

MINUTES

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

May 9, 2012

Panguitch, Utah

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Commissioner Clare Ramsay, Chair
Mayor Jerry Taylor, Vice-Chair
Ken Platt
Commissioner Chad Johnson
Craig Wright for Mayor Mark Yardley
Carolyn White
Commissioner Dale Brinkerhoff
Mayor Connie Robinson
Alan Adams
Commissioner Douglas Heaton
Commissioner Denny Drake
Frank Lojko

REPRESENTING

Garfield County Commissioner Representative
Garfield County Mayor 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
Iron County Schools Representative
Kane County Commissioner Representative
Washington Co. Commissioner Representative
Dixie State College of Utah

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Marreen Casper
Mike Empey
Forest Turner
Ken Sizemore
Carrie Schonlaw
Diane Lamoreaux

Senator Hatch's Office
Congressman Matheson's Office
Department of Workforce Services
Five County Association of Governments
Five County Association of Governments
Five County Association of Governments

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Mayor Nina Laycook, Excused
Wendy Allan
Mayor Darrin LeFevre, Excused
LuAnne Forrest
Dorian Page

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

Commissioner Clare Ramsay, Chair, welcomed everyone in attendance. Those asking to be excused include Mayor Nina Laycook, Kane County Mayor Representative and Mayor Darrin LeFevre, Washington County Mayor Representative.

Chairman Ramsay indicated that a quorum was present for conduct of business.

I. MINUTES OF APRIL 11, 2012 & APRIL 13, 2012 - REVIEW & APPROVE

Commissioner Ramsay presented minutes of the April 11, 2012 and April 13, 2012 Steering Committee meetings for Board discussion and consideration.

MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. KEN PLATT TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 11, 2012 AND APRIL 13, 2012 MEETINGS AS PRESENTED. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MAYOR JERRY TAYLOR AND CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

II. AGING PROGRAMS REVIEW

Ms. Carrie Schonlaw provided a handout outlining the aging programs and services provided through the Five County Area Agency on Aging. Funds are provided from the U.S. Administration on Aging, Older American Act programs administered through the state of Utah Division of Aging and Adult Services. Aging service staff work directly with of the Five County Council on Aging Coordinators, staff at the 13 senior citizen centers and one meal site to provide technical support, administration and day-to-day operations of nutrition and supportive services to seniors.

Program services provided for aging nutrition and supportive services include the following:

1) Supportive Services-- Funding through Title IIIB of the Older Americans Act for various services such as transportation, chore services, information & referral, outreach, etc. Funding is funneled to local counties to support various activities. Legal assistance is provided through a sub-contract with Utah Legal Services; **2) Nutrition Services--** This is the largest program under the Older Americans Act which supports congregate and home delivered meals to reduce hunger and food insecurity, promote socialization and overall health and well being. Title III-C1 provides a meal in a congregate or group setting and Title III-C2 provides a meal in the individuals place of residence. Mr. Ken Platt asked if clients could choose to have the meal delivered rather than participating at the congregate meal site. Ms. Schonlaw explained that clients must meet specific criteria in order to receive home delivered meals, not merely as a choice; **3) Senior Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP)--** Funds are provided through Title IIID of the Older Americans Act. This program supports activities at senior citizen centers such as Zumba, Tai Chi, health screenings, etc. Requirements of this program have changed and must be evidence based programs and services including health screenings/assessments, physical fitness/exercise classes and other activities such as the Chronic Disease Self Management Program; **4) Long Term Care Ombudsman--** Funding is provided under Title VIIB of the Older Americans Act. The LTC Ombudsman advocates for the rights of residents in long term care facilities to help protect their health, safety and welfare. The AOG contracts with two ombudsmen, Jennie Cerrito and Susan Swapp, who provide service in the 32 facilities located throughout the Five County area. Volunteers are also trained to assist with various work at the facilities. She noted that some cases are simple and easy to resolve, while others are more complicated and more involved; **5) Health Insurance Counseling (HIIP)--** This program provides information to seniors to help guide them in making decisions regarding their health insurance options, including Medicare A, B & D. Funding is allocated to the Five County Area Agency on Aging. However, the volunteer centers provide day-to-day operation and administration; **6) Senior Medicare Patrol--** This program helps Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries avoid, detect, and prevent health care fraud. Day-to-day operation and administration of this program are also provided by the volunteer centers.

Eligibility requirements for those clients receiving the above services are as follows: 1)The age requirement for most of these programs is 60 and over; 2) Not an entitlement program like Social Security, Medicare or Medicaid, and there is no guaranteed access to benefits; 3) Services can be curtailed due to lack of funding; and 4) A self declaration of income is utilized. There is no verification of ability to pay, but programs target low income individuals and those at or below the poverty level.

Ms. Schonlaw reviewed In-Home and Community Based Services provided by the Five County AOG through the Area Agency on Aging. These include several state and federal

programs which offer relief to frail elderly and some disabled adults and their families to help maintain themselves in their own homes. These programs are an alternative to more costly forms of care in assisted living or nursing homes. The AOG provides day-to-day management and operation of these programs at the local level as well as case management services for these programs. All other direct services for the program are contracted to local community providers. In-Home and Community Based Services include the following: **1) National Caregiver Support Program**-- Funding is provided through Title IIIIE of the Older Americans Act. This program offers five basic services for family caregivers including information about services, assistance in gaining access to support services, counseling, support groups and caregiver training, respite care to provide temporary relief, and supplemental services on a limited basis to complement the care being provided by the caregiver; **2) Alternatives Program**-- State funding approved by the Utah State Legislature to provide a variety of in-home services to low income seniors and some disabled adults to help them remain in their home as opposed to a long term care facility. Services include case management, homemaking, chore services, medication management, companion service, respite care, etc. Individuals must meet low income eligibility requirements, have a moderate risk score and be age 60 or older to qualify for this program. The program can serve approximately 3-5 people under the age of 60, but these individuals must have a high risk score; **3) Medicaid Waiver Programs (Title 1915C of the Social Security Act)**-- Two programs are provided under this program, Aging Waiver Medicaid and New Choices Waiver. The Aging Waiver Medicaid is a nursing home diversion program providing services to eligible individuals who choose to have their long term care services provided at home for individuals 65 years or older. Individuals must be Medicaid eligible and meet nursing home level of care. The New Choices Waiver program is a de-institutionalization program intended to help individuals who are currently residing in a nursing home on a Medicaid stay the opportunity to have their care needs met in a less restrictive setting. The Five County AOG only provides case management service for this program. Ms. Schonlaw reviewed eligibility requirements for this program and noted that all other services are paid directly to the provider by Medicaid; **4) Chronic Disease Self Management Program**-- Funding is provided from the U.S. Administration on Aging and Centers for Disease Control through the Utah Department of Health. This is an evidence based program developed by Stanford University which offers effective techniques to help individuals manage their chronic conditions and improve their overall health. Certified instructors teach these classes throughout the Five County region.

Ms. Schonlaw explained that hospice care is provided through home health agencies, but AOG case managers assist in the transition of clients to hospice services. She reviewed a list of Area Agency on Aging staff working in the Cedar City and St. George offices. Services are provided on a contract basis with individuals to provide nurses for Medicaid Waivers, the dietician working in the nutrition program, two ombudsmen and over 20 providers for home and community based programs.

III. AREA AGENCY ON AGING PLAN UPDATE

Mr. Ken Sizemore referenced information provided on pages 8-11 of the packet which summarizes program accomplishments and services provided by the Area Agency on Aging over the past year. Ms. Schonlaw reported that this is a five year plan with an annual report on the status of goals and objectives contained in the plan. The Aging and Nutrition Advisory Council provides guidance and direction for aging programs administered through the Area Agency on Aging.

Commissioner Douglas Heaton asked about the number of elderly that have some type of family support involved in their care. Ms. Schonlaw estimated that a large percentage of the clients served have either limited or extended support from family members. He stressed the importance of families providing care giver support to members of their family.

IV. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION UPDATE

UDOT's representative was not in attendance to provide update.

V. GOVERNORS OFFICE UPDATE

Office of Planning and Budget representative was not in attendance.

VI. DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE SERVICES UPDATE

Mr. Forest Turner reported that his position with DWS is based out of the Richfield office, which covers 10 counties in Central Utah. He provided copies of the latest edition of a magazine titled "Trendlines". The publication contains information on careers, economics, Utah's businesses, labor force, etc. Additional copies of the magazine are available on their website at www.jobs.utah.gov. Other information shared included flyers for job seekers and employers. It was also noted that positive responses have been provided for the use of "My Case". This program allows clients to have access to their information online and provides better management of their particular needs without having to visit an office in person. The department is in the process of implementing various improvements in their online system that will assist in streamlining processes.

He announced that on May 21st state of Utah agencies will be changing to G-mail. However, e-mail addresses for individual employees will not change. DWS is also implementing a new tool titled "Work Readiness Evaluation" for job seekers. This program provides six areas that work with clients to improve interview and job seeking skills.

Mr. Turner mentioned that the Family Dollar Distribution Center construction is slated for completion in the summer of 2013. This business will provide 450 new jobs to Washington County. It was also noted that growth is occurring in the transportation sector, specifically in central and southern Utah with Barney Trucking Company.

DWS participated in the Milford Renewable Energy fair that was recently held in Milford. A number of other vendors were present to provide information on renewable energy career opportunities.

Mr. Ken Sizemore reported that the Transitional Advisory Committee has held their initial meeting to provide a forum and discussion for the melding of the Housing and Community Development Division into the Department of Workforce Services. Each of the AOG Directors participate on this committee. The director of DWS has committed that no major changes will be made during the upcoming fiscal year. Assurances have also been provided that the HEAT program intake process will not be melded with the DWS intake process in the near term. DWS is committed to making the transition as smooth as possible and will provide information regarding any proposed changes prior to implementation.

VII. SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY UPDATE

Dorian Page, SUU's representative, was not in attendance.

VIII. DIXIE STATE COLLEGE UPDATE

Mr. Frank Ljoko, Dixie State College, provided copies of a booklet titled "Dixie State Magazine". The magazine outlines several building projects including the Jeffrey R. Holland Centennial Commons project open house scheduled for September 7, 2012. The building features natural stone quarried from the same location as stone on the 1st building in downtown St. George as well as incorporation of modern glass design. Dixie State College is moving toward becoming a university, and has a number of other construction projects that will transform the campus over the next several years. A number of fund-raising efforts are underway to garner sufficient funding for various planned projects. The Encampment Mall will include a stream, memory gardens with cabanas, and other features. An article included in the magazine highlights renovation of the library space to accommodate math and science programs. This will be accomplished with a generous donation from the Edward and Idonna Snow family.

IX. CONGRESSIONAL STAFF UPDATES

Ms. Marreen Casper, Senator Hatch's Office, reported that the Senator serves on the Transportation Conference Committee and is committed to formulating a bill that will provide funding for transportation. Senate leaders have attached Secure Rural Schools (SRS) and Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) to the transportation funding authorization. The House version does not include SRS or PILT but does include the Keystone Pipeline project. Senator Hatch also feels that the pipeline project is very important. This committee will be meeting daily until legislation is completed. The Senator also supports work being done by Senator Paul and Senator Bradford in terms of defining navigable waters under the Clean Air Act to combat regulations the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is trying to implement, especially in Washington County.

Ms. Casper reported that Gary Frazer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife and Heather Urban, U.S. Department of Interior, recently visited the Parowan Airport, Paragonah Cemetery, Cedar City Golf Course and other locations in Iron County affected by the Utah Prairie Dog. Both of these individuals indicated that the 4d rule under the Endangered Species Act could be used to remove prairie dogs from certain properties including cemeteries and airports if an approved fence is in place. Board members mentioned that there needs to be something done to allow counting of dogs that are on private land. The changes to the 4d rule are out in the Federal Register for comment, and Board members are encouraged to provide comments on this rule. Mr. Sizemore circulated an article that was published in the Wall Street Journal and also noted that a good report was aired on the Fox 13 news broadcast. Ms. Casper indicated that Senator Hatch still has legislation on the table that is in first draft, but he is concerned about moving the bill forward because of amendments that may be added. At this point in time, it would be best to proceed with solutions that could be addressed under the 4d rule.

Senator Hatch was encouraged that Secretary of the Interior, Ken Salazar, did not have any surprises when he was in town to dedicate two conservation areas. The Senator has expressed opposition to the creation of any new monuments in or around the state of Utah.

Mr. Mike Empey, Congressman Matheson's Office, indicated that the House is also working on the transportation bill. The bill does not include SRS and PILT funding and it seems to be bogged down at this time. The Congressman is hopeful that SRS and PILT funding can be added to the house bill. At this point, it appears that a Continuing Resolution may be the option rather than any new bill.

Congressman Matheson is also following the monument issue closely. He was encouraged that Secretary Salazar spoke highly of the stakeholder process utilized in developing the Washington County Land and Conservation Act. The House of Representatives passed legislation that would require congressional and state approval for designation of any new monuments and the Congressman is hopeful that the Senate will consider this legislation.

X. LOCAL AFFAIRS

A. CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Sizemore provided copies of the Utah Office of Energy Development USave energy loan fund availability. Those local units of government that are interested in pursuing a loan to retrofit publicly owned buildings to provide energy related cost-reductions can contact the contact person included on the handout. This is presented for information purposes.

B. OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL

Mr. Sizemore referenced the travel authorization request contained on page 12 of the packet. Carol Hollowell has requested that two staff members attend the Senior Corps Annual Training Conference pursuant to grant requirements. The conference is scheduled for June 17-21, 2012 in Chicago, Illinois. The total estimated travel cost for this request is \$3,300.00. The Chief Financial Officer and Executive Director have reviewed and approved the request and recommend Steering Committee approval for this out-of-state travel authorization.

Commissioner Dale Brinkerhoff questioned the need for two individuals to attend the same conference, and also requested that agendas for each conference be presented with the request for travel. Mr. Sizemore explained that it was originally planned for three staff to attend, but the budget was not sufficient to sustain those expenses. Brochures and other support materials were provided in the last meeting packet. There are three Senior Corps programs including the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), Senior Companion and Foster Grandparent. The conference provides a separate track for each of the abovementioned programs. It is proposed that Carol Hollowell and Amy Brinkerhoff attend the conference. Neither of these individuals have attended the conference previously and will benefit from obtaining training in their respective program specialities.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER DENNY DRAKE, SECONDED BY MS. CAROLYN WHITE, TO APPROVE THE OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL REQUEST FOR TWO VOLUNTEER CENTER STAFF TO ATTEND THE CONFERENCE IN CHICAGO, ILLINOIS AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED.

C. PERMANENT COMMUNITY IMPACT FUND BOARD (PCIFB) APPLICATIONS

Mr. Sizemore reported that no applications were submitted for review, but there are currently several applications in process that will be presented during the June meeting. Commissioner Denny Drake mentioned that he has completed Maloy Dodd's term on the Permanent Community Impact Board and will need to be considered for reappointment. This will be an agenda item for the June meeting.

D. PLANNING ASSISTANCE

None.

E. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Sizemore explained that over the past few months a number of untimely events have occurred impacting AOG staff. Sherri Dial lost her husband and Jane Lewis recently lost her son in a paragliding accident. Darren Janes recently informed executive staff that he will be leaving the AOG in pursuit of endeavors in the private sector. This will require hiring a planner to assume the Revolving Loan Fund program administration, planning assignments such as those currently being provided to Kanab City, as well as administration of the St. George Down Payment Assistance program. Because Scott Leavitt assumed duties of Chief Financial Officer, a new replacement for his transportation planning position will also be required. Job announcements for these two positions have been posted and will close in mid-May.

XI. AREAWIDE CLEARINGHOUSE REVIEWS

Mr. Sizemore reported that no reviews were received for consideration. A number of state agencies no longer utilize the review process, with the exception of State Trust Lands Administration.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 13, 2012 in Kanab. Mr. Sizemore mentioned to commissioners that an Executive Committee Meeting will be held earlier that day at either 10:00 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. at the same location. Notification of meetings will be provided one week in advance.

MOTION TO ADJOURN WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER DENNY DRAKE. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CHAD JOHNSON. MOTION CARRIED.

The meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.