

MINUTES

**FIVE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
October 10, 2018 - 1:30 p.m. - Heritage Center
105 North 100 East, Rooms #5 & 6
Cedar City, Utah**

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Commissioner Jim Matson, Chair
Mayor Robert Houston
Commissioner Jerry Taylor
Commissioner Dale Brinkerhoff
Harold Hayne for Mary Ann Kemp
Commissioner Victor Iverson
Mayor John Bramall
Terry Hutchinson, via telephone
Frank Lojko
Donna Law

REPRESENTING

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

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mayor Steve Swann
David Busk
Jordan Katcher
Rick Torgerson
Mike Sarles
Russell Goodrich
Jody Gale
Russ Cowley
Bryan Thiriot
Gary Zabriskie
Allison McCoy
Nathan Wiberg

Cedar Highlands
Department of Workforce Services
Permanent Community Impact Board
Utah Department of Transportation
USU Extension - Rural Online Initiative
USU Extension - Rural Online Initiative
USU Extension - Rural Online Initiative
Six County Association of Governments
Five County Association of Governments
Five County Association of Governments
Five County Association of Governments
Five County Association of Governments

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Commissioner Mike Dalton, Excused
Mayor Nolan Davis, Excused
Carolyn White, Excused
Mayor Jeff Stock
Frank Houston
Mayor Maile Wilson-Edwards
Lisa Livingston

Beaver County Commission Representative
Beaver County Mayor Representative
Beaver County Schools Representative
Garfield County Mayor Representative
Garfield County Schools Representative
Iron County Mayor Representative
Kane County Schools Representative

Commissioner Jim Matson, Chair, led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance and called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. Those asking to be excused include Commissioner Mike Dalton, Beaver County; Mayor Nolan Davis, Beaver County; and Ms. Carolyn White, Beaver County. Introductions were provided by those in attendance. It was noted that there was not a quorum present to conduct business. Non action items will be addressed while waiting for members to arrive and/or participate electronically via telephone.

I. MINUTES AUGUST 8, 2018 STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING - REVIEW AND APPROVE

Agenda item held until action items could be voted on once a quorum was present. Mr. Terry Hutchinson will be joining the meeting by telephone.

II. RURAL ONLINE INITIATIVE (ROI)

Mr. Mike Sarles, USU Extension, provided information on the Rural Online Initiative including goals, what they are hoping to do with the initiative, and introduction to the ROI team. It was noted that the state of Utah is doing well with unemployment overall, but some of the rural counties are not doing as good and are struggling with job losses. Governor Herbert is pushing rural jobs through this initiative in order to adapt to the market. Free lancing in the United States has increased and it will continue on this path into the future. Key legislative components of House Bill 327 focus on three online opportunities for work as follows: **1) Free Lance Work**-- A short term job that does not include benefits or include traditional work. It is project based, varies in duration, and the person can work from anywhere; **2) Remote Work**-- A job for a company that includes a W-2 for a company, has a job supervisor, regular work hours, but the individual works from home and/or a designated spot other than a corporate office; **3) Online Business Opportunities**-- Using things such as an Amazon or Ebay stores to sell items such as handicrafts rather than building your own online business. There are a lot of online opportunities, but this legislation focuses on these three. Activities, services, objectives, team members and territories of this pilot program were reviewed.

Mr. Russell Goodrich, USU Extension, updated committee members on the products, processes, and partners. He referenced a website <http://remoteworkscertificate.com> and a weekly newsletter that is available via an email subscription. This weeks newsletter outlined the 13 highest paying jobs. Information was shared on the certificate course that is available for participants. This provides instructions on how to find jobs and connect with companies, how to build a resume, time management, communication, and numerous soft skills. Other things in place to support the initiative include town halls, self-check, client funnel, virtual workshops, and scholarships. Partners include the Department of Workforce Services, high schools, county and local governments, freelance sites, training providers, and universities, colleges and/or trade/technical schools. Scholarship funds are available for additional classes that would enhance a specific skill. The phone number contact for Mike Sarles is 435-521-3877. A major goal for staff is to meet the needs of rural Utah, which vary county by county. The presentation also outlined top freelance and remote online job categories and potential partners and resources. Mr. Goodrich indicated that the goal of the program is to connect to existing resources and additional partners will be used as the program expands. Ms. Donna Law commented that higher education needs to be included as a partner to work cooperatively with other programs in meeting the needs in rural Utah.

III. CENSUS 2020 BRIEFING

Mr. Nate Wiberg, Five County Community Planner, reported that he attended the complete count census meeting last week in Salt Lake City. He reviewed some information items regarding the 2020 Census, and noted that online responses will be available for the first

time as the preferred response method. The online response portal will open March 23, 2020. He reviewed key issues and indicated that an email will be sent out to Steering Committee members providing links to mapping and other Census information. Mr. Gary Zabriskie mentioned that one issue that has not been addressed is the size of the block groups in rural Utah that often include a number of jurisdictions. For example, Pine Valley is included in the same block group as Enterprise City. It was noted that Mr. Sergio Martinez, U. S. Census Bureau, was unable to attend today's meeting, and he will be rescheduled for a future Steering Committee meeting.

IV. 2019 STEERING COMMITTEE CALENDAR

Commissioner Dale Brinkerhoff proposed that the 2019 Steering Committee meeting calendar be revised to include one meeting each for Iron and Washington counties, three meetings each for Beaver, Garfield and Kane counties, and the remaining meeting in Escalante. The reasoning is that the Five County organization should be out in other counties to conduct business. He also suggested that the agenda makeup needs to be addressed and some things need to be eliminated. Commissioner Victor Iverson suggested that in traveling to these outer areas a field trip could be included similar to what was previously offered with SUPAC. He also noted that the meeting agenda needs to be as productive as possible. Mr. Bryan Thiriot mentioned that the Six County AOG hosts a legislative summit and visits a business in the area. Mr. Jody Gale reported that these events are tied to their agenda and rotates each year to a different county. He also reported that Six County also hosts a Leadership Summit each year in Richfield, a natural resource tour of public lands rotating each year to a different county, a congressional briefing, and Legislative Summit. The congressional briefing and Legislative Summit also rotate each year to a different county. Commissioner Dale Brinkerhoff explained that this meeting rotation would include meetings for Behavioral Health, Public Health and the Human Services Council. It was suggested that a tentative calendar be presented at the November Steering Committee meeting for Board consideration. Discussion will continue regarding agenda content for future meetings.

Commissioner Jim Matson, Chair, acknowledged that a quorum was now present with seven members in-person and one member, Mr. Terry Hutchinson by telephone, for the agenda's action items.

XI. LOCAL AFFAIRS

B. CIB APPLICATION REVIEWS

Mr. Gary Zabriskie reference reviews of CIB applications contained in the meeting packet for projects that were applied for by the October 1st CIB deadline. For the record, Mr. Terry Hutchings indicated that he had reviewed the packet including the CIB reviews. Applications submitted were reviewed as follows: **1) Brian Head Town--** Phase I-C Streets and Utilities Project in Steam Engine Meadows. The estimated project cost is \$875,000 as a 2.5% loan; **2) Beaver City Municipal Building Authority--** The applicant is requesting a loan/grant for structural renovations to the Beaver Opera House which houses the senior citizen center as well as many community oriented programs. The facility is on the National Register of Historic Places. Other funding includes local match, a federal grant, and a state

grant for a total project cost of \$1.6 million; **3) Town of Bryce Canyon City**-- The town is proposing to construct a wellness clinic that would serve as a type of recreation center. The applicant is requesting a \$765,000 loan, a \$765,000 grant, and will provide in-kind match in the amount of \$70,000. Total project cost is \$1.6 million; **4) Town of Bryce Canyon City**-- The city is requesting a grant in the amount of \$20,000 for a General Plan. It was noted that CIB typically provides one half of the total cost for planning projects. The city will provide \$20,000 in match funds; **5) Tropic Town**-- The town is applying for a General Plan update. The request is for a \$11,000 CIB grant, and applicant is providing match funding in the amount of \$11,000. The total project cost is \$22,000; and **6) Panguitch City**-- Application for a Culinary Water Asset Management/Master Plan. The city is asking for a \$26,300 grant and will provide cash match in the same amount for a total project cost of \$52,600.

Mr. Zabriskie indicated that these applications will be presented to the CIB Board in November, December, or January during application review meetings. Part of the CIB process requires AOGs to review projects and express any concerns or to provide comments. The Board can support, remain neutral, and/or not support any of the applications presented for review.

MOTION WAS MADE BY MAYOR ROBERT HOUSTON, SECONDED BY MAYOR JOHN BRAMALL, TO SUPPORT ALL CIB PROJECT APPLICATIONS. MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE, WITH MR. TERRY HUTCHINSON VOTING AYE VIA TELEPHONE.

I. MINUTES AUGUST 8, 2018 STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING - REVIEW AND APPROVE

Commissioner Jim Matson, Chair, entertained a motion for approval of minutes.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER VICTOR IVERSON, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER JERRY TAYLOR, TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 8, 2018 MEETING AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE, WITH MR. TERRY HUTCHINSON VOTING AYE VIA TELEPHONE.

Commissioner Jim Matson, Chair, called up Agenda Item # X. because Mr. Frank Lojko and Ms. Donna Law needed to leave early. Mr. Terry Hutchinson dropped off the telephone call.

X. SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY AND DIXIE STATE UNIVERSITY UPDATES

Ms. Donna Law, Southern Utah University, provided members with a copy of the Alumni Magazine of Southern Utah State University and noted that it is homecoming week. She reported that SUU and DSU recently received a grant in the amount of \$1.43 million dollars from the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration, for expansion of entrepreneurship, to increase productivity, and spur innovation. Each university will have the opportunity to hire new staff to run and coordinate these programs. An announcement of award is contained on page 28 of the meeting packet. A bill was recently signed into law by President Donald Trump. SUU worked with Congress to get this bill enacted to change outdated training materials for aircraft mechanics and make changes

to FAA regulations. This will allow employers in the aviation field to save a lot of time and money because mechanics will come to them knowing how to work on their equipment under current regulations versus regulations developed 56 years ago. She reported that the aviation department is doing some amazing and innovative things. Reports on growth for higher education place SUU as the highest university percentage for new students, with a 34% growth rate over the last four years. Utah Valley University still had the most new student growth, but SUU was a higher percentage of growth at 7.65%. It is anticipated that at the end of the year the student population will be at about 11,000 and the target in five years is to be at 15,000. It was also noted that SUU's team won the Grand to Grand Ultra challenge by running a seven day 170 mile marathon competition against two other universities. This was used as a fund raising for the Child and Family Development Center. It was originally proposed that a new building would be built on campus, but it will be announced next week that the current President's residence will be re-purposed for this facility. A home on center street at 200 west has been purchased for use as the President's residence. The objective of this project is to recreate lab space that was lost when the new North Elementary School was constructed and the university lost its space in their new facility. It is also important to have a drop off childcare center for female students that will hopefully increase graduation rates for these students.

Commissioner Jerry Taylor reported that they are working on a Science/Paleontology Center to be located in Escalante and they need SUU to be involved in this effort. Ms. Law asked that he contact her so that she could connect him with the right people on campus.

Mr. Frank Lojko, Dixie State University, provided copies of the President's Report for 2017-18 for DSU. He reported that DSU was selected by U.S. News & World Report as the 7th best regional public institution in the west and as the 26th overall institution in the west. A music video was produced by DSU in collaboration with Alex Boye titled "A Million Dreams". This film showcased the active learning experience at DSU and it has received over a million hits. DSU has added approximately six new master programs, 68 new patents have been filed, of which 22 have filed trademarks and 11 have been granted. A number of donations have been made for the Technology, Innovation and Entrepreneurship Center. The Human Performance Center is nearing completion and they are working on getting the Science, Engineering & Technology Building for next year.

V. CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFING - NATURAL RESOURCE PROPOSAL

Mr. Russell Cowley, Six County Association of Governments, provided background information regarding a program sponsored by their association to provide a congressional briefing/ATV tour in areas throughout the six county area. The purpose of this event is to give people an on-the-ground experience and the congressional staff was targeted as participants. Staff have encouraged expanding the event to include members that need to come out to get the lay of the land and experience natural resources in the area. This proposal is something that may be of interest to the Five County AOG as well because there are also challenges with wild horses and other issues that need to be addressed. The Six County AOG Board has determined that they would like to pursue bringing members of the Senate and House of Representatives to visit/tour areas, to address issues, and provide an on-the-ground experience to learn what the west is all about. In order to accomplish this task, it is estimated that funding in the amount of approximately \$60,000 would be required. The funds would provide a scholarship for flights, bus rental, etc. Six

County AOG is approaching Five County to determine if this is something of interest to partner together to accomplish.

This year Mitt Romney, Representative Curtis and approximately 20 staffers attended the tour in Millard County. A number of congressional staff in attendance were from local, state and Washington D.C. offices. National Association of Counties (NACO) staff also attended and acknowledged the benefit of seeing things first hand and how much knowledge this provided for future reference. To be able to see a burn scar in person provides a different perspective than just talking about it in meetings. A main staffer for a congressional representative from Minnesota, over a three day period, attended the Congressional briefing/ride, as well as a dinner where public lands were explained and issues were discussed. It is very important to help representatives better understand Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT), Secure Rural Schools (SRS), and other issues related to public lands. This experience taught her about grazing permits and what permittees go through, timbering, mining, public lands, restoration projects, etc. Months later, her boss voted in favor of PILT funding as a Democrat from an eastern state. The focus of these Congressional briefings is to educate and expose people to issues on the ground. Once they see what is happening on the ground, they have a whole different perspective. Six County AOG is proposing to work with the Five County AOG to expand the Congressional briefing/ATV tour to a three day event that would include areas throughout both AOGs. Over time, the month of August has proved to be the best time to schedule these events, but the timing of the event could even be pushed to sometime in the spring. Commissioner Victor Iverson suggested that active forest management is a topic that needs to be discussed and perhaps having some individuals in administration with the goal to build relationships. Mr. Russell Cowley mentioned a possibility of having Congressman Rob Bishop schedule a congressional hearing somewhere in the area. He noted that Six County AOG will continue doing these things, but would be willing to expand the scope to include Five County AOG. A schedule of meetings, events, and/or ATV or bus tours would have to be planned for a two to three day visit. Mr. Jody Gale, USU Extension, indicated that he has been working with Six County on this for years, and from an educational standpoint this has been very successful. Mr. Cowley proposed that each county provide \$1,000 to participate in this effort. Combined with Six County that would provide a total of \$11,000 in funding. Because this is an educational process, there is no ethics question for representatives to attend. It was also suggested that state agencies should be approached to participate in funding this effort. It is important to calendar events early in order to work into the schedule of congressional senators and/or representatives. Commissioners were asked to discuss this proposal at a county level. Commissioner Jim Matson indicated that this would be considered for action in the November Steering Committee.

VI. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) HOW TO APPLY WORKSHOP ANNOUNCEMENT

Nate Wiberg, Five County AOG Community Planner, reported that post cards and the Five County AOG newsletter have been mailed to elected officials and non-profit organizations announcing the CDBG program fund availability and How-to-Apply workshops. Workshops are scheduled for Monday, October 22, 2018 in the Five County AOG office in St. George at 3:00 p.m. and in Panguitch at the Fire Station on Tuesday, October 23, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. The regional allocation methodology was voted upon during the last CDBG Policy Committee meeting. The process for changing the allocation has been in the works for the past several years. The 2018 allocation was divided as an

even split of funds to all AOGs. The CDBG Policy Committee members voted on another allocation method for 2019 that will better address regional needs. It was also voted that the new allocation method will not be changed for the next three program years. The allocation formula utilizes several criteria that address some program goals and regional needs. Those criteria include each regions percent of the state's low to moderate income population, the average poverty rate, number of housing units built prior to 1980, and the number of current low to moderate income communities in each region. A handout was provided which represents an arbitrary number for the state CDBG allocation to provide an example of what the funding allocation will look like. The actual amount that will be available for regional allocation will not likely be available until the June/July 2019 time frame. Mr. Gary Zabriskie explained that in the seven way split the Five County AOG lost about \$150,000 from previous allocations. The new formula recoups approximately \$100,000 of those funds.

VII. GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

No representative was able to attend. This will be rescheduled to a future meeting.

VIII. STATE UPDATES

Mr. Rick Torgerson, Utah Department of Transportation, provided information regarding the UDOT Long Range Plan, which identifies transportation goals and needs. Population projections for the state of Utah create many challenges for transportation. UDOT is currently soliciting comments on their Long Range Plan. The handout provides a link to an online map for use in submitting a comment or concern regarding a specific roadway. UDOT is looking mainly for comments on capacity type projects, safety concerns, active transportation, bike path needs, transit needs, etc. beyond corridor preservation. Staff is willing to come back to the November Steering Committee meeting to further discuss transportation needs and even pull up the map and input comments county by county. This is mainly for needs outside of the Dixie Metropolitan Planning Organization (DMPO) boundaries. The MPO develops and updates their own Long Range Plan. He explained how traffic counts are accomplished and noted that additional counters will be placed in various locations to capture seasonal traffic. Construction projects are scheduled for off-season and/or work is accomplished at night. Mr. Gary Zabriskie indicated that the November Steering Committee meeting will mainly be for presentation of the audit report. An open house could be scheduled for immediately after the meeting to allow UDOT to meet with elected officials to review transportation information, maps and to receive input. It was noted that the planning process stretches out to 2050 which is a daunting task. Comments can be provided prior to the meeting in November or at the meeting with UDOT.

IX. CONGRESSIONAL STAFF UPDATES

No representatives and/or staff were in attendance.

XI. LOCAL AFFAIRS

A. AREA-WIDE CLEARINGHOUSE REVIEWS

None.

B. CIB APPLICATION REVIEWS

This item was covered earlier when a quorum was available to take action.

C. OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL APPROVALS

None.

D. CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Bryan Thiriot referenced correspondence included on page 28 of the packet from the Economic Development Administration. Page 29 of the packet includes information on BLM public meetings for the draft Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument Plan scheduled for October 15, 2018 in Escalante at the Escalante High School and on October 16, 2018 in Kanab at the Kanab Elementary School. Committee members are encouraged to attend and provide input into this process. Page 30 of the packet contains a press release announcing three Utah Schools that have been designated as 2018 National Blue Ribbon Schools by the U.S. Department of Education. The Belknap Elementary School in Beaver City is one of the Utah schools to receive this designation.

E. DISCUSSION OF LOCAL ISSUES

Commissioner Jerry Taylor discussed work on stewardship with the Dixie and Fish Lake National Forests. Garfield County has been working with these agencies on development of a 20 year stewardship plan. Meetings are being scheduled to bring a lot of people together in pursuit of this effort which would include bringing some money back into the program and trying to get the forest service to better manage public lands. Watershed is a big issue that needs to be addressed, but fire shed should also be part of the discussion. The Brian Head fire has been devastating for Panguitch City because it destroyed their watershed. Things need to be done to manage forests, and a stewardship plan would be a big step. Good stewardship programs are a better means of management rather than using fire as a management tool.

XII. ADJOURN

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:42 p.m.