**Constitutional Defense Council**

**Public Lands Policy Coordination Office**

Utah State Capitol Complex

Olmsted Room

**January 18, 2018**

10:00 a.m.

**Minutes**

**Attendees:**

**Members: Staff:**

Spencer J. Cox, Lt. Governor Kathleen Clarke, Director, PLPCO

Mike Noel, Rep., Utah House Anthony Rampton, Public Lands Section

Brian King, Rep., Utah House Director, Attorney General’s Office

Mike Styler, Executive Director, DNR Braden Sheppard, Attorney, PLPCO

Troy Forrest for Commissioner LuAnn Adams Sindy Smith, RDCC Coordinator, PLPCO

David Ure, Director, SITLA Redge Johnson, PLPCO

Leland Pollock, Commissioner, Garfield County Taylor Ricks, Lt. Governor’s Office

Tammy Pearson, Commissioner, Beaver County Ryan Keliipulfole, House Intern

Curtis Wells, Council Member, Grand County Whitney Leavitt, House Intern

Stan Summers, Commissioner, Box Elder County

Bridget Romano, for Sean Reyes, OAG

**Guests:**

Mark Ward, Balanced Resources

Newell Harward, Wayne County Commissioner

Dennis Blackburn, Wayne County Commissioner

Stan Wood, Wayne County Commissioner

Craig Smith, Smith Hartvigan

Brian Maffly, Salt Lake Tribune

Ray Peterson, Emery County

James Swink, UAC

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**Welcome and Introductions**

Representative Mike Noel requested round table introductions. The meeting was called to order at 10:05.

**Approval of the Minutes**

Members approved July 13, 2017, minutes by unanimous vote.

***Decisions***

* MOTION: David Ure, Director of SITLA, on behalf of Duchesne County, requested reimbursement of Duchesne County’s Indian litigation costs. The CDC approved the reimbursement request of $300,000. The MOTION passed unanimously.

***Action Items***

* Lt. Governor Spencer Cox will discuss with the Governor and the Legislature the need for the Legislature to appropriate funds to hire a NEPA coordinator through PLPCO to assist counties with public land projects.
* PLPCO will make available to counties Rural Sovereignty Grants.
* Great Basin Water Network will be included as an agenda item at the next CDC meeting.

**Duchesne County Reimbursement of Indian Litigation Costs**

David Ure, Director of SITLA, on behalf of Duchesne County, made a request for reimbursement of Duchesne County’s Indian litigation costs in the sum of $300,000.

* Members discussed Duchesne County’s appeal for reimbursement of its Indian litigation costs.
* Members moved to approve Duchesne County’s request for reimbursement of $300,000. The MOTION passed unanimously.

**Funding for Local Government Sponsored NEPA Projects**

Commissioner Leland Pollock talked about funding for a full-time NEPA professional to help counties with public land projects.

* Members discussed the need for the Legislature to appropriate funds to hire a NEPA coordinator through PLPCO to assist counties with public land projects.
* Lt. Governor Spencer Cox will take up the issue with the Governor and Legislature.

**Public Land Issues**

Commissioner Leland Pollock introduced Mark Ward, President of Balanced Resources. Balanced Resources is a non-profit organization set up to provide help for counties. Mark Ward discussed the work the charity offers to counties, such as challenging federal restrictions and requested a donation on behalf of counties.

* Members discussed making available to counties through PLPCO Rural Sovereignty Grants.

**Other Business**

* Representative Mike Noel discussed the necessity to develop additional arguments to support the monument modification litigation.
* Representative Brian King requested *Great Basin Water Network* be included as an agenda item at the next CDC meeting.
* Council member Curtis Wells discussed the challenge and the need to educate the public about the public land issues living in a public land state.

**Public Comment**

No public comment.

**Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:35 a.m.