

**MINUTES OF THE  
NATIVE AMERICAN LEGISLATIVE LIAISON COMMITTEE**  
Monday, November 1, 2006 – 9:30 a.m. – Room W130, House Building

**Members Present:**

Rep. David N. Cox, House Chair  
Sen. Fred Fife  
Sen. Karen Hale  
Rep. Douglas C. Aagard  
Rep. DeMar “Bud” Bowman  
Rep. Brad King  
Rep. Michael E. Noel  
Rep. Mark A. Wheatley

**Members Absent:**

Sen. Darin G. Peterson  
Rep. James R. Gowans

**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](http://www.le.utah.gov).

**1. Committee Business**

Chair Cox called the meeting to order at 9:47 a.m. He announced the retirement of Sen. Beverly Evans from the Legislature. He excused Sen. Peterson from the meeting. He recognized Mr. Ed Alter, Utah State Treasurer, and Mr. John Reidhead, Department of Administrative Services as Board Members of the Utah Navajo Trust Fund.

**MOTION:** Sen. Hale moved to approve the minutes of the November 15, 2005 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

**2. Uintah Basin Revitalization Fund Annual Report**

Mr. John Harja, Board Chair and Mr. Mark Bedel, Board Staff, of the Uintah Basin Revitalization Fund, reviewed the fund's annual report. Mr. Bedel distributed a report from the Office of the Business Committee, noting the ongoing projects.

Committee discussion followed.

**3. Utah Navajo Trust Fund Annual Report**

Mr. Tony Dayish, Administrator, Utah Navajo Trust Fund, distributed and reviewed the Utah Navajo Trust Fund Annual Report. He reviewed some of the problems they encounter and their efforts to resolve them.

The Committee discussed the report and the projects being undertaken.

**4. Navajo Revitalization Fund Annual Report**

Mr. Harja and Mr. Bedel explained the Navajo Revitalization Fund and its purpose. Mr. Harja described the makeup of the fund's board and their efforts over the past year. He noted that revenues to the fund have been increasing because of the rising price of oil. He explained that revenues have reached the statutory cap and because of the many needs they still have, the board recently passed a resolution asking the Legislature to raise the cap.

Mr. Bedel reviewed the projects outlined in the previously distributed report and emphasized the growing need for services. He distributed information showing the revenues for the past three fiscal years and the current year and how the funds have been allocated.

Committee discussion followed.

**MOTION:** Sen. Hale moved that the Committee endorse the concept of statutorily raising the cap.

Mr. Lynn Stephens, San Juan County Commission Chairman and Board Member of the Utah Navajo Trust Fund, spoke to the need for better services and the potential revenue increase to those citizens because of rising oil prices. He stated the County Commission's endorsement of raising the cap.

Mr. Clarence Rockwell, Navajo Utah Commission, distributed a resolution from the Navajo Utah Commission also requesting the cap raise.

Mr. Harja recommended the cap be raised to \$4 million. He said the growth will be slow and will not make an immediate impact.

**SUBSTITUTE MOTION:** Rep. Bowman made a substitute motion to adopt "Navajo Revitalization Fund, as a committee bill, amending it to raise the cap to \$4 million maximum amount to be deposited into the fund in any state fiscal year.

Mr. Rockwell asked that a provision be included that would enhance the relationship between the Navajo Nation and the State government.

Mr. Stephens agreed there needs to be continued cooperation between the Legislature and the Navajo Government. He said there is a more formal document that addresses that concern and he feels it should not be part of this bill.

The substitute motion passed unanimously.

## **5. Utah Division of Indian Affairs Annual Reports**

Mr. Forrest Cuch, Director, Utah Division of Indian Affairs, introduced Palmer DePaulis, new Executive Director, Department of Community and Culture. He distributed the Tribal Leaders Newsletter Report from the Division. He reviewed the 2006 Annual Report of the Utah Division of Indian Affairs and the annual report of the Native American Remains Review Committee previously distributed. He stated that repatriation continues to be their biggest challenge. He reviewed their efforts to resolve some of the problems they face.

Mr. Cuch invited the Committee to attend the State Indigenous Day, which is to be held at 7:00 p.m. on November 20, 2006 at the Red Lion Hotel.

Mr. Cuch distributed "2006 Legislative Overview- Human Remains Recovery/State Antiquities Amendments."

Committee discussion followed.

**6. Navajo Nation Capital Improvement Office**

This item was not discussed.

**7. Other Items / Adjourn**

Chair Cox encouraged Mr. Cuch to schedule the Native American Caucus held during the general session with Third House so more legislators will be aware of it and can plan to attend.

**MOTION:** Rep. Bowman moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Cox adjourned the meeting at 11:20 a.m.