

**MINUTES OF THE  
WORKFORCE SERVICES AND COMMUNITY  
AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INTERIM COMMITTEE**  
Wednesday, September 19, 2007 – 2:00 p.m. – Room W025 House Building

**Members Present:**

Sen. Mark B. Madsen, Senate Chair  
Rep. Steven R. Mascaró, House Chair  
Sen. Allen M. Christensen  
Sen. Fred J. Fife  
Sen. Patricia W. Jones  
Rep. James A. Dunnigan  
Rep. Janice M. Fisher  
Rep. Julie Fisher  
Rep. Christopher N. Herrod  
Rep. Karen W. Morgan

**Members Absent:**

Sen. Dan R. Eastman

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

**1. Committee Business**

Chair Madsen called the meeting to order at 2:12 p.m.

**MOTION:** Rep. Dunnigan moved to approve the minutes of the July 18, 2007 meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Fife and Rep. Julie Fisher were absent for the vote.

**2. Utah Fund of Funds Report: and Draft Bill, "Utah Venture Capital Enhancement Act Amendments"**

Mr. Wilson distributed 2008 General Session draft legislation, "Utah Venture Capital Enhancement Act Amendments."

Mr. Alec Searl, Chairman, Utah Capital Investment Board, distributed and commented on the board's annual report and audit "Utah Fund of Funds 2006 Annual Report Utah State Legislator."

Mr. Jeremy Neilson, Utah Fund of Funds Managing Director, distributed and gave a slide presentation on the report, "Utah Fund of Funds Annual Legislative Report." He presented an overview on the Utah Fund of Funds program, its primary objectives, and its track record. He noted that Utah Fund of Funds needed additional tax credits to keep the program moving forward. The draft legislation would increase the ceiling on authorized tax credits from \$100,000,000 to \$300,000,000.

Ms. Nicole Toomey Davis, Director, Centers of Excellence Program, GOED (Governor's Office of Economic Development), commented on the impact of the Utah Fund of Funds for entrepreneurs and spoke in support of the Utah Fund of Funds program.

Mr. Ted McAleer, Executive Director, USTAR (Utah Science, Technology and Research Initiatives), commented on his perspective on the Utah Fund of Funds program and noted it is a source of financing for entrepreneurs.

Mr. Mark Haslam, President/CEO, Drivertech Fleet Management Systems, commented on venture capital and the benefits of the Utah Fund of Funds program.

Sen. Jenkins commented on his involvement and the successes with the Utah Fund of Funds program that was created in 2003 and launched in 2005.

**MOTION:** Sen. Christensen moved to adopt 2008 General Session draft legislation, "Utah Venture Capital Enhancement Act Amendments" as a committee bill. The motion passed unanimously.

### **3. Presentation: Tourism**

Ms. Leigh Von Der Esch, Managing Director, and Mr. Dave Williams, Assistant Director, Office of Tourism, gave a slide presentation on tourism in Utah and briefed the Committee on the office's cooperative marketing program.

### **4. Draft Bill, "Employment Security Act Amendments"**

Mr. Wilson distributed 2008 General Session draft legislation, "Employment Security Act Amendments."

Mr. Bill Starks, Director, Unemployment Insurance, reviewed the highlighted provisions of the draft legislation "Employment Security Act Amendments." He noted the bill modifies provisions of the Employment Security Act regarding the eligibility of a claimant to receive unemployment compensation benefits. The draft clarifies that a claimant need not personally report at an employment office as a condition to receive ongoing benefits, and provides for the waiver of certain filing requirements in the event of a declared disaster.

Mr. Jim Olsen, President, Utah Food Industry Association, member of the Employment Advisory Council, spoke in support of the draft legislation with the changes and additional language that were added to the bill.

**MOTION:** Rep. Julie Fisher moved to amend as follows, and to adopt as amended, 2008 General Session draft legislation "Employment Security Act Amendments":

Page 1, under highlighted provisions: Delete lines 17 and 18.

Page 4, Line 107: After "disaster", insert "in Utah".

Page 4, Line 109: After "workers", insert "in the affected area of Utah".

Page 4, Line 111: After "requirements", insert "in the affected area of Utah".

The motion passed unanimously.

### **5. Training Senior and Disability Populations for Employment**

Mr. Dean Hoffman, Administrator, and Ms. Stephanie Mackay, Development Director, Columbus Community Center, distributed handouts, "A Mission of Hope - 2006 Annual Report" and "Columbus Community Center." Mr. Hoffman presented an overview of the report and explained the mission and goals of the Columbus Community Center.

Ms. Maureen Henry, Executive Director, Utah Commission on Aging, distributed and reviewed the handout, "Aging and Utah's Work Force." She briefed the Committee on Utah's dependency ratio, labor shortage, and the trend among older workers.

#### **6. Committee Business**

The Committee received the following reports:

"Annual Report 2007" - Governor's Office of Economic Development

"Annual Low and Moderate Income Housing Report to Workforce Services and Community and Economic Development" and "Report Compliance with Section 9-7-217, UCA" - Department of Community and Culture

"The Utah Department of Workforce Service Annual Report 2007" - Department of Workforce Services

#### **7. Other Items / Adjourn**

**MOTION:** Rep. Morgan moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Christensen and Rep. Dunnigan were absent for the vote.

Chair Madsen adjourned the meeting at 4:37 p.m.