

(Draft - Awaiting Formal Approval)
**MINUTES OF THE
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS and POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS
INTERIM COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, November 17, 2010 – 2:30 p.m. – Room 30 House Building

Members

Rep. Craig A. Frank, House Cochair
Rep. Fred Hunsaker, House Cochair
Sen. Jon J. Greiner
Sen. Ralph Okerlund
Rep. Douglas C. Aagard
Rep. Sheryl L. Allen
Rep. Jim Bird
Rep. Rebecca Chavez-Houck
Rep. Ben C. Ferry
Rep. Janice M. Fisher
Rep. Neal B. Hendrickson
Rep. John G. Mathis
Rep. Larry B. Wiley

Members Absent:

Sen. Peter C. Knudson, Senate Chair
Sen. Benjamin M. McAdams
Sen. Jerry W. Stevenson
Rep. Ron Bigelow
Rep. Kerry W. Gibson
Rep. Keith Grover
Rep. Jennifer M. Seelig
Rep. Curt R. Webb

Staff Present:

Mr. Benjamin N. Christensen, Policy Analyst
Mr. Joseph Wade, Policy Analyst
Ms. Emily R. Brown, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Victoria S. Ashby, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Wendy Bangerter, 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 Frank called the meeting to order at 5:20 p.m.

MOTION: Rep. Hendrickson moved to approve the minutes of the October 20, 2010 meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Rep. Aagard and Rep. Allen were absent for the vote.

2. Election Administration by Election Officers (Draft Legislation)

Mr. Benjamin Christensen explained 2011 General Session draft legislation, "Election Administration by Election Officers" (2011FL-0259/005), which was discussed by the Committee in the August meeting. This legislation would allow contracting between political subdivisions to conduct elections.

MOTION: Rep. Hendrickson moved to adopt 2011 General Session draft legislation, "Election Administration by Election Officers" (2011FL-0259/005), as a committee bill. The motion passed unanimously. Rep. Aagard and Rep. Allen were absent for the vote.

3. Election Law Revisions

Ms. Emily Brown reviewed several pieces of draft legislation, previously distributed to the Committee, that reflects amendments to the Election Code that were suggested by the Office of the Lieutenant Governor and staff. She distributed a handout titled, "Utah Election Code Offenses and Penalties."

Mr. Mark J. Thomas, Administrator, Office of the Lieutenant Governor, commented on the legislation and responded to questions from the Committee.

MOTION: Rep. Hendrickson moved to adopt 2011 General Session draft legislation, "Election Law Revisions" (2011FL-0361/004), as a committee bill. The motion passed unanimously. Rep. Aagard and Rep. Allen were absent for the vote.

MOTION: Rep. Hunsaker moved to adopt 2011 General Session draft legislation, "Restoration of the Right to Vote or Hold Elective Office" (2011FL-0358/003), as a committee bill. The motion passed. Sen. Greiner voted in opposition. Rep. Allen was absent for the vote.

MOTION: Rep. Hendrickson moved to adopt 2011 General Session draft legislation, "Election Officials' Fund" (2011FL-0357/003), as a committee bill. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Rep. Hendrickson moved to amend 2011 General Session draft legislation, "Campaign and Financial Reporting Amendments" (2011FL-0360/005), as follows:

Line 603: After "A" insert "registered political party or a"
Line 604: After "until the" insert "registered political party or"
Line 612: After "A" insert "registered political party or a"

The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Rep. Hendrickson moved to adopt 2011 General Session draft legislation, "Campaign and Financial Reporting Amendments" (2011FL-0360/005) as amended, as a committee bill. The motion passed. Sen. Greiner, Rep. Aagard, and Rep. Wiley voted in opposition.

4. Bonding Requirements for Government Officers and Employees (Draft Legislation)

Mr. Christensen explained 2011 General Session draft legislation, "Bonding Requirements for Government Officers and Employees" (2011FL-0441/003), which was discussed in the October meeting. This legislation addresses bonding requirements for state, school district, and charter school officers and employees.

Ms. Tani Downing, Director, Division of Risk Management, Department of Administrative Services (DAS), clarified those entities included in the bonding requirements and those entities that chose not to be included at this time, but who may participate at a future time.

MOTION: Rep. Mathis moved to adopt 2011 General Session draft legislation, "Bonding Requirements for Government Officers and Employees" (2011FL-0441/003), as a committee bill. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Sale of State Property (Draft Legislation)

Ms. Brown explained 2011 General Session draft legislation, "Sale of State Property" (2011FL-0440/004), which was discussed in the October meeting. This legislation provides a review process for the sale of state property similar to the process in the State Settlement Agreement Act.

Mr. Gregg Buxton, Director, Division of Facilities Construction and Management, DAS, spoke in support of the bill and responded to questions from the Committee.

MOTION: Rep. Mathis moved to adopt 2011 General Session draft legislation, "Sale of State Property Review Process" (2011FL-0440/004), as a committee bill. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Local Election Amendments

Ms. Victoria Ashby reported that in her further research of 2011 General Session draft legislation, "Local Election Amendments" (2011FL-0081/007), which was adopted by the Committee at the October meeting as a committee bill, she found nothing that would be prohibited by the Voting Rights Act.

7. State Capitol Preservation Board Fee Revisions (Draft Legislation)

Rep. Hendrickson introduced and explained 2011 General Session draft legislation, "State Capitol Preservation Board Fee Revisions" (2011FL-0513/001), which renews the fee schedule for the rental of State Capitol Complex rooms and was adopted by the Legislature during the 2010 General Session. He explained that after adoption of the 2011 fee schedule, the fee schedule will be part of the appropriations process.

MOTION: Rep. Mathis moved to adopt 2011 General Session draft legislation, "State Capitol Preservation Board Fee Revisions" (2011FL-0513/001), as a committee bill. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Other Items / Adjourn

Chair Frank expressed appreciation to those legislators who will not continue service in the Legislature for their efforts and service on behalf of the people of Utah. He also expressed appreciation to the other committee members and staff for their work and efforts during the 2010 Interim.

MOTION: Rep. Allen moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Greiner was absent for the vote.

Chair Frank adjourned the meeting at 6:15 p.m.