

**DRAFT**

**MINUTES**

**FIVE COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS**

**STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2020  
1:30 P.M.**

**IN PERSON ATTENDED AT:  
FIVE COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING  
LOCATED AT 1070 W. 1600 S. BLDG. B; ST. GEORGE, UTAH  
ELECTRONIC PARTICIPATION IN THE MEETING WAS PROVIDED  
VIA GOTOMEETING VIDEO CONFERENCE AND/OR TELEPHONE CALL-IN**

**NOTE:** WHILE THIS INCLUDED LIMITED IN-PERSON ATTENDANCE DUE TO COVID-19, ALL INTERESTED PARTIES AND THE PUBLIC WERE ESPECIALLY INVITED TO PARTICIPATE VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE AND/OR TELEPHONE.

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE IN-PERSON**

Commissioner Paul Cozzens, Chair  
Commissioner Jerry Taylor  
Commissioner Lamont Smith  
Commissioner Gil Almquist (arrived after Item VI.)

**REPRESENTING**

Iron County Commission Representative  
Garfield County Commission Representative  
Kane County Commission Representative  
Washington County Commission Representative

**MEMBERS ATTENDING VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE**

Commissioner Mike Dalton, Vice-Chair  
Carolyn White  
Mayor Todd Robinson  
LaRene Cox  
Frank Houston

**REPRESENTING**

Beaver County Commission Representative  
Beaver County School Board Representative  
Iron County Mayoral Representative  
Washington Co. School Board Representative  
Garfield County School Board Representative

**MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE**

Mayor Nolan Davis (excused)  
Mayor Melanie Torgerson (excused)  
Mayor Robert Houston  
Lisa Livingston  
Dale Brinkerhoff  
Mayor John Bramall

**REPRESENTING**

Beaver County Mayoral Representative  
Garfield County Mayoral Representative  
Kane County Mayoral Representative  
Kane County School Board Representative  
Iron County School Board Representative  
Washington County Mayoral Representative

**OTHERS ATTENDING VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE**

Heath Hansen  
Scott Albrecht  
Adam Snow

**REPRESENTING**

Senator Mike Lee  
Senator Mitt Romney  
Congressman Chris Stewart

Dennis Patten  
Brett Howser  
McKenna Marchant  
Wade Hollingshead  
Gregg McArthur  
Rusty Hughes

Self  
Brian Head Town Manager  
Utah Community Development Office (CDO)  
Beaver County Commissioner-Elect  
St. George Area Economic Dev., Exec. Dir.  
St. George Area Economic Dev., Deputy Dir.

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE IN-PERSON**

Bryan Thiriot  
Gary Zabriskie

**REPRESENTING**

Five County A.O.G. Executive Director  
Five County A.O.G. Deputy Director

I. WELCOME BY COMMISSIONER PAUL COZZENS, CHAIR

Chairman Paul Cozzens opened the meeting at 1:35 p.m.

II. DETERMINATION THAT QUORUM IS PRESENT

A roll call vote determined that there were (8) voting members attending at this point, 5 via the video conference or by telephone, and 3 in-person. Chairman Cozzens determined that a quorum was present to begin business. [Commissioner Gil Almquist entered the meeting in-person after Agenda Item #VI]

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The group recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. OCTOBER 14, 2020 MEETING MINUTES – PREVIEW AND APPROVE

Chairman Cozzens presented this item, which is the approval of the Minutes from the October 14, 2020 Steering Committee meeting held in Cedar City. He asked whether there was any discussion needed on the Minutes? Seeing none, he called for a motion to approve the minutes as presented.

**Commissioner Lamont Smith made a motion to approve the October 14, 2020 Steering Committee Meeting minutes as presented.**

**Carolyn White seconded the motion. The motion passed with all Committee members in attendance voting in favor of the motion.**

V. DETERMINATION BY BOARD ON REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE TO SERVE ON THE UTAH PERMANENT COMMUNITY IMPACT FUND BOARD (CIB) BEGINNING IN JANUARY 2021.

Gary Zabriskie reported that this item was discussed in last month's meeting – to be discussed as an Agenda item at this meeting. After discussion **Commissioner Mike Dalton made a motion to nominate Commissioner Jerry Taylor as the Five County CIB nominee. Carolyn White seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion via the roll call were: Commissioner Paul Cozzens,**

**Commissioner Mike Dalton, Commissioner Lamont Smith, Commissioner Jerry Taylor, Carolyn White, Mayor Todd Robinson, Frank Houston, and LaRene Cox.**

**The motion passed with all Committee members in attendance voting in favor of the motion.**

**VI. DETERMINATION BY BOARD ON REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE TO SERVE ON THE UTAH SMALL CITIES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) STATEWIDE POLICY COMMITTEE BEGINNING IN JANUARY 2021.**

The Chair moved to Agenda Item VI. and asked Mr. Gary Zabriskie, Deputy Director at the Association, to give some background on this item. Mr. Zabriskie explained that Commissioner Jerry Taylor has served as [our region's] representative on the Policy Board (committee) for the Utah Small Cities Community Development Block Grant program, which is a very important role, and that the Five County AOG needs to have someone nominated to serve that position if Commissioner Taylor becomes the new CIB Board member.

Commissioner Paul Cozzens, Chair, entertained nominations for the position of CDBG Policy Board member representing the Five County AOG region.

Commissioner Mike Dalton asked if Commissioner Taylor could continue to serve on the CDBG Board as well as be on the CIB Board that he was just nominated [by the Steering Committee] for? Multiple Steering Committee members spoke up that they felt it was better to have a separate person for each board.

Commissioner Dalton inquired as to how many meetings are held each year.

Commissioner Taylor said there are typically around three meetings a year, and a couple of phone call meetings, but it is a very important role. He said that Five County has always stood out and been a leader in this group, with Gary Zabriskie, [the late] Diane Lamoreaux, and Nate Wiberg having done a great job in looking out for this region.

Mr. Zabriskie mentioned that if it were not for the work of our CDBG policy board member we would have lost a lot more CDBG funding to our region in the past.

Commissioner Taylor said that a [CDBG Policy Board] meeting is held in March or April, in Salt Lake; then normally a meeting somewhere throughout the State in one of the regions is held in May or June that they would attend. He said that is a two-day meeting, then another meeting in September.

Mr. Zabriskie said that September meeting is when the Application Guide and Policy Manual is approved by the Policy Board for the new program year.

Commissioner Taylor stated that we lost money one year, but we got it back the next year.

Mr. Zabriskie said we regained most of it, however, mainly due to our population growth.

Commissioner Dalton asked Mr. Zabriskie what the qualifications are for a representative to serve on the CDBG Board?

Mr. Zabriskie said it can be any elected official in the region, but the position has traditionally been filled by a member of the Steering Committee: a commissioner, a mayor, or even school board member, all of whom are elected officials.

Commissioner Lamont Smith asked Commissioner Cozzens if he would be willing to serve in that position [as the Policy Board member]?

Commissioner Cozzens responded that he would be willing to serve on the CDBG Policy Board.

**Commissioner Lamont Smith made a motion to nominate Commissioner Paul Cozzens to serve as the region's representative on the Community Development Block Grant Policy Committee beginning in 2021.**

**Commissioner Jerry Taylor seconded the motion A verbal roll call of members attending in person and on the video conference.**

**Voting in favor of the motion via the roll call were: Commissioner Paul Cozzens, Commissioner Mike Dalton, Commissioner Lamont Smith, Commissioner Jerry Taylor, Carolyn White, Mayor Todd Robinson, Frank Houston, and LaRene Cox.**

**The motion by Commissioner Smith passed with all eight Steering Committee members in attendance voting in favor of the motion.**

VII. RATIFICATION OF FIVE COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT'S REVOLVING LOAN FUND PLANS. PLANS WERE APPROVED BY RLF BOARD ON NOVEMBER 12, 2020. (Gary Zabriskie, Director of Community & Economic Development, FCAOG).

Gary Zabriskie reported that since 1987, the Agency has been required to submit a plan every five years to the Economic Development Administration in Denver, Colorado. The purpose of the plan is to describe our Loan fund, what its purposes are, how we will distribute the Funds, and how we administer the Funds. Mr. Zabriskie noted that there are two plans, one for the Grant issued in 1987 and the other for the Grant issued in 1998.

Mr. Zabriskie has updated the plans which have been approved by the Revolving Loan Fund Board who then recommended it to this Committee for approval. Mr. Zabriskie discussed the Revolving Loan Fund Act which has recently been signed into law by President Trump which decentralizes the Revolving Loan Funds after seven years of being fully disbursed.

Our fund has been in place for 33 years and has been treated as "in perpetuity" requiring semi-annual reporting to the EDA. The new Bill decentralizes the Revolving Loan Fund which means the Funds will remain with the County. We will then develop a plan on how the funds will be used. We are waiting for the new rules that will come out from the Department of Commerce and the EDA on how the decentralization will take place.

Commissioner Mike Dalton made a motion to ratify both Five County Economic Development District Revolving Loan Fund Plans as presented. Commissioner Lamont Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed with all Committee members in attendance voting in favor of the motion. Voting in favor of the motion via the roll call were: Commissioner Paul Cozzens, Commissioner Mike Dalton, Commissioner Lamont Smith, Commissioner Jerry Taylor, Carolyn White, Mayor Todd Robinson, Frank Houston, and LaRene Cox.

The motion by Commissioner Mike Dalton passed with all eight Steering Committee members in attendance voting in favor of the motion.

VIII. ST. GEORGE AREA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION (Gregg McArthur, Executive Director, SGAED).

This presentation was given by Gregg McArthur and Rusty Hughes who introduced themselves, and (using a power-point), discussed their top goals and Strategic Development targets for Economic Development in the St. George area.

IX. CONGRESSIONAL STAFF UPDATES.

Scott Albrecht – representing Senator Mitt Romney did not have a report as he had to leave the meeting early.

Heath Hansen – representing Senator Mike Lee reported that Senator Mike Lee has introduced a couple of new bills since the last meeting:

- The Protections for Good Faith, PPP Borrowers and Lenders Act. This Bill is to offer protection for those who participated in the PPP program.
- State Water Rights Protection Act. This Bill is to clarify the transfer of Water rights when the President uses the Antiquities Act to designate a National Monument.

Senator Lee was also able to insert into the Senate’s version of the National Defense Authorization Act, a provision that would allow the Department of Defense to waive their rule that currently prohibits a retiring member of the Armed Services from moving into a civilian job at the DOD for 180 days.

Adam Snow – representing Congressman Chris Stewart reported that they are working with Senator Lee and Romney on the issues already discussed. They are continuing their work on the PILT. Mr. Snow also discussed the future of the Grand Staircase and Bears Ears monuments under the anticipated election of President Biden.

X. STATE AGENCY UPDATES.

None.

XI. UNIVERSITY UPDATES.

No new update from Dixie State University or SUU.

XII. LOCAL AFFAIRS / OTHER ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS.

Carolyn White reported that she will be leaving this Board and expressed appreciation for the opportunity she has had to serve. Commissioner Mike Dalton has reported that he will also be leaving the Board. Commissioner Dalton introduced Wade Hollingshead who is the Beaver County Commission-elect who will be attending this meeting in the future.

Bryan Thiriot discussed the 2021 schedule and reported that he will coordinate with the Utah Association of Counties for the November 2021 meeting so that there will not be a conflict.

XIX. ADJOURN. Commissioner Paul Cozzens adjourned the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

DRAFT