

**MINUTES OF THE  
WORKFORCE SERVICES AND COMMUNITY  
AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INTERIM COMMITTEE**  
Wednesday, May 18, 2011 – 2:00 p.m. – Room 20 House Building

**Members Present:**

Sen. Stuart C. Reid, Senate Chair  
Rep. Jim Bird, House Chair  
Sen. Patricia W. Jones  
Sen. Aaron Osmond  
Sen. Jerry W. Stevenson  
Rep. Johnny Anderson  
Rep. Keith Grover  
Rep. David Litvack  
Rep. Jeremy A. Peterson  
Rep. Dixon M. Pitcher  
Rep. Brad R. Wilson

**Members Absent:**

Sen. Karen W. Morgan  
Rep. Gregory H. Hughes  
Rep. Marie H. Poulson

**Staff Present:**

Mr. Benjamin N. Christensen, Policy Analyst  
Mr. Peter Asplund, Associate General Counsel  
Mr. Robert H. Rees, Associate General Counsel  
Ms. Debra Hale, 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 Reid called the meeting to order at 2:22 p.m. Sen. Morgan and Rep. Poulson were excused from attending the meeting.

**MOTION:** Rep. Bird moved to approve the minutes of the November 17, 2010 meeting. The motion passed unanimously, with Sen. Jones absent for the vote.

**2. Review of Committee-Related Bills Passed During the 2011 General Session**

Mr. James L. Wilson, Associate General Counsel, Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel, gave a presentation on committee-related bills that passed during the 2011 General Session. He referred to a handout that had been mailed to the Committee, "Workforce Services and Community and Economic Development - Related Bills Passed in 2011 General Session."

**3. Overview of Committee Subject Area**

Mr. Christensen outlined the subject areas that are within the Committee's oversight. He explained that Workforce Services has both federal and state programs and incentives available for assistance for Utahns who lose their jobs through no fault of their own. He gave a presentation on "Workforce Services and Community and Economic Development - Subject Areas." He noted that the Department of Community and Culture subject areas cover quality of life issues, including housing for low and moderate income Utahns, arts and museums, a state library, and ethnic affairs. He explained that economic development is concerned with creating and retaining jobs, as well as tourism and business development.

As part of the presentation, Mr. Asplund outlined areas of the Utah Code that are under the Committee's oversight.

#### **4. Department Overview and 2011 Committee Study Recommendations**

Mr. Spencer Eccles, Executive Director, Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED), distributed and presented "Utah's Development Economic Plan From Governor Gary R. Herbert." He introduced officials from GOED. Mr. Eccles continued with a presentation on the handout, describing GOED's "Utah's Economic Development Plan - Vision - Mission - Four Objectives: 1) strengthen and grow existing Utah businesses, both urban and rural; 2) increase innovation, entrepreneurship, and investment; 3) increase national and international business; and 4) prioritize education to develop the workforce of the future." Mr. Eccles explained the Tourism Marketing Performance Fund and the fact that in 2010, *Forbes Magazine* ranked Utah #1 as "The Best State for Business and Careers." He pointed out a *Delta Sky Magazine* feature entitled, "Utah's Billboard to the World."

Chair Reid requested Mr. Eccles to identify and submit to committee staff a list of current issues of concern he would recommend the Committee address. Mr. Eccles then responded to questions from the Committee.

Mr. Michael Hansen, Acting Executive Director, Department of Community and Culture (DCC), distributed a handout, "Utah Department of Community and Culture - DCC Programs and Fast Facts." Mr. Hansen reviewed DCC's goals and programs and explained the department's digitization project. Mr. Hansen concluded with a summary of DCC's preliminary work on 2011 General Session H.B. 287, "Restructuring the Department of Community and Culture," which calls for a study of the organization of the department.

Chair Reid requested Mr. Hansen to identify and submit to committee staff a list of current issues of concern he would recommend the Committee address.

Ms. Kristen Cox, Executive Director, Utah Department of Workforce Services (DWS), distributed and presented "Workforce Services Overview." She stated that DWS's greatest challenge is how to do better with less. Ms. Cox presented annualized total savings of different areas of DWS.

Upon completion of her presentation, Ms. Cox responded to questions from the Committee. Chair Reid requested Ms. Cox to identify and submit to Committee staff a list of current issues of concern she would recommend the Committee address.

#### **5. Committee Members' Recommendations for Study**

Mr. Christensen presented to the Committee the first and last pages of "2011 Potential Study Items," previously provided to the Committee in its entirety. Chair Reid requested that the Committee rate their priority choices and furnish them to committee staff.

Chair Reid then highlighted the "Public Meetings Act" from the packet and asked committee members to review it.

**6. Other Items /Adjourn**

**MOTION:** Sen. Jones moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Rep. Grover was absent for the vote.

Chair Reid adjourned the meeting at 3:57 p.m.