

**MINUTES OF THE
NATURAL RESOURCES APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE
January 20, 2010
Room 415, State Capitol Building, State Capitol Complex**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sen. Dennis Stowell, Co-Chair
 Rep. Kerry W. Gibson, Co-Chair
 Sen. Brent Goodfellow
 Sen. David Hinkins
 Rep. Roger Barrus
 Rep. Jack Draxler
 Rep. James R. Gowans
 Rep. John G. Mathis
 Rep. Michael E. Noel
 Rep. Christine Watkins
 Rep. Bill Wright

MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF: Ivan Djambov, Fiscal Analyst
 Linda Service, Committee Secretary

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

Sen. Stowell called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m.
Rep. Gibson moved to approve the minutes of January 12, 2010. The motion passed unanimously.

FY 2010 Budget Discussion and Subcommittee Prioritization

Sen. Stowell presented a brief overview of Proposed 4% One-time Budget Reductions, FY 2010, Chairs' Proposal.

MOTION: Sen. Goodfellow moved to accept the priority list as explained.

A discussion followed from committee members, along with Director Mike Styler, Division of Natural Resources and Commissioner Leonard Blackham, Department of Agriculture and Food.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: Rep. Gibson motioned to move Items #1, Forestry Replacement with Restricted Funds and #2, General Administration Replacement with Dedicated Credits below Item #10. As part of the motion he suggested moving all eight furloughs to the top of the list with Public Lands Reductions following as Item #9 and General Administration Replacement with Dedicated Credits to be placed above Forestry Replacement with Restricted Funds as Items #10 and #11.

Judy Edwards, Sr. Analyst, Public Lands Policy Coordination Office, responded to concerns of committee members.

The Substitute Motion passed unanimously with Sen. Hinkins being absent for the vote.

Building Construction Needs: Department of Agriculture and Food

Commissioner Blackham and Deputy Commissioner Kyle Stevens of the Department of Agriculture and Food delivered a presentation on building needs of the Department. They detailed the progress of

the second phase of the Unified State Lab and commented on the need to replace the Administration Building. They responded to questions and concerns from committee members and asked Dr. David Clark, Director, Chemistry Lab, to further clarify.

Invasive Insect Problems in Utah

Clair Allen, Director of Plant Industry, presented a program overview of the efforts made with controlling the grasshopper and Mormon cricket, Japanese beetle, and Africanized honeybee. Director Allen responded to questions from committee members.

Wildland Fire Funding

Sen. Stowell introduced Wildland Fire Amendments draft. The bill addresses authority and funding for wildland fire control on nonfederal lands. Dick Buhler, Director, Utah Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands, further discussed the draft, including concerns with funding sources and membership in the insurance fund. Mark Ward, Utah Association of Counties, and Gary Crane, Utah League of Cities and Towns, were invited to respond to the bill. David Austin, Weber Fire District, responded in support of the bill.

Sen. Stowell, along with Ivan Djambov, Fiscal Analyst, discussed the meeting schedule of the Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee for the first week of the session and the proposed schedule for the following three weeks.

Rep. Gibson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 2:58 p.m. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Goodfellow being absent for the vote.

Sen. Dennis Stowell, Co-Chair

Rep. Kerry W. Gibson, Co-Chair

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