

**MINUTES OF THE
WORKFORCE SERVICES AND COMMUNITY
AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INTERIM COMMITTEE**
Wednesday, October 18, 2006 – 9:00 a.m. – Room W025 House Building

Members Present:

Sen. John W. "Bill" Hickman, Senate Chair
Rep. David N. Cox, House Chair
Sen. Dan R. Eastman
Sen. Karen Hale
Sen. Peter C. Knudson
Rep. Janice M. Fisher
Rep. Steven R. Mascaro
Rep. Karen W. Morgan
Rep. Mark W. Walker
Rep. Peggy Wallace

Staff Present:

Mr. Arthur L. Hunsaker, Policy Analyst
Mr. James L. Wilson, 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.le.utah.gov.

1. Committee Business

Chair Hickman called the meeting to order at 9:14 a.m.

MOTION: Rep. Wallace moved to approve the minutes of the September 20, 2006 meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Rep. Fisher, Rep. Morgan, and Rep. Walker absent for the vote.

2. Draft Bill, "Industrial Assistance Fund Amendments"

Mr. Jason Perry, Executive Director, GOED (Governor's Office of Economic Development), and Mr. Michael Nelson, Director, Corporate Recruitment and State Incentives, distributed and reviewed the handout, "Proposed Legislation for Rural Businesses." Mr. Perry noted that the purpose of the proposed legislation is to provide easier access to state incentives to promote business and economic development in rural Utah, resulting in higher paying jobs. Mr. Nelson reviewed the rural fast track program and identified the qualifying counties.

Chair Hickman asked that GOED work with staff to draft legislation on the proposal that will be presented at the November committee meeting.

3. Annual Report: Board of Business and Economic Development

Mr. Perry and Mr. Nelson distributed a handout, "GOED Approved Incentive History." Mr. Nelson reviewed the annual report and explained the GOED incentive history, potential incentives, and projected new state revenues.

4. Annual Report: Office of Tourism

Ms. Leigh Von Der Esch, Director, Office of Tourism, distributed to committee members the "Utah Official Scenic 2007 Calendar." She gave a slide presentation and overview of the annual report and marketing performance fund budget. She reviewed the cooperative marketing program for FY 2005-2006,

2006-2007 and showed a video "Utah: Life Elevated" that focused on advertizing, branding, and promoting tourism for Utah. She distributed a handout "Incentives by Project" that explained the projects and economic impact for Utah generated by the Utah Film Commission.

The chair was turned over to Rep. Cox.

5. Draft Resolution, "Utah Athletic Foundation Resolution"

Sen. Eastman referred to the 2007 General Session draft legislation, "Utah Athletic Foundation Resolution" that was distributed in the mailing packet. He distributed a handout, "Proposal: Utah Athletic Foundation Resolution" and noted that the joint resolution approves the negotiation of sales of portions of the Winter Sports Park under certain conditions and addresses other issues related to the Utah Athletic Foundation.

Mr. Colin Hilton, President and CEO, Utah Athletic Foundation, and Mr. Gordon Strachan, Chair, Utah Athletic Foundation, were available to respond to committee questions. Mr. Hilton explained the intent for requesting draft legislation on this issue.

MOTION: Sen. Knudson moved to adopt "Utah Athletic Foundation Resolution" as a committee bill. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Hickman and Rep. Morgan were absent for the vote.

6. Draft Bill, "Employment Security Act Amendments"

Ms. Tani Downing, Executive Director, DWS (Department of Workforce Services), referred to the 2007 General Session draft legislation "Employment Security Act Amendments" that was distributed in the mailing packet. She noted that the bill modifies provisions of the Employment Security Act related to the filing of contribution reports by employers on magnetic or electronic media. She distributed a letter, sent at the request of the committee chairs, from Mr. Bill Starks, Unemployment Insurance Director, DWS, to notify any identified authorized employer representatives that may be impacted by the proposed legislation and provide them an opportunity to submit comment at this committee meeting.

Mr. Starks was available to respond to committee questions.

MOTION: Sen. Hale moved to adopt "Employment Security Act Amendments" as a committee bill. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Hickman, Sen. Eastman, Sen. Knudson, and Rep. Morgan were absent for the vote.

7. Annual Report: Department of Workforce Services

Ms. Downing distributed and reviewed the 2006 annual report "Navigating jobs.utah.gov just got easier." She distributed a News Release, "Governor Touts DWS Unemployment Insurance Program" that recognized DWS and its performance nationally in administration of the unemployment insurance program.

Ms. Downing distributed and reviewed the report "Office of Child Care FY06 Quick Facts: An Annual Report Summary."

Ms. Lynette Rasmussen, Director, Office of Child Care, was available to respond to committee questions.

MOTION: Sen. Hale moved to ask that the child care portion of the report be combined with the DWS annual report to make it a comprehensive report. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Hickman and Sen. Knudson were absent for the vote.

Ms. Karen Silver, Salt Lake Community Action Program, commented on DWS's annual report and requested additional information on GED's.

8. Other Items / Adjourn

MOTION: Rep. Wallace moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Hickman, Sen. Hale, and Sen. Knudson were absent for the vote.

Chair Cox adjourned the meeting at 11:23 a.m.