

**MINUTES OF THE  
UTAH TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION**

Wednesday, November 30, 2005 – 8:30 a.m. – Room W325 House Building

**Members Present:**

Rep. John Dougall, Co-chair  
Sen. Beverly Ann Evans, Co-chair  
Sen. David L. Thomas  
Rep. David Clark  
Rep. Brad L. Dee  
Rep. Neal B. Hendrickson  
Rep. David Litvack  
Mr. Daniel Becker  
Mr. J. Stephen Fletcher  
Mr. Martin Frey  
Mr. Richard Siddoway  
Dr. Gary Wixom

**Members Absent:**

Sen. Karen Hale

**Staff Present:**

Mr. Richard C. North, Policy Analyst  
Mr. Christopher R. Parker, Associate General Counsel  
Ms. Phalin L. Flowers, 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](http://www.le.utah.gov).

**1. Commission Business**

Chair Dougall called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m.

**MOTION:** Rep. Dee moved to approve the minutes of the October 6, 2005 meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Evans and Rep. Litvack absent for the vote.

**2. Government Records Access and Management Act Task Force Report**

Sen. David Thomas, co-chair of the Government Records Access and Management Act (GRAMA) Task Force, gave a report on the draft legislation recommended by the Task Force.

Rep. Douglas Aagard, co-chair of the Task Force, added to Sen. Thomas' comments.

Mr. Fletcher asked how long records need to be retained to comply with the new GRAMA rules. Rep. Aagard explained that it differs for each entity and that there isn't a firm retention schedule for this particular issue.

**3. Department of Technology Services: Draft Legislation**

Rep. Clark distributed and discussed 2006 General Session draft legislation "Department of Technology Services Personnel Transfer - Supplemental Appropriation" and a handout showing the chain of authority in the Department of Technology Services.

**MOTION:** Rep. Clark moved to amend lines 20, line 36, and line 38 of 2006 General Session draft legislation "Department of Technology Services Personnel Transfer - Supplemental Appropriation" by

changing "\$100,000,000" to "\$30,179,400." The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Thomas and Rep. Dee absent for the vote.

Mr. Fletcher spoke in support of the draft legislation. He said it will help his department construct rates for IT services.

Mr. Becker spoke in favor of the draft legislation.

Mr. Jonathan Ball, Fiscal Analyst, Office of Legislative Fiscal Analyst, said the bill doesn't actually cost the state any money. He explained that the \$30 million is not an appropriation, but rather just giving the Department of Technology Services authority to collect money from agencies as a fee.

**MOTION:** Rep. Clark moved to recommend 2006 General Session draft legislation "Department of Technology Services Personnel Transfer - Supplemental Appropriation" with a favorable recommendation. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Thomas and Rep. Dee absent for the vote.

#### **4. Public Meetings - Electronic Access / Attendance**

Dr. Mike Peterson, Utah Education Network, explained a proposal to use existing state infrastructure to access and attend government meetings remotely.

Sen. Evans spoke in favor of having a remote medium so that rural legislators could attend meetings without travel.

Dr. Peterson distributed and discussed "State of Utah Distance Education - County Map." He said there are over 200 EDNET classrooms for people to use in participating in remote meetings.

Chair Dougall asked if the EDNET technology is compatible with a personal video conferencing system. Dr. Peterson replied that it is.

Rep. Litvack asked if this system could be used for the 2006 General Session to address current parking issues. Mr. Peterson explained that the system couldn't be implemented in time for the upcoming session, but in the future could be used for broadcasting floor debates and meetings.

Mr. Brian Rayman, Daggett County School District, explained several benefits of using the EDNET system for attending government meetings remotely.

Mr. Russ Peterson, Utah State University, explained that he has been using EDNET for several years and spoke about the benefits of the system.

Dr. Wixom said that this technology is often used in higher education meetings.

Mr. Siddoway said that this technology is used in public education in concurrent enrollment classes where students earn high school and college credits at the same time.

Sen. Evans said that the Commission should look at this system as more than just for education purposes. She said the technology has great potential for government purposes.

Mr. Peterson distributed a handout that shows an approximation of what the equipment would cost for a conference room.

The Chairs asked that this item be brought back for study during the next year.

#### **5. Utah Technology Industry Council: Draft Legislation**

Mr. North explained the history of the Utah Technology Industry Council (UTIC).

Mr. Parker distributed and discussed 2006 General Session draft legislation "Utah Technology Industry Council Revisions." He explained that this bill would allow for ad hoc committees to participate in UTIC's work and would change the membership of UTIC.

Dr. Greg Jones, State Science Advisor, gave a presentation on the advantages of restructuring UTIC.

**MOTION:** Rep. Litvack moved to adopt 2006 General Session draft legislation "Utah Technology Industry Council Revisions" as a Commission bill. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Thomas, Rep. Clark, and Rep. Dee absent for the vote.

#### **6. Life Sciences Task Force: Draft Legislation**

Dr. Ned Weinshenker, explained the need for a life science commission or other entity to provide study and program coordination. He said that UTIC may be the way to accomplish that.

#### **7. Four-Year Biotechnology Degree: Memorandum of Agreement**

Dr. Tami Goetz, Salt Lake Community College, gave the Commission an update on the progress of the four-year biotechnology degree. She distributed and discussed "Memorandum of Understanding to Create an Integrated and Cooperative Biotechnology Program Between Salt Lake Community College and Utah Valley State College - October 2005."

Dr. Jim Price, Utah Valley State College, supported Dr. Goetz's comments.

**MOTION:** Sen. Evans moved to support "Memorandum of Understanding to Create an Integrated and Cooperative Biotechnology Program Between Salt Lake Community College and Utah Valley State College - October 2005" and to support any budget requests during the 2006 General Session.

Ms. Michele Condie, student, Utah Valley State College, spoke in favor of the four-year biotechnology degree.

Ms. Kim Wirthlin, University of Utah, said that the University of Utah is nearly ready to implement a biotechnology Bachelor's and Masters degree. She said the University could implement the program as early as next year.

The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Thomas and Rep. Dee absent for the vote.

**MOTION:** Sen. Evans moved to write a letter to the Board of Regents and to Higher Education Commissioner Richard Kendall stating the Commission's support of a four-year biotechnology degree between Salt Lake Community College and Utah Valley State College. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Thomas and Rep. Dee absent for the vote.

## **8. Utah Telehealth Board Report**

Mr. Brad LeBaron, Chair, Utah Telehealth Network (UTN) Advisory Board, distributed and discussed "Utah Telehealth Network."

Mr. Lyman Duncan, Chief Financial Officer, San Juan Hospital, explained the benefits rural hospitals have been given by using UTN.

Dr. Elaine Skalabrin, explained how stroke victims must be given a certain medication within hours of having a stroke to greatly reduce the effects of stroke. She said that this medication is very difficult to administer, but by using UTN, doctors and nurses in rural hospitals can be coached by other doctors to prescribe this medication to stroke victims.

Ms. Deb LaMarche, Program Manager, UTN, spoke on the benefits of UTN.

Mr. Lebaron explained UTN's proposal. He explained their request for on-going state funding and future goals for telehealth.

**MOTION:** Sen. Evans moved to support UTN's recommendation for funding and to forward the recommendation to the Health and Human Services Appropriations Subcommittee. The motion passed with Rep. Dougall voting in opposition and Sen. Thomas, Rep. Dee, and Mr. Frey absent for the vote.

## **9. Utah Technology Commission Membership**

This item was not discussed.

## **10. Other Items / Adjourn**

**MOTION:** Rep. Litvak moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Thomas, Rep. Dee, and Mr. Frey absent for the vote.

Chair Dougall adjourned the meeting at 11:38 a.m.