

MINUTES

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

February 13, 2013

Kanab, Utah

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Commissioner Clare Ramsay, Chair
Ken Platt
Commissioner Mike Dalton
Carolyn White
Commissioner Dale Brinkerhoff
Mayor Dutch Deutschlander for
Mayor Connie Robinson
Shane Adams
Commissioner Jim Matson
Mayor Nina Laycook
Wendy Allan
Mayor Dan McGuire

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Ellen Schunk
Victor Iverson
William Swadley
Gary Webster
Marreen Casper
Jan Thompson
Ken Sizemore
Scott Leavitt
Carol Hollowell
Diane Lamoreaux

MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Mayor Mark Yardley
Mayor Jerry Taylor, Vice-Chair (Excused)
Commissioner Denny Drake, Excused
LuAnne Forrest
Dorian Page, Excused
Frank Lojko, Excused

REPRESENTING

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

Iron County Schools Representative
Kane County Commissioner Representative
Kane County Mayor Representative
Kane County Schools Representative
Washington County Mayor Representative

Senator Lee's Office
Senator Lee's Office
Senator Hatch's Office
Congressman Chris Stewart's Office
Public
Department of Workforce Services
Five County Association of Governments
Five County Association of Governments
Five County Association of Governments
Five County Association of Governments

Beaver County Mayor Representative
Garfield County Mayor Representative
Washington Co. Commissioner Representative
Washington County Schools Representative
Southern Utah University
Dixie State College of Utah

Commissioner Clare Ramsay, Chair, welcomed everyone in attendance. Those asking to be excused include Mayor Jerry Taylor, Garfield County Mayor Representative; Commissioner Denny Drake, Washington County Commissioner Representative, Mr. Dorian Page, Southern Utah University and Mr. Frank Lojko, Dixie State College. Mayor Dutch Deutschlander was representing Mayor Connie Robinson, Iron County Mayor Representative.

I. MINUTES OF JANUARY 9, 2013 - REVIEW & APPROVE

Chairman Ramsay indicated that a quorum was present for conduct of business and presented minutes of the January 9, 2013 Steering Committee meeting for Board discussion and consideration.

MOTION WAS MADE BY MS. CAROLYN WHITE, SECONDED BY MAYOR DUTCH DEUTSCHLANDER, TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 9, 2013 MEETING AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

II. STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Mr. Sizemore welcomed Shane Adams, the new representative for the Iron County School Board. Mr. Adams indicated that he lives in Parowan where he works at State Bank of Southern Utah. He replaced Alan Adams on the Iron County School Board. Mr. Ken Platt and Ms. Carolyn White both indicated that they will continue to represent their respective county school board's.

A. MAYOR REPRESENTATIVES - INTRODUCTION

Mr. Sizemore noted that the Mayor Representatives will remain unchanged with the exception of Dan McGuire, Washington County Mayor Representative who was introduced during last month's meeting. Ms. Carolyn White indicated that someone needs to have a discussion with Beaver City because they are under the impression that the mayor representative will rotate to another city in Beaver County. Beaver City is willing to continue to serve in this capacity, but would like some clarification in this regard. Commissioner Mike Dalton indicated that he would work with the cities in Beaver County to clarify the mayor assignment to this Board.

B. CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR - KANE COUNTY

Mr. Sizemore explained that each February the Chair and Vice-Chair positions rotate from county to county in a clockwise rotation. Kane County representatives will serve in this capacity. Commissioner Jim Matson will serve as the Chair and Mayor Nina Laycook will serve as the Vice-Chair. Commissioner Jim Matson indicated that the commission shifted some responsibilities this year and he has accepted the assignment to serve as the new representative of the Kane County Commission and as Chair of the Steering Committee.

III. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTIONS

Mr. Ken Sizemore reviewed Executive Committee mid-year budget revisions which mainly included three major changes as follows: **1) Rural Foster Grandparent Program**-- Addition of funds to operate this program in the three counties in Southeast Utah and Tooele County in Northern Utah; and **2) Home Energy Assistant Target (HEAT) Program**-- This program provides utility assistance for income eligible families throughout the Five County region. HEAT intake workers determine eligibility of clients and the state of Utah provides direct payments to utility companies. In the past, the Association of Governments received what was called crisis funds to assist families with urgent needs. The state of Utah has

determined that all payments, including the crisis funds, will be paid directly by the state of Utah. This will decrease the budgeted amount of funds to the HEAT program. HEAT workers in the Five County region will still provide eligibility determination for the program; and 3) **Telephone Expenses**-- The AOG changed telephone providers which precipitated changes to many cost center budgets. The Executive Committee approved mid-year budget revisions and this action needs to be ratified by the Steering Committee.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER CLARE RAMSAY, SECONDED BY MR. KEN PLATT, TO RATIFY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTIONS FOR MID-YEAR BUDGET REVISIONS AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED.

IV. REGIONAL MEETINGS SCHEDULE ADJUSTMENTS

Commissioner Jim Matson explained that a proposal that would adjust meeting dates and times for the Five County Human Services Council, Southwest Utah Public Health, Southwest Mental Health and the Steering Committee were discussed at length at the Human Services Council meeting. The group determined that schedules for each of these meetings would not be changed at this time. The option to shift meetings will be addressed at a later date.

V. RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT LETTER

Mr. Ken Sizemore referenced draft correspondence to Senator Ralph Okerlund on page 11 of the packet regarding the extremely high cost of extending utilities to rural areas of the state. The Utah Economic Alliance has been working on this issue and requested a letter of support from the Association of Governments. New legislation is being introduced for a post-performance state tax incentive to extend electric and natural gas lines. An update to state utility statute would allow natural gas customers to competitively bid line extensions. Correspondence was presented for authorization of the Chair's signature.

MOTION WAS MADE BY MR. KEN PLATT, SECONDED BY MAYOR NINA LAYCOOK, TO AUTHORIZE THE CHAIR'S SIGNATURE ON CORRESPONDENCE AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED.

VI. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CAPACITY BUILDING GRANT REVIEW

Mr. Sizemore reported that the Five County Association of Governments has designation as an Economic Development District by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration. This designation allows the District to receive funds for strategic economic development planning and qualifies communities and counties for economic development assistance. There have been many projects funded as a result of this designation including many industrial parks throughout the region and other important economic development projects. Other projects of mention include the Kanab Airport and the Thermo Road in Beaver County. Most recently applications have been submitted by the Dixie Business Alliance for a business incubator and Cedar City for a SyberJet company that needs the ability to wheel final product out of their facility onto the runway for delivery to clients. These two applications are moving forward at this time. EDA has also been the major investor in the Five County Revolving Loan Fund, with matching funds coming from the Community Development Block Grant program. The RLF program has been very successful in providing funds to businesses throughout the region. Five County receives

approximately \$60,000 to help with regional economic development activities including coordination with county economic development professionals and working with federal and state land management agencies. Regional EDA representatives have encouraged Five County to re-apply for these planning funds. Mr. Sizemore explained that each of the five counties contributes \$15,000 annually for utilization as match funding for various contracts. Approximately \$23,000 of match funding is required for the EDA grant. Correspondence contained on page 12 of the packet for the Chair's signature confirms that match dollars are in place. Authorization for the Chair to sign this letter is requested.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER MIKE DALTON, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DALE BRINKERHOFF, AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR'S SIGNATURE ON CORRESPONDENCE TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION. MOTION CARRIED.

VII. UTAH BROADBAND PROJECT

Mr. Sizemore referenced pages 13-14 of the packet containing information regarding the Utah Broadband Project. The state of Utah is undertaking this program utilizing federal funding that has been allocated to the state. Utah is ahead of the curve in terms of accessibility throughout the state, especially in rural areas. The state has offered \$20,000 to each of the AOG's to assist with the facilitation of public outreach. Mr. Sizemore requested authorization to accept these funds from the state.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER DALE BRINKERHOFF, SECONDED BY MAYOR DUTCH DEUTSCHLANDER, TO AUTHORIZE ACCEPTANCE OF \$20,000 TO PROVIDE OUTREACH FOR THE UTAH BROADBAND PROJECT. MOTION CARRIED.

VIII. DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE SERVICES UPDATE

Ms. Jan Thompson reported that Mr. Jon Pierpont, DWS Executive Director, has chosen Geoffrey Landward and Casey Erickson to serve as Deputy Directors. An update was provided regarding the Viracon glass fabrication plant closure in St. George. The company has announced that it will be shutting down on April 15th to refurbish the plant and upgrade equipment for new products. It is anticipated that the plant will re-open in two years with the same number of employees. The plant currently has 222 employees. DWS will be providing rapid response to work with employees to provide training and opportunities for employment in the community. Ms. Thompson explained that these are very skilled employees that will need to be absorbed into the workforce, mainly in Iron and Washington counties. Unemployment benefits for these employees will only last a short period of time and it is important that they seek employment. Viracon will be contracting out the equipment refurbishing to companies and will not utilize any of the current employees for this operation. As few as 10-15 employees will have the opportunity to transfer to Minnesota or Georgia.

Ms. Thompson provided a handout outlining statewide and regional planning data that is available on their website. Lecia Langston, regional data specialist, is available to assist with providing economic data.

IX. SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY

Mr. Ken Sizemore reported that staff was informed that Brian Cottam has resigned his position with Regional Services. Brian has been hired as the Deputy Director for the State Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands and will be moving to the Salt Lake City area.

X. DIXIE STATE COLLEGE UPDATE

Mr. Frank Lojko, Dixie State College, had made arrangements for another representative to provide an update, but circumstances prevented her from being able to attend.

XI. CONGRESSIONAL STAFF UPDATES

Chairman Jim Matson recognized and welcomed Marreen Casper. Ms. Casper indicated that she had promised to attend the first meeting to introduce the new area representative for Senator Hatch and noted that everyone will be pleased with Mr. Swadley's service.

Mr. Bill Swadley, Senator Hatch's Office, reported that Senator Hatch felt that President Obama missed his chance during the State of the Union address to focus on strengthening the economy, generating jobs and getting spending under control. Instead it was a focus on expanding through programs. The Senator had hoped that his focus would have been different and he was extremely disappointed. The Senate Finance Committee held a hearing for the new nominee for the Secretary of the Treasury, Jack Lew. There are many things that Mr. Lew would be in charge of including social security, medicare, the implementation of financial regulations, tax collection and many other important elements relating to the economy. This is an extremely important nomination. He noted that there will be a number of hearings for other cabinet level positions over the next several weeks. Commissioner Dale Brinkerhoff asked where PILT and SRS stand in terms of funding. Mr. Swadley responded that it is a challenge to find offsets in the budget to fund many programs such as PILT and SRS. Mr. Victor Iverson, Senator Lee's Office, commented that eastern lawmakers do not understand the burden of no access to public lands and natural resources. It will be the same battle as in past budget discussions to secure funding in future budget years. One issue that contributes to securing funding is the inability of Washington to pass a federal budget. It is difficult to plan programs without a budget amount to plan around.

Mr. Gary Webster, Congressman Chris Stewart's Office, reported that the congressman will be serving on three committees as follows: **1) Natural Resources--** Including appointment to the Public Lands, Environmental Regulations and Water and Power subcommittees; **2) Homeland Security;** and **3) Science, Space and Technology--** Serving as Vice Chair of the committee on environment. The congressman's response to the State of the Union address contains five points as follows: 1) Cut Spending; 2) Restore the economy while balancing the budget; 3) Decrease the deficit and find fiscal sanity; 4) Commit to get spending under control; and 5) Cut spending as opposed to sequestration. Press releases are available on the Congressman's website: www.stewart.house.gov

Mr. Webster indicated that the Congressman will be watching closely the appointment of the Secretary of the Interior because of the significant bearing on public lands. He also noted that the Southern Utah office will be located on St. George Boulevard. Business cards are available that include his contact information.

Ms. Ellen Schunk, Senator Lee's Office, reviewed the Senator's appointments as follows: **1) Judiciary; 2) Energy & Natural Resources; 3) Joint Economic; and 4) Senate Armed Services Committee.** Recess appointments made by President Obama were challenged in the U.S. Court of Appeals D.C. Circuit Court and found to be unconstitutional and invalid. It is unknown at this time how this will ultimately impact these appointments. Ms. Schunk reported that immigration reform is the current hot topic of discussion. Senator Lee has introduced two pieces of legislation that address border security, fixing the legal immigration system and meeting the demands of the economy. The Senator re-introduced his Balanced Budget Amendment in January and is continuing to work hard to address budget issues. Senator Lee did not support the nomination of Chuck Hagel to serve as Secretary of Defense.

Victor Iverson, Senator Lee's Office, reported regarding the Endangered Species Multi-District Settlement on the status of 11,000 candidate species. The Coral Pink Tiger Beetle is one of the species under consideration. He thanked Kane County for their efforts in working with the local Bureau of Land Management officials to prevent this listing. Other species of concern include the Greater Sage Grouse and the listing of the Gunnison Sage Grouse in San Juan County. These listings would greatly impact farm lands. The Grazing Improvement Act has been re-introduced. Additional pressure is being exerted by environmental groups to challenge grazing. The House of Representatives has previously passed over 100 land bills that have died in the Senate. The Senator is carefully monitoring the nomination of Sally Jewel for Secretary of the Interior.

Commissioner Jim Matson asked about the sequestration that is scheduled to occur in 15 days. Mr. Iverson responded that it appears increasingly likely that this will happen. Agencies should prepare for the worst case scenario and hope that something is done to avoid sequestration. Senator Lee is not very optimistic that this can be avoided at this point. Commissioner Matson also asked about the possibility of a monument being declared on the Arizona Strip and also wondered about wildland issues. Mr. Iverson indicated that the possibility of the Greater Canyonlands monument is more likely. It was noted that public lands issues have been topics of discussion by the Steering Committee in the past. Commissioner Matson also spoke about Mike Noel's bill dealing with cultural aspects of grazing on national monuments. This legislation will serve as a stumbling block in the path of environmentalists by declaring grazing as cultural heritage situations. It may create one more obstacle to address seizure of grazing lands. It was also noted that Governor Herbert has authorized Leonard Blackham, State Department of Agriculture, to examine wildland forest fire issues to implement a means to get the landscape in safe condition to prevent safety issues and loss of habitat.

XII. LOCAL AFFAIRS

A. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

B. OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL

Mr. Sizemore reviewed an out-of-state travel request provided on pages 15-16 of the packet. Mr. Gary Zabriskie is requesting permission to attend a National

Development Council Training Course scheduled for the week of February 19-22, 2013 in Los Angeles, CA. The final course needed to complete his certification will also be held in Los Angeles in the Spring. These courses will assist in administration of the Five County Revolving Loan Fund program. He will be driving because it will be less expensive. Staff is requesting authorization for out-of-state travel for both Training courses in Los Angeles.

MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER CLARE RAMSAY, SECONDED BY MR. KEN PLATT, TO AUTHORIZE OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL FOR GARY ZABRISKIE TO ATTEND BOTH OF THE NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL TRAINING COURSES HELD IN FEBRUARY AND APRIL IN LOS ANGELES. MOTION CARRIED.

Mr. Sizemore reviewed the travel request for Lis Barker and Kim Kitteridge to travel to Denver, Colorado to present a workshop on active learning on March 1-2, 2013. The Utah Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies has committed to pay for lodging and per diem. Other associated costs would be taken from the Child Care budget. Staff will also be driving to Denver because it is less expensive. Staff is recommending approval of this request.

MOTION WAS MADE BY MS. CAROLYN WHITE, SECONDED BY MAYOR DAN MCGUIRE, TO APPROVE THE OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL REQUESTS FOR LIS BARKER AND KIM KITTERIDGE TO TRAVEL TO DENVER TO ATTEND THE CONFERENCE AS OUTLINED . MOTION CARRIED.

C. PERMANENT COMMUNITY IMPACT FUND BOARD (PCIFB) APPLICATIONS

Mr. Sizemore referenced four application reviews included in the packet as follows: **1) LaVerkin City**-- Silver Acres reconstruction project loan request; **2) Santa Clara City**-- Flood retention dam replacement project loan request; **3) Virgin Town**-- Restore/Reuse historic meeting house and construct support structure project request for a grant/loan; and **4) Henrieville Town**-- Late arrival that was received after the packet was mailed for a culinary water project. The Board has the opportunity to support, not support, or remain neutral.

MOTION WAS MADE BY MAYOR DUTCH DEUTSCHLANDER, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MIKE DALTON, TO SUPPORT APPLICATIONS TO THE PERMANENT COMMUNITY IMPACT BOARD AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Ms. Sizemore provided handouts for the Henrieville application late arrival, PCIFB capital improvement list prioritization meetings scheduled to take place in March, and PCIFB program application tutorial meeting that is scheduled for March 20, 2013 in Cedar City. It was also announced in the last CIB meeting that interest rates for loans would be reduced from 2.5% to 1.5%. This is a significant change that jurisdictions could utilize for infrastructure projects.

D. PLANNING ASSISTANCE

None.

E. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Sizemore

XIV. AREAWIDE CLEARINGHOUSE REVIEWS

Mr. Sizemore reported that no A-95 reviews were received for Board action. As mentioned previously, SITLA is the only state agency that appears to be submitting project reviews.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 13, 2013 in Beaver at the Beaver County Administration Building.

The meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.