

**MINUTES OF THE
EXECUTIVE OFFICES & CRIMINAL JUSTICE
JOINT APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE
ROOM W015, WEST OFFICE BUILDING, STATE CAPITOL COMPLEX
January 10, 2006**

Members Present: Sen. David L. Thomas, Co-Chair
Rep. David L. Hogue, Co-Chair
Sen. Brent Goodfellow
Sen. Darin Peterson
Rep. Douglas C. Aagard
Rep. Eric K. Hutchings
Rep. Brad King
Rep. Curtis Oda
Rep. Mark W. Walker
Rep. Larry B. Wiley

Staff Present: Derek Byrne, Fiscal Analyst
Gary Ricks, Fiscal Analyst
Carrie Griffith, Committee Secretary

Note: A list of visitors and a copy of handouts are filed with the committee minutes.

Rep. Hogue called the meeting to order at 9:23 a.m.

Rep. Hogue welcomed everyone to the meeting. Members of the committee and staff were introduced. Tentative agendas for the session were outlined.

Governor's Office of Planning and Budget

Richard Ellis, Director, gave an overview of last year's operation and base budget. Changes to be considered for FY 2007 were reviewed. A handout was provided to committee members outlining proposed line item restructuring. Mr. Ellis responded to questions and concerns of the committee.

State Treasurer

Robert Kirk, Chief Deputy, assisted by Allen Rollo, Financial Manager, addressed the committee. They were pleased to report good news that interest rates are up. Treasury and Investment, Unclaimed Property Division, and Money Management Council issues were reviewed, with an in-depth discussion on the Unclaimed Property Division. A handout was provided explaining the unclaimed property description, collections for the last five fiscal years, monies paid out to owners, and deposits made to

the Uniform School Fund. Questions were raised concerning funds not going into the Uniform School Fund as well as unclaimed property issues. Mr. Kirk was asked to go into more detail during base budget discussions next week. The State Treasurer's Office is not asking for any increases in the FY 2007 budget.

State Auditor

Auston Johnson, State Auditor, accompanied by Joe Christensen, Deputy, explained some of their auditing duties and responsibilities. Rep. Hogue thanked Mr. Johnson and Mr. Christensen for their work and diligence in distributing their audit reports.

Attorney General

David Stallard, Budget Director and Office Administrator, gave a brief overview of the office and how responsibilities are structured.

The Attorney General's office is not requesting any reconfiguration in their base budget. High priority issues are Identity Theft and Internet Crimes Against Children. Their office is also puzzled as to why the Highland High Settlement, at the Governor's recommendation, went through the Attorney General's office.

Concerns were raised by committee members regarding the hiring of outside attorneys rather than using in-house counsel. Another question that was raised concerned salary increases and how they may be appropriated to the Attorney General's Office.

Department of Public Safety

Richard Wyss, Administrative Services Director, accompanied by Pam Russell, Budget Manager, discussed the department's mission to promote and protect the well being of the citizens of the state of Utah, from both man-made and natural disasters. They talked about some of their major accomplishments this past year, most specifically dealing with emergency preparedness. The department is requesting funds to help repair a helicopter that was damaged during the flood response in Washington County. Mr. Wyss gave a brief overview of their divisions and what they have accomplished. A handout was distributed discussing the Department's critical needs. Funds for six specific line items will be discussed in next week's meeting (see handout, p. 4).

Committee members expressed concern about homeland security funding. The Fiscal Analyst responded that funds fluctuate significantly because of unforeseen events.

Department of Corrections

Scott Carver, Executive Director, accompanied by Dr. Christine Mitchell, Deputy Director, gave a brief overview of their divisions. The department will be requesting funds to help cover costs because of inflationary pressures, costs in training correctional officers, medical costs, and other areas.

One of the major concerns of the department is the high turnover rate of their correctional officers and the low morale of their employees. The department will be requesting a compensation program for these officers. They are also concerned about the prison population growth.

Questions were raised by committee members asking for more detail in many of the above issues.

Courts

Dan Becker, State Court Administrator, accompanied by Fred Jayne, Budget Director, and Mark Jones, District Court Administrator, gave a brief overview of court filings. They also briefly discussed their programs, which include the Court Agency Record Exchange (CARE) juvenile corrections services, mediation, training, judges, drug courts, mental health, expansion and officers, and Guardian ad Litem program. They are hoping to hear from the chairman of the standing committee concerning the Guardian ad Litem program. The courts recommended the Guardian ad Litem budget be considered separately from the courts' budget.

Questions were raised by committee members about the Guardian ad Litem program.

Juvenile Justice Services

Dan Maldonado, Director, accompanied by Rick Platt, Administrative Services Director and Gabrielle Anderson, Deputy Director, briefly discussed their department's responsibilities. An overview was also given of programs and facilities. Mission guidelines for detention have been changed this year. A handout concerning the budget was distributed and discussed.

Two challenges the department is facing at this time are funding instability and caseload growth. Questions were raised by the committee concerning those challenges.

Board of Pardons and Parole

Don Blanchard, Chairman, accompanied by Keith Hamilton, Vice-Chair, mentioned that their budget is incorporated within the Department of Corrections, but the Board of Pardons and Parole is a separate agency of state government. They report directly to the Governor in order to maintain autonomy of their decision making responsibility. Mr. Blanchard gave a brief overview of the department's responsibilities.

The department's primary challenge is keeping pace with their increasing workload. They have a tremendous need for additional hearing officers and a clerical person to help keep pace with the workload.

Concerns were raised by committee members about beds not being available in correctional facilities, thus prisoners 'being pushed out the other end.' There were also some concerns raised about how some counties have higher costs than others.

Other Business

Sen. Thomas informed everyone of Senate Bill 50 and encouraged other committee members to support the legislation.

Scott Carver, Executive Director of Department of Corrections, accompanied by Dr. Christine Mitchell, Deputy Director, addressed the committee. Mr. Carver distributed a booklet detailing the department's Offender Population Management 10-Year Plan. An in-depth overview was given outlining the executive summary, goals, capacity, projections and initiatives of the correction facilities.

MOTION: Rep. Oda moved to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Sen. Thomas called the meeting to order at 2:20 p.m.

Future Planning for the 350 Acres at the Utah State Prison in Draper

Scott Carver, Director Department of Corrections, was accompanied by Ken Nye, Deputy Director, and Chris Roybal, Senior Advisor for Economic Development. The Department of Corrections has no interest in or plans for the vacant property once the boundaries are established. The committee members responded by saying they'd like to be sensitive to the boundary issues and were concerned

about how much development would want to be so close to the prison site.

Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED)

The Community and Economic Department was reorganized last year. Chris Roybal, Senior Advisor, and Sandy Naegle, Financial Analyst, described the functions of the department. Using Intel as an example, committee members raised concerns about how to keep companies interested in staying in Utah once they're here. The wages in Utah, being 18% below the national average, are an issue.

Miller Public Safety Training Center

Rick Wyss, Administrative Services Director of Department of Public Safety, was accompanied by Rich Townsend, Director Peace Officers Standards and Training, and Dan Fallows, Department of Public Safety Director. Mr. Wyss gave a brief explanation of how Dept. of Public Safety and Dept. of Corrections consolidated together to facilitate training of correctional officers and peace officers throughout the state. Mr. Larry Miller, being aware of that effort, stepped forward to help and generously donated in excess of \$20 million to help with that facility. The committee was unanimous in expressing thanks to Mr. Miller. Sen. Darin Peterson recommended that a letter of thanks to Mr. Miller be drafted and sent. The chairs concurred and directed staff to prepare the letter.

Jim Derrick, Director of Larry H. Miller Management Company, gave an update of the status of the bill and Mr. Miller's gift. A culinary arts facility is being built. The training facility for the officers, a dormitory for the trainees and a firing range at the Salt Lake Community College campus were discussed. An in-depth overview of the facilities, courses, programs, and many other issues ensued. Additional comments were made by Gordon Scores, Chief Planner for Salt Lake Community College.

Senator Thomas recommended that Chairs Sen. Thomas and Rep. Hogue meet with the chairs of the Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee to discuss and resolve how to deal with the issue of operations and maintenance.

Executive Offices & Criminal Justice
January 10, 2006
Page 6