

(Draft - Awaiting Formal Approval)
**MINUTES OF THE
PUBLIC UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY INTERIM COMMITTEE**
Wednesday, October 17, 2012 – 2:00 p.m. – Room 445 State Capitol

Members Present:

Sen. J. Stuart Adams, Senate Chair
Rep. Michael E. Noel, House Chair
Sen. Benjamin M. McAdams
Sen. Ralph Okerlund
Pres. Michael G. Waddoups
Rep. Roger E. Barrus
Rep. Joel K. Briscoe
Rep. Fred C. Cox
Rep. Stephen G. Handy
Rep. Lynn N. Hemingway
Rep. Neal B. Hendrickson
Rep. Christopher N. Herrod

Rep. Ken Ivory
Rep. V. Lowry Snow
Rep. Ryan D. Wilcox

Members Absent:

Sen. Stephen H. Urquhart
Rep. John Dougall
Rep. Patrick Painter

Staff Present:

Mr. Richard C. North, Policy Analyst
Mr. Robert H. Rees, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Tracey Fredman, 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 Noel called the meeting to order at 2:19 p.m.

MOTION: Sen. Okerlund moved to approve the minutes of the September 19, 2012, meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. McAdams, Rep. Handy, and Rep. Ivory were absent for the vote.

2. Department of Technology Services Procurement Process

Mr. Ken Peterson, Chief Operating Officer, Department of Technology Services, gave an overview of the procurement process and responded to committee members' questions.

Ms. Pam Rudd, Purchasing Agent, State Purchasing, responded to questions related to the state's contract with the Western States Contracting Alliance.

3. Utility Infrastructure: Rural Utah

Mr. James Withers, Chair, Millard County Commission, distributed a letter from the Willard County Commission to Sen. Okerlund, dated October 1, 2012, and noted that bringing utilities to rural areas is necessary to develop and expand industry in those areas of the state.

Ms. Gillmore presented "Rural Utility Infrastructure Recommendations" and discussed recommendations from the Governor's Rural Partnership Board including competitive utility bidding for line extensions and modifications to economic development incentives.

Commissioner Spencer Cox, Sanpete County, participated in the discussion and responded to committee members' questions.

Ms. Bev Evans, Director, Governor's Office of Economic Development, spoke in support of providing incentives for services to rural areas.

Mr. Lucky Morse, Director, Customer and Community Management, Rocky Mountain Power, noted that Rocky Mountain Power is currently constructing a new substation in Millard County, which will improve the capacity and power available in the area. Mr. Morse also commented on the issues of competition and incentives in rural Utah.

4. Utah Broadband Report

Ms. Tara Thue, Manager, Utah Broadband Project, distributed "Utah Broadband Advisory Council Report," "Utah Broadband Advisory Council Report Executive Summary," "Broadband Providers Serving Utah," "Information for Legislators," "Consumer Broadband Availability by Speed," "Utah Broadband Technology Footprint," "Utah's Mobile Broadband Network Speeds," and "Broadband Market Challenge and Highest Known Speed, Fall 2012."

Ms. Thue briefed committee members on the importance of planning and coordination on the state level to facilitate higher levels of broadband access throughout Utah.

Mr. Bert Granberg, Director, Utah Automated Geographic Reference Center, referred to several handouts distributed by Ms. Thue as he reviewed the mapping analysis done by the Utah Broadband Project in the past year.

Ms. Thue and Mr. Granberg participated in committee discussion.

5. Electronic Waste Recycling Report

Mr. Allan Moore, Manager, Hazardous Waste Management, Department of Environmental Quality, distributed and presented "Recycling of Electronic Waste" in accordance with the requirements of 2011 General Session S.B. 184, "Disposal of Electronic Waste."

6. Municipal Utility Procurement Contract

This item was not discussed.

7. Other Items / Adjourn

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

Chair Noel adjourned the meeting at 3:55 p.m.