

**MINUTES OF THE
NATIVE AMERICAN LEGISLATIVE LIAISON COMMITTEE**
Monday, August 29, 2005 – 9:00 a.m. – Room W015 State Capitol Complex

Members Present:

Sen. Beverly Ann Evans, Senate Chair
Rep. David N. Cox, House Chair
Sen. Fred Fife
Sen. Darin G. Peterson
Rep. Douglas C. Aagard
Rep. DeMar “Bud” Bowman
Rep. James R. Gowans
Rep. Brad King
Rep. Michael E. Noel
Rep. Mark A. Wheatley

Members Absent:

Sen. Karen Hale

Staff Present:

Mr. John Q. Cannon, Policy Analyst
Ms. Patricia Owen, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Wendy Bangerter, Legislative Secretary

Note: A list of others present, copy of related materials, and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at www.le.utah.gov.

1. Committee Business

Chair Evans called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. She turned the chair over to Chair Cox at 9:25 a.m.

MOTION: Rep. Gowans moved to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2004 meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Rep. Cox and Rep. Aagard absent for the vote.

2. Reports Required by Statute

Uintah Basin Revitalization Fund

Mr. Keith Burnett, Administrator of Uintah Basin Revitalization Fund and Navajo Revitalization Fund, joined Mr. John Harja, Uintah Basin Revitalization Fund Board Chair, in presenting the "Uintah Basin Revitalization Fund, Legislative Report, FY 2005," which was previously distributed to the Committee.

Committee discussion followed.

Navajo Revitalization Fund

Mr. Harja and Mr. Burnett reviewed "Navajo Revitalization Fund, Legislative Report, FY 2005." Mr. Harja noted that because of the declining oil production on the reservation, revenues deposited into the Fund are being affected.

Committee discussion followed.

Utah Navajo Trust Fund

Mr. Ed Alter, State Treasurer and Mr. Tony Dayish, Administrator for the NTF (Utah Navajo Trust Fund), distributed and reviewed "Utah Navajo Trust Fund, 2005 Annual Report." Mr. Alter noted that because of rising oil prices, so far the NTF has been able to maintain revenues in spite of decreasing reservation oil production. He explained that the confusing process of oil production reports causes discrepancies between what is reported by the federal government and how much money the NTF actually receives.

Committee discussion followed.

Utah Division of Indian Affairs

Mr. Forrest Cuch, Director, UDIA (Utah Division of Indian Affairs), distributed and reviewed the, UDIA Annual Report, FY 2005, to the Committee. He invited the Committee to the upcoming Indigenous Day and Dinner on the Monday preceding Thanksgiving in November.

Committee discussion followed.

Native American Remains Review Committee

Mr. Cuch distributed and reviewed the annual report, Native American Remains Review Committee, Annual Report, FY 2005. He explained that one of the top priorities of the UDIA is to repatriate human remains. He reviewed some of the projects UDIA is engaged in to accomplish its goals. He distributed "Memorandum of Understanding Between the Utah Division of Indian Affairs, Utah Division of State History, Utah Division of Parks and Recreation, and This is the Place Heritage Park." He recommended that an additional appropriation be considered during the upcoming General Session to increase UDIA staff.

Committee discussion followed.

Utah Division of Indian Affairs Strategic Plan

Ms. Ally Isom, Deputy Director, Department of Community and Culture, and Mr. Cuch distributed and reviewed UDIA's strategic plan. Ms. Isom stated the goal to be in greater compliance with statute by meeting more regularly with the Committee, tribal leaders, and state agencies. She reviewed other goals listed in the plan that focused on education, housing, and economic development. She suggested that the Committee could partner with UDIA to hold a spring conference to promote government-to-government relations between state and tribal governments.

Committee discussion followed.

MOTION: Sen. Evans moved that UDIA work out details of legislation related to UDIA's strategic plan recommendations with staff. The motion passed unanimously, with Rep. Gowans absent for the vote.

MOTION: Sen. Evans moved to accept UDIA's strategic plan and to include the Department of Natural Resources in the agencies required by statute to meet with the tribes. The motion passed unanimously with Rep. Gowans absent for the vote.

4. Other Items / Adjourn

Ms. Lorraine Dominique Nakai, Utah Navajo Fund, recommended seeking changes to federal legislation that would support free enterprise for the Indian nation.

Mr. Ivan Wongan, Chairman of NW Shoshone Band and Lora Tom, Paiute Tribal Chairwoman, asked that they have more time to study and give input on the strategic plan.

MOTION: Rep. Bowman moved that a letter be written to the NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association) from the Committee in support of keeping Native American logos at schools in the state.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: Sen. Peterson made a substitute motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion failed with Sen. Evans, Sen. Peterson, and Rep. Bowman voting in favor of the motion.

Rep. Bowman withdrew his original motion.

Ms. Nakai and Ms. Nola Lodge spoke to the issue of teams in Utah using a Native American name as their symbol.

Ms. Karen Duffy, Rocky Mountain Indian Foundation, explained the Foundation's goal to collaborate with UDIA regarding certain projects.

MOTION: Sen. Evans moved to have Ms. Duffy work through the UDIA, the Department of Community and Culture, and committee staff to address these issues. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Peterson and Rep. Gowans absent for the vote.

Sen. Evans noted that efforts to set up a meeting with Ute tribe in the Uintah Basin are continuing.

It was announced that a meeting has been set with the Paiute Tribe in Cedar City for November 4, 2005.

MOTION: Rep. Bowman moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Peterson and Rep. Gowans absent for the vote.

Chair Cox adjourned the meeting at 11:25 a.m.