oil shale development. The Congressman feels that the government should not be in the business of dictating technology and determining what will or will not work. Congressman Matheson also continues to support PILT and Secure Rural Schools funding.

XII. LOCAL AFFAIRS

A. CORRESPONDENCE

Commissioner Denny Drake indicated that he needed to depart in order to keep other meeting commitments. He discussed an issue of importance in terms of burn windows that may be allowed for communities and counties in the Five County region. It may be in the best interest of the region to develop a letter supporting burn windows over a specific time period.

Mr. Sizemore introduced Rick and Bette Arial and noted that Ms. Arial is working for the Southerland Institute. Mr. Arial announced that he is working on Dave Clark's election campaign.

Mr. Sizemore announced that Sherri Dial's husband, Jeff, has passed away suddenly. Jeff has served as the 911 center manager for St. George City for over 20 years. A sympathy card was passed around for everyone to sign and the AOG will be sending flowers. This will be a very difficult time for Sherri. Funeral services will be held on Saturday and a viewing will occur on Friday evening as well as prior to the services. Commissioner Dale Brinkerhoff mentioned that the Human Services Council will also be sending a flower arrangement.

Mr. Sizemore referenced information contained on page 23 of the packet outlining information on the Recycling Coalition of Southern Utah. Representatives of this group will be invited to provide information regarding the recycling initiative in southwest Utah. It will be a big challenge to get recyclables to urbanized areas, and various ideas will be shared with this committee.

Information is provided on page 24 of the packet announcing the 9th Annual Diversified Agriculture Conference that will be held February 22-24, 2012 at the Davis Conference Center in Layton, Utah.

Mr. Sizemore congratulated Ms. Carolyn White on her recent appointment to serve as the Second Vice President of the Utah School Boards Association. In this capacity she will represent all school board members throughout the state of Utah.

B. OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL

None.

C. PERMANENT COMMUNITY IMPACT FUND BOARD (PCIFB) APPLICATIONS

Mr. Sizemore reviewed a handout outlining projects from the Five County Region which were funded during the February meeting of the Permanent Community Impact Board. Several of the region's projects received grants; some were funded at zero percent, several projects were funded at a 2.5% interest rate and/or with a combination of grant/zero percent loans. For the first time, the loan program is returning more funding than what is coming into the program from mineral leases. A copy of CIB capital improvement list prioritization meetings was provided for those interested in attending.

D. PLANNING ASSISTANCE

None.

E. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Sizemore announced that the selection committee recently conducted interviews for the Chief Financial Officer position opening at the Association of Governments. A total of 62 applications were submitted, and nine very qualified individuals were interviewed. The position was offered to and accepted by Scott Leavitt who is a current employee of the Five County AOG. The selection committee was very impressed with Scott's educational credentials and feels very positive about this selection. This will necessitate recruitment for Scott's current position in the near future.

XIII. AREAWIDE CLEARINGHOUSE REVIEWS

Chairman Ramsay referenced one A-95 review late arrival for consideration. The review has a supportive staff recommendation.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS HEATON, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DALE BRINKERHOFF, TO APPROVE THE LATE ARRIVAL AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 14, 2012 in Beaver. The meeting will be held at the Beaver County Administration Building.

MOTION TO ADJOURN WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER DALE BRINKERHOFF AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DOUGLAS HEATON. MOTION CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.