

**MINUTES OF THE  
NATURAL RESOURCES, AGRICULTURE, AND ENVIRONMENT INTERIM COMMITTEE**  
Wednesday, Jun 15, 2011 – 2:00 p.m. – Room 210 Senate Building

**Members Present:**

Sen. Ralph Okerlund, Senate Chair  
Rep. Roger E. Barrus, House Chair  
Sen. Casey O. Anderson  
Sen. Allen M. Christensen  
Sen. Gene Davis  
Sen. Margaret Dayton  
Sen. David P. Hinkins  
Rep. Joel K. Briscoe  
Rep. Melvin R. Brown  
Rep. Jack R. Draxler  
Rep. Brad J. Galvez  
Rep. Neal B. Hendrickson  
Rep. John G. Mathis  
Rep. Michael E. Noel

Rep. Douglas Sagers  
Rep. Evan J. Vickers  
Rep. Christine F. Watkins  
Rep. Ryan D. Wilcox

**Members Absent:**

Rep. Brad L. Dee  
Rep. Stephen E. Sandstrom  
Rep. Bill Wright

**Staff Present:**

Mr. J Brian Allred, Policy Analyst  
Ms. Tracy J. Nuttall, Associate General Counsel  
Ms. Kimberly A. Heiner, 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 Barrus called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m.

**MOTION:** Rep. Hendrickson moved to approve the minutes of the 18 May 2011 meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Anderson, Sen. Davis, and Rep. Wilcox absent for the vote.

**2. Air Quality**

Mr. Bryce Bird, Director, Division of Air Quality, discussed and distributed "Utah Division of Air Quality Annual Report - 2010" and "Utah's Air Quality Program Presentation - DEQ." He gave an overview of the air quality program, the structure of the Division of Air Quality, and the pollutants of concern in Utah.

Mr. Brock LeBaron, Environmental Manager, Division of Air Quality, spoke on the PM2.5 State Implementation Plan (SIP) development process. He also discussed the Environment Protection Agency lowering of the standard for the ozone and the Air Quality in the Uintah Basin.

Mr. Bird and Mr. LeBaron responded to questions from the Committee.

The Committee discussed a Forbes report ranking Salt Lake City as the 9<sup>th</sup> most toxic city in the country.

Mr. Des Barker, Rio Tinto, said that the federal definition of what is considered a toxic release changed during the Clinton administration. He said that the Forbes report is misleading because the report was implying air quality while the toxic release inventory is not designed to calculate air admissions.

Ms. Cameron Cova, President, Breathe Utah, said she appreciates that the Legislature is discussing Air Quality. She also said that citizens are looking to their representatives to recognize the importance of air quality and take a leadership role in working with community and government organizations to come up with

solutions.

Rep. Briscoe asked if Breathe Utah had a website. Ms. Cova responded that it was [www.BreatheUtah.org](http://www.BreatheUtah.org).

Ms. Carol Werner, citizen, said she has conducted research on transit use and encouraged the Legislature to look for ways to improve transit opportunities. She said in her research she has found that transit has to be safe, reliable, and frequent enough for people who need flexible schedules.

Ms. Kathy Van Dame, Wasatch Clean Air Coalition, discussed and distributed to the Committee information on air quality issues and ways to improve air quality. She also said she supports the DAQ on their PM2.5 SIP process.

Mr. Terry Marasco, Utah Clean Air Alliance, said it is important to remember that there is not one segment responsible for the solution to improving air quality. He said agencies need to put the needs of the community before profits.

Mr. Bruce Waddell, citizen, said he was concerned about the ongoing contamination of the Great Salt Lake ecosystem. He said that the state needs to provide funding for basic monitoring of the Great Salt Lake. He also said that the Great Salt Lake needs a numeric water quality standard.

### **3. Proposed Federal Land Use Legislation**

Chair Barrus turned the meeting over to Chair Okerlund.

Mr. Randy Johnson, Public Lands Consultant to Emery, Wayne, and Piute Counties, introduced county representatives who would make recommendations on federal lands legislation for Utah's Congressional delegates. He also said that when he asked the county commissioners in Utah how they wanted to present recommended legislation on federal lands to Congress, they unanimously agreed to do it on the county level. He said that Washington County was the first county to pass recommendations on federal legislation and set a precedent for other counties to follow.

Mr. Ray Peterson, Emery County Public Lands Administrator, gave a presentation on the process that Emery County went through to create their federal public lands recommended legislation. He said Emery County held public meetings to get input from the public. Mr. Peterson responded to questions from the Committee.

Ms. Laurie Pitchforth, Emery County Commissioner, said that collaboration with stakeholders and countless hours went into creating Emery County's proposed federal land use legislation.

Mr. James Nelson, Emery County Commissioner, said Emery County is not giving up any resource use in their proposed plan.

Mr. Jeff Horrocks, Emery County Commissioner, said their proposed legislation is not a wilderness bill, but a public land use bill with wilderness areas in it. He asked the Committee to support Emery County's efforts.

Mr. Bruce Adams, San Juan County Commissioner, said San Juan has used a public process to develop their legislation. He said San Juan is the largest county in Utah and has an Indian reservation that takes up over a million acres.

Mr. Lynn H. Stevens, San Juan County Commission Liaison Consultant, said that creating public lands legislation was a coordinated effort between counties.

Mr. Rick Blackwell, Piute County Commissioner, said Piute County has gone through the same process for creating proposed federal land use legislation as San Juan County and Emery County.

Mr. John Andrews, Schools and Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA) Associate Director, distributed and discussed "SITLA Exchange Fact Sheet." He said that the Board of Trustees of SITLA passed a policy to ask that future county land bills fully consider school trust issues. He responded to questions from the Committee.

Chair Barrus said that this issue could be placed on a future committee agenda for further discussion.

#### **4. Adjourn**

**MOTION:** Rep. Watkins moved to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously, with Chair Okerlund, Sen. Anderson, Sen. Christensen, Sen. Davis, Sen. Dayton, Rep. Briscoe, Rep. Brown, Rep. Draxler, Rep. Hendrickson, Rep. Mathis, and Rep. Wilcox absent for the vote.

Chair Barrus adjourned the meeting at 5:11 p.m.