

MINUTES

FIVE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING February 13, 2019 - 1:42 p.m.

**Kane County Emergency Services Training Facility/ Search & Rescue Building
Upstairs Training Room
30 West Airport Drive, Kanab, Utah**

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Commissioner Gil Almquist, Chair
Mayor John Bramall
Becky Dunn
Commissioner Mike Dalton
Mayor Nolan Davis
Carolyn White
Commissioner Jerry Taylor
Frank Houston
Commissioner Paul Cozzens, Vice-Chair
Dale Brinkerhoff
Commissioner Lamont Smith
Mayor Robert Houston
Donna Law
Mike Olson for Frank Lojko

REPRESENTING

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

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Michael Clay
Jody Gale
David Busk
Adam Snow
Henrie Walton
Shannon McBride
Louis Pratt
Adie Nelson
Mary Reynolds
Josie Sprecher
Jim Matson
Bryan Thiriot
Allison McCoy
Gary Zabriskie
Nate Wiberg
Carrie Sigler
Pam Reclosado

Brigham Young University
USU Extension
Department of Workforce Services
Congressman Stewart's Office
Senator Romney's Office
Kane County Land Use
Kane County GIS
Kane County Land Use
Kane County Resource Management
Kane County Office of Tourism
Self
Five County Association of Governments
Five County Association of Governments

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Mayor Jeff Stock
Mayor Maile Wilson-Edwards, Excused
Lisa Livingston, Excused

Garfield County Mayor Representative
Iron County Mayor Representative
Kane County Schools Representative

Once a quorum was present, the meeting commenced at 1:42 p.m. Ms. Allison McCoy led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

I. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS OF NEW STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mr. Bryan Thiriot introduced new Steering Committee members as follows: Commissioner Dale Brinkerhoff, Iron County School Board Representative; Ms. Beck Dunn, Washington County School Board Representative; Commissioner Lamont Smith, Kane County Commission Representative; Commissioner Paul Cozzens, Iron County Commission Representative; and Commission Gil Almquist, Washington County Commission Representative. Mr. Gary Zabriskie mentioned that rotation of the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Steering Committee occurs during the February meeting each year. Members serve a one year term through January of 2020.

II. MINUTES NOVEMBER 14, 2018 STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING - REVIEW AND APPROVE

Commissioner Gil Almquist, Chair, acknowledged that a quorum was present to conduct business. He presented minutes of the January 9, 2019 Steering Committee meeting for discussion and consideration of approval. Ms. Carolyn White noted that minutes of the January Steering Committee meeting should reflect that she asked to be excused.

MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. DALE BRINKERHOFF, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER JERRY TAYLOR, TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 9, 2019 MEETING WITH THE NOTED CORRECTION. MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

III. UDOT RURAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING PROJECT

Dr. Michael Clay explained that part of his work at BYU in terms of planning includes public partners. Planning staff and students work with various communities and counties throughout the state to complete their General Plans. Utah Department of Transportation staff approached the university to become more heavily involved in planning for rural Utah. The purpose of this planning project is to provide an assessment of where rural Utah communities are and their planning capacity. The AOGs have been working with the Utah Department of Workforce Services Housing and Community Development Division Community Development Office to conduct a survey of municipalities. This project will assess staff internal capacity, plans, age of plans currently in place, funding for planning activities, number and types of consultants being used, services being provided by the private sector, etc. The final step in this process will be working with UDOT to create a strategy to be able to support rural Utah planning. As part of this initiative, UDOT hired four regional transportation planners, with one based in this region. The four new planners are available to assist communities with transportation planning. BYU is partnering with UDOT to provide a broader variety of services to rewrite ordinances, assist with development planning, etc. in a noncompetitive way with the private sector. AOGs will be asked to assist in providing contact information in various localities. Students in attendance introduced themselves to the group. Dr. Clay explained that he works with the Wasatch Front Regional Council and Mountainlands on their transportation modeling to evaluate transportation implications in terms of congestion, new facilities, etc. The goal of this project is to get baseline planning activities in rural Utah supported with the expertise

needed to move forward. A lot of work has been accomplished in the Six County region to provide planning assistance to communities. Staff will be working with the AOGs to obtain a contact list for communities in their region. Municipalities are asked to look for emails that will be forthcoming and to complete the survey to assist in providing baseline information that will be used to craft a strategy for rural Utah. Mr. Jeff Sanders, UDOT, introduced himself and indicated that he is the new planner hired to provide planning services for this region.

IV. FIVE COUNTY 2019 CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL ACTION PLAN - PUBLIC HEARING

Commissioner Gil Almquist, Chair, opened the public hearing and asked Mr. Nate Wiberg to present information regarding the plan. Mr. Nate Wiberg explained that the Consolidated Plan serves as the framework for community-wide dialogue to identify housing community development priorities. The focus is on block grant programs such as the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program and the Emergency Solutions Block Grant which are administered by the Five County Association of Governments. The plan is updated annually to detail the region's housing, community development, homeless and other special needs in the Five County region by assessing the CDBG and ESBG programs, and by collaborating with the Continuum of Care, housing authorities and other such programs, organizations and non-profits in the region. The 30-day public comment period began on February 1, 2019 and runs through March 2, 2019. Any necessary changes will be made after the public comment period closes. The Consolidated Plan will be presented to the Steering Committee in the March meeting for formal approval. The draft document is available to those interested by coming to the Five County AOG St. George Office located at 1070 West 1600 South, or on the website at www.fivecounty.utah.gov. A small amount of information will be added to the Continuum of Care program. A copy of the executive summary is included on pages 11-15 of the meeting packet. Mr. Gary Zabriskie explained that the new applications and proposed projects that have been applied for are incorporated into the plan. He highlighted a few projects in Kane County that received CDBG funding in the past. The Chair asked for any other public comments, noted none and closed the public hearing.

V. FY 2019 MID-YEAR BUDGET REVIEW AND REVISIONS - PUBLIC HEARING

Commissioner Gil Almquist, Chair, opened the public hearing, and asked Ms. Allison McCoy to provide information regarding mid-year budget revisions. Ms. McCoy indicated that the budget revisions account for a 2% increase in the overall budget. Some programs have received less funding, and several of the aging program budgets received additional funding. Copies of the budget revisions were included in meeting packets for Steering Committee members for review prior to today's meeting, and asked if anyone had particular questions that she could answer. Mr. Dale Brinkerhoff referenced page two of the budget revisions under Administration and asked about the \$8,000 budget increase listed. Ms. McCoy indicated that this covered the vacation payout amount for Ms. Jo Seegmiller when she retired. Funding for three new programs has been added to the budget since it's approval in June. Commissioner Mike Dalton asked about the \$4,500 increase in health insurance in the Administration budget. Ms. McCoy explained that this particular line item was under budgeted in the original budget and the addition of another employee also required an increase for health insurance. This was necessitated when the job duties for accounts payable and receivable was split from duties previously held by Ms. Jo Seegmiller. Mr. Dale Brinkerhoff asked about the increase of \$2,000 for rent. This increase was for

additional space in the Iron County building for the Cedar City AOG office. Noting no other comments or questions, Chairman Almquist closed the public hearing and entertained a motion to approve 2019 mid-year budget revisions.

MOTION WAS MADE BY MAYOR ROBERT HOUSTON, SECONDED BY MAYOR NOLAN DAVIS, TO APPROVE FY 2019 MID-YEAR BUDGET REVISIONS AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Commissioner Gil Almquist, Chair, indicated that Ms. Carrie Sigler needed to leave early so he moved down to Agenda Item #X.E. Local Affairs/Discussion of Local Issues and invited her to speak about the Care About Child Care program.

X. LOCAL AFFAIRS

E. DISCUSSION OF LOCAL ISSUES

Mr. Carrie Sigler, Director of the Five County AOG Care About Child Care Program, reported that this particular program serves both the Five County and the Six County AOG regions. She provided an update on what the state of Utah is doing with the child care programs. The federal government has asked all states to do a quality system rating for child care programs. Utah has started this process which will be ready for roll out and implementation in October. Every child care program that is licensed will be rated and given a rating. Those programs that are high quality will receive more subsidy funding for the low-income children they serve. Staff at the Five County AOG is working diligently to coach, observe and provide technical assistance to child care providers in the Five and Six County area. This has allowed for hiring several new employees to work with providers one-on-one to provide technical assistance in obtaining grant monies to help build quality programs. Mr. Bryan Thiriot indicated that the budget for this program is included on page 13 of the mid-year budget revisions packet.

Chairman Almquist returned to Agenda Item #VI.

VI. FIVE COUNTY AOG PERMANENT COMMUNITY IMPACT FUND BOARD (PCIFB) APPLICATION - PUBLIC HEARING

Commissioner Gil Almquist, Chair, opened the public hearing and asked Mr. Gary Zabriskie to provide pertinent information regarding the Five County AOG application to the PCIFB. Mr. Zabriskie explained that any time an application is made to the PCIFB, a public hearing is required to discuss the application and make information available to the public and elected officials serving on Board to determine any possible impacts of the project and if the application should proceed. It is also important to note that funding provided by the CIB Board may be in the form of a grant and/or a low-interest loan. This particular project is for the Tonaquint Office Building in St. George which is owned by the Five County AOG. The building was constructed in 2002 with Community Development Block Grant funds, and as its owner, the AOG has the responsibility to maintain this facility. The AOG does not have a general fund to rely on for any necessary improvements to the property. Monies are set aside in the budget for maintenance which includes grounds, janitorial, air conditioning/heating, painting, etc. However, funds are not available for capital expenses

are just not available. The fluorescent lighting in the building is in need of being upgraded. The cost for replacing bulbs and ballasts is cost prohibitive and will get worse as the old technology is retired. Consultation with the original electrical firm that wired the Tonaquint Building indicated that it would save a lot of money through an upgrade to LED lighting. The electrician estimates that the cost of electricity for lighting will decrease to about 1/4 of the current cost. The building has 131 drop in fixtures that would be replaced for a total cost of \$16,875. Some cash is available to put toward the cost of this upgrade to meet a match requirement. The application submitted to CIB is for \$13,375 for this capital expense that cannot be funded by the Association any other way without this help. This would also include replacement of the two inefficient pole lights lighting the parking in front of the building. The power is provided through St. George City, a municipally-owned power company, and Five County AOG, as a public agency, has no way to obtain a rebate that is typically available from other power companies.

Commissioner Gil Almquist, Chair, asked for additional comments, noted none and closed the public hearing.

MOTION WAS MADE BY MAYOR JOHN BRAMALL, SECONDED BY MS. CAROLYN WHITE, TO APPROVE SUBMISSION OF THE FIVE COUNTY AOG APPLICATION TO CIB FOR ELECTRICAL IMPROVEMENTS TO THE TONAQUINT OFFICE BUILDING. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

VII. STATE UPDATES

Mr. Dave Busk, DWS, provided copies of a workforce employer support update. He highlighted outreach work that DWS is doing in conjunction with SUU targeting over 100 high school students in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) related occupations. He explained that it is difficult to evaluate STEM jobs because there is no one definition in terms of what these jobs include. There are a lot of STEM job postings on a national level as well as the state level. DWS is evaluating data to present to students that reviews wages that can be earned for these types of job. STEM occupation wages are significantly higher than other labor industries that are available in this area. A number of workers are gaining industry experience and a lot of them are leaving Utah for other states to earn higher wages. DWS is working hard to fill the STEM gap and to guide workers to STEM careers when appropriate. It was mentioned that Washington County passed a bond that will create a new technical college for high school students. It is important for DWS to interface with technical colleges and school districts in support of their programs. Mr. Busk indicated that Dixie Tech is assisting DWS to put together the launch pads that will be utilized to address the STEM employment gap. Technical colleges will be key partners with DWS moving forward to launch students into their programs. In addition industry leaders are partnering with DWS to address employment issues and training. DWS has also been involved with School Districts and has worked with the Washington County School District to develop a work based learning program. DWS provides a industry research class to high school students to teach them how to use the DWS system, how to look at labor market data, wage data, employer research, resume writing, and interview skills. Employers post internship opportunities that are available for students in various pathways. Students compete for these opportunities as they would a regular job.

Mr. Jeff Sanders, Utah Department of Transportation, reported that UDOT is trying to make an effort to work with rural partners on transportation issues and planning. Every year UDOT visits each county to meet with local officials to discuss transportation. These meetings provide the opportunity to talk directly to the leadership at UDOT regarding upcoming projects and to provide feedback from local communities. Oftentimes a safety issue is presented that UDOT may not be aware of previously and some left over monies may be available to address the issue. County meetings are scheduled as follows: **1) Garfield County--** March 27, 2019 from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. at the Garfield County Courthouse in Panguitch; **2) Kane County--** March 26, 2019 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Kane County Courthouse in Kanab; **3) Washington County--** March 26, 2019 from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. at the Washington County Administration Building in St. George; **4) Beaver and Iron Counties-** - March 25, 2019 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Beaver County Courthouse in Beaver. He mentioned that UDOT provides planning for the rural parts of the state, whereas MPOs provide planning for the urban areas. The Dixie MPO provides a lot of the planning for Washington County, but UDOT does the planning for the remaining areas outside of the MPO. This planning is looking out into the future 20-25 years to provide a best guess regarding what types of transportation needs and improvements that will be required. These needs are put together into a plan and prioritized. This plan is updated every 4-5 years. All of these plans, including those prepared by MPOs, are combined into a Unified Plan covering the entire state. UDOT staff will return to counties to provide a draft list of projects and priorities sometime in April or May. Mr. Sanders also reported that the state has appropriated monies for the Zion Corridor Mass Transit between St. George and Zion National Park. This process has started, but it will take sometime for things to happen because it takes a year after ordering a bus before it is delivered. UDOT is working with Dr. Clay and other state agencies to create a coordinating council that will include other state agencies in rural areas. This will assist in coordination with rural communities, other state agencies and UDOT.

VIII. CONGRESSIONAL STAFF UPDATES

Mr. Adam Snow, Congressman Stewart's Office, reported that Congressman Stewart will be conducting 11 town hall meetings within the next week. Meetings will be held in Kanab, Panguitch, Cedar City, and St. George on Tuesday. Wednesday meetings will be held in Beaver and Millard County. A list of meeting times and locations will be emailed to committee members. He was unable to attend last month's meeting because he was in China working on trade deals that will help the state of Utah with their inland port development. As part of the visit, they toured massive ship yards that have been built over the past six years. Congressman Stewart will continue to serve on the Intelligence Committee, he is still on the Appropriations Committee and was placed on the Budget Committee. Any funding requests need to be conveyed within the next week. The budget deal to avert another shutdown is still being hammered out. Congressman Stewart feels there needs to be a lot more funding for border security, both physical barriers, technology and other things. He also provided an update on bills that impact SITLA land exchanges, the Farm bill and wild horses in Iron and Beaver Counties.

Mr. Henrie Walton, Senator Romney's Office, reported on the lands package that passed the Senate yesterday. This is the natural resources management act that has been in the works for sometime. The senator felt like this package was a locally driven solution to some of the land issues that Utah is facing. The bill mainly impacted Emery County and eastern and northern Utah. There were eleven bills specifically related to Utah in this

legislative package, and it is hoped that this bill will move through the House quickly. He reported that the Governor's Office and the Utah Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office (PLPCO) are working on the roadless rule. This will be forwarded to the Department of Agriculture within the next few months, and it is anticipated that there will be no issues getting the proposed changes. A meeting with the nominee for the Environmental Protection Agency was held last week in Washington D.C. to discuss the waters of the United States rule. It appears that LOTUS is essentially dead because the nominee feels that it does not comply with the law. Commissioner Gil Almquist asked about the HCP in Washington County. Mr. Walton indicated that the concern was to get the lands bill through first and then concentrate on the HCP.

IX. SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY AND DIXIE STATE UNIVERSITY UPDATES

Mr. Bryan Thiriot reported that Ms. Donna Law, Southern Utan University, and Mr. Frank Lojko, Dixie State University, are both at the legislature.

X. LOCAL AFFAIRS

A. AREAWIDE CLEARINGHOUSE REVIEWS

Mr. Gary Zabriskie reported receipt of a State Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA) notification that is included in the meeting packet on pages 20-22. This is for a proposed commercial lease of SITLA property in Dry Canyon near Kanab in Kane County. Kane County land use staff are in attendance to express Kane County's position on this lease. The Steering Committee can be supportive, non-supportive, or apply necessary conditions to their response for this action. Ms. Shannon McBride, Kane County Lane Use, reported that at this time Kane County is not supportive of this lease action. Currently there are problems with the hotels in Kanab and over saturation of room availability. There are also some archaeological sites in this area and UDOT has concerns with adding turn lanes on the highway in this location. This review did not include a lot of information and Kane County is requesting further details regarding the proposed action. Kane County is currently redoing their ordinances to address glamping sites and other SITLA projects. This particular project is not in compliance with the county general plan and other land use ordinances. Commissioner Lamont Smith expressed concern with the proposed location because of highway access issues and the fact that there is not a second access out of the property. He noted that this is not a suitable location for commercial activity. Other county representatives indicated the SITLA recently took land that had AUMs for livestock and this is a big concern for all counties. Mayor Robert Houston, Kanab City, reported that there is no water meter for this property and it is outside of the city limits.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER MIKE DALTON, SECONDED BY MAYOR JOHN BRAMALL, THAT THE FIVE COUNTY AOG STEERING COMMITTEE IS OPPOSED TO THIS SITLA ACTION. MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Ms. Carolyn White, Beaver County School District, indicated that she spoke to the Trust Lands Advisory Committee to bring forward the sentiment of counties

regarding lease and sale of properties. She asked that it be taken to SITLA administration for staff to work with counties. Commissioner Mike Dalton indicated that counties are notified of actions but their concerns or comments carry no weight. The only goal for SITLA is to make money. Commissioner Lamont Smith shared an example of opposition to a development at Mount Carmel, and because of access issues to the property SITLA pulled the application. So sometimes opposition does apply pressure and result in a favorable action. Ms. Carolyn White expressed a desire for SITLA to work together with counties on proposed leases and sales. Everyone desires to have the money go into the children's education fund and it is a great thing. However, the current line of communication is causing feelings and distrust. Mr. Bryan Thiriot asked if it would be appropriate to have SITLA attend a AOG Steering Committee meeting to encourage some dialogue. Committee members expressed a desire to invite SITLA to attend a meeting to discuss various issues. Mayor John Bramall indicated that a major concern for counties would be having to build roads and provide various types services to the development.

B. CIB APPLICATION REVIEWS

Mr. Gary Zabriskie reported that nine applications from the Five County region have been submitted to CIB this trimester for funding. A summary sheet for each application was included in the meeting packet for review prior to the meeting today. Applications include the following: **1) Beaver County Municipal Building Authority--** An equestrian and event center; **2) Beaver County Fire SSD #2--** Office building in Milford; **3) Diamond Valley Fire SSD--** A new type 3 wildland engine truck; **4) Escalante City--** A new type one aerial fire truck; **5) Iron County SSD #3- -** Iron Springs Road structural upgrade; **6) Panguitch City--** City recreational lighting for ball fields; **7) Santa Clara City--** A new bridge on Chapel Street for secondary access; **8) Tropic Town--** New Sewer Lagoons to add more capacity and **9) Five County AOG--** Lighting project. He asked if anyone had questions on any of the projects under consideration. The Board has the option to support, not support or remain neutral on any of the projects.

MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. DALE BRINKERHOFF, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER JERRY TAYLOR, TO SUPPORT ALL CIB APPLICATIONS AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

C. OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL

Mr. Bryan Thiriot referenced pages 39-47 containing two out-of-state travel requests as follows: **1) Bryan Thiriot--** Request to attend the National Association of Development Organizations Economic Conference in Washington D.C. scheduled for March 17-20, 2019; and **2) Nate Wiberg--** To attend the 2019 National Conference of the American Planning Association to be held April 13-16, 2019 in San Francisco, CA.

MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. DALE BRINKERHOFF, SECONDED BY MAYOR JOHN BRAMALL, TO APPROVE OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL FOR BRYAN THIRIOT AND NATE WIBERG AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED.

D. CORRESPONDENCE

Commissioner Mike Dalton reported that he serves as the Five County AOG representative on the Community Impact Board (CIB). A bill has been put forth by Senator Ron Winterton (Senate Bill 152) that would completely change the makeup of the CIB board. He explained the seven county coalition consisting of Uintah, Duchesne, Daggett, Emery, Carbon, San Juan, and Sevier counties. He noted that Sevier County is not really on board with the proposal. This change would eliminate the Board of Water Resources representative, Water Quality representative, the Director of DWS representative from Housing and Community Development, and the State Treasurer from the CIB board. In place of these representatives, there would be someone from SITLA, a member of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, a member of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House, the four AOGs would still have one representative each and the county with the highest coal production would have another member, the county with the highest oil production would have another member, and the county with the highest natural gas production would have another member. It would still be an 11 member board with these proposed changes. As a member of the Board, all applications presented and supported today to the CIB would be thrown out because the vote would be 10 to 1, 9 to 2, or possibly 8-3 in defeat. Speaking from experience, it is nice to have a drinking water division representative when considering a drinking water application and vice versa with water quality. The highway department representative would remain on the Board and the State Treasurer needs to be there because he is in charge of the state's money. The Chairman of the Board is set forth in the statute now to be the Housing and Community Development Director which provides a disinterested party to preside over the CIB program. This would also take 2.5% of the CIB proceeds to be given to the seven county infrastructure coalition for their operating expenses. The Six County AOG governing body voted unanimously to submit a letter of opposition for the proposed changes to the President of the Senate, Speaker of the House, the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Majority Leader, and all of the house and senate representatives for Six County. Copies of a draft letter were handed out for discussion and consideration of approval. The letter states that the governing body, the Steering Committee, of the Five County Association of Governments voices firm and unequivocal opposition to Senate Bill 152. A lot of other detail is included in the letter. The letter discusses the effects the proposal may have and how it could completely change the direction of the CIB Board. Portions of the draft letter were read aloud, describing the purpose of the CIB, which were taken directly from State Statute.

MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. DALE BRINKERHOFF, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LAMONT SMITH, TO APPROVE THE DRAFT LETTER OPPOSING SENATE BILL 152 FOR THE CHAIR'S SIGNATURE AS PRESENTED, WITH THE LETTER TO BE SENT TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UTAH SENATE, AS WELL AS ALL OF THE OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS LISTED ON THE LETTER, AS CARBON COPY. MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

E. DISCUSSION OF LOCAL ISSUES

Mr. Jody Gale, USU Extension, addressed the Five and Six County AOG partnership for congressional briefings and tours. The purpose of these events will be to provide education to members of the U.S. House, U.S. Senate and Natural Resource Committees as the target audience. Members of the U.S. House, Senate and appropriate committee representatives will be invited to Utah on August 7-14, 2019. This will be a standard version of the Six County AOG tour that has been held for many years. Emphasis will be placed on those from the Democratic side of the aisle to come to Utah to learn specifically about the issues. The theme will center around catastrophic wildfire and everything that flows from that issue, including forest management. Other topics of discussion will include grazing, wild horse issues, etc. Invitations will be sent to key resource committee members sitting on natural resource committees as well as their staff. Travel scholarships are being offered to those members willing to come. All eleven counties have provided \$1,000 each in funding and Utah State University is providing \$2,500 for a scholarship as well. In addition there is a \$2,000 travel scholarship from Six County AOG that they have provided for a couple of years. The Utah State Department of Natural Resources will provide two scholarships for a total of \$5,000, the Utah Department of Agriculture will provide another two scholarships for a total of \$5,000, and PLPCO is working to provide grant monies as well. There is currently about \$35,000 worth of scholarship funds that have been committed, and work is continuing to obtain other agency commitments. Local county commissioners visited Washington, D.C. and met with a lot of staff members to gain support of this educational process and to obtain names of individuals that would be invited to participate. Representative Ben McAdams wants to be involved and will work to encourage others to attend. It was also noted that a number of contacts will be made during the NADO conference.

XII. ADJOURN

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 13, 2019 at the new Fire Station in Minersville at 1:30 p.m. Being no further business, the Chair called the meeting adjourned at 3:22 p.m.