

**MINUTES OF THE
UTAH INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION**

Wednesday, September 19, 2006 – 9:00 a.m. – Room W125 House Building

Members Present:

Sen. Mark B. Madsen, Senate Chair
Rep. Sheryl L. Allen, House Chair
Rep. Roger E. Barrus
Rep. Jackie Biskupski
Rep. Lorie D. Fowlke
Rep. Brad King
Mr. Brian Farr
Mr. Miguel R. Rovira

Members Absent:

Sen. Brent H. Goodfellow
Sen. Carlene Walker
Mr. Brett W. Heimbürger

Staff Present:

Mr. Richard C. North, Policy Analyst
Mr. Chris Parker, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Glenda S. Whitney, Legislative Secretary

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

1. Commission Business

Chair Madsen called the meeting to order at 9:24 a.m.

MOTION: Rep. Fowlke moved to approve the minutes of the August 1, 2006 meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Rep. Allen was absent for the vote.

2. International Trade: GOED (Governor's Office of Economic Development) Overview

Mr. North noted that the Commission requested an overview on the activities of the GOED's International Trade and Diplomacy Office with regards to international trade initiatives. He indicated that Mr. Neil Ashdown, will be Utah "State point of Contact." He said the Governor has announced a trade trip to China in October and it may be appropriate for Mr. Ashdown to give an overview of that initiative.

Mr. Miguel R. Rovira, Regional Director for Latin America and Canada, GOED International Trade and Diplomacy, distributed and presented an overview from the handout "Governor's Office of Economic Development International Trade & Diplomacy - Program Overview." He indicated that the mission of the ITDO (International Trade and Diplomacy Office) is to increase Utah's global economy and international presence. ITDO seeks to grow Utah's economy by creating new jobs through the exportation of goods and services to the global marketplace.

Mr. Rovira explained that the ITDO program focuses on: a) Increasing international trade to expand jobs; b) Increasing trade opportunities by establishing the Utah Brand globally to broaden Utah's trade opportunities; c) Creating trade opportunities for Utah businesses by developing partnerships and alliances with international governments; d) Promoting Utah's technical strengths increases trade opportunities to promote corporate expansion into Utah; and e) Developing rural economic growth.

Mr. Rovira responded to Commission members' questions.

Sen. Madsen turned the chair over to Rep. Allen.

MOTION: Mr. Rovira proposed that Mr. Ashdown send all United States Trade Representative communications to Governor Huntsman's representatives and to Commission staff for the Utah

International Trade Commission, and that it will be commission staff's responsibility to ensure the information is shared with commission members. The motion passed unanimously with Rep. King absent for the vote.

3. How International Trade Effects the States and Why States Should be Interested

Chair Allen said this agenda item is the heart of the Commission's responsibilities. She indicated that because of the Intergovernmental Policy Advisory Council and more states developing commissions, there is better dialogue with the United States Trade Representative Office. She introduced Mr. Peter Riggs, Director, Forum On Democracy & Trade, who discussed how international trade via World Trade Organization rules effects state government and domestic industries.

Mr. Riggs distributed a copy and presented a slide presentation "International Trade and Investment Rules: What's at Stake for States?". He presented an overview on What's at Stake for States' in the adoption of trade treaties by the United States Senate. He briefed the Commission on the following questions: a) Why should States care about international trade? b) How did the international trading system evolve? c) What parts of our economy are covered by trade rules? d) Can state and local law be impacted by trade agreements? and e) What can States do to respond to these challenges?

Mr. Riggs responded to the Commission members' questions.

Chair Allen summarized the course she would like the Commission to focus on for the next meetings.

4. Other Items / Adjourn

Chair Allen indicated that the next meeting of the Commission was scheduled for Tuesday, October 17, 2006 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

MOTION: Rep. Barrus moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Madsen and Rep. King absent for the vote.

Chair Allen adjourned the meeting at 11:49 a.m.