

**MINUTES OF THE
NATURAL RESOURCES, AGRICULTURE, AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE**
Room 25 House Office Building
February 14, 2013

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sen. David Hinkins, Co-Chair
Rep. John G. Mathis, Co-Chair
Rep. Mike McKell, House Vice
Sen. Jim Dabakis
Sen. Margaret Dayton
Sen. Kevin T. Van Tassell
Rep. Jerry Anderson
Rep. Roger E. Barrus
Rep. Susan Duckworth
Rep. Brian Greene
Rep. Ken Ivory
Rep. Michael E. Noel
Rep. Lee B. Perry
Rep. Jon Stanard
Rep. Larry B. Wiley

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Sen. Ralph Okerlund
Sen. John L. Valentine

STAFF: Mr. Ivan Djamboy, Fiscal Analyst
Ms. Angela Oh, Economist
Ms. Linda Service, Committee
Secretary

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

Vice Chair McKell called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m.

MOTION: Sen. Dayton moved to approve the minutes of January 31, 2013. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Sen. Dayton moved to approve the minutes of February 4, 2013. The motion passed unanimously.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

The mission of the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is to safeguard public health and quality of life by protecting and improving environmental quality. Ms. Oh discussed the seven Budget Briefs for (DEQ) covering issues and recommendations, performance measures, and intent language.

Ms. Oh commented on the Issue Briefs, "Federal Funds," showing the federal funds requested by DEQ; "Fees," indicating a proposed total change in fees of \$125,696; and "One-Time Funding," stating that DEQ has requested to have the authority to implement the base budget for FY 2014 at their discretion for DERR, DAQ, and DWQ.

Agency Response

Ms. Amanda Smith, Executive Director, DEQ, distributed handouts and introduced directors of the various departments within DEQ. The department administers federal environmental laws at the state level and works with the environmental community to make sure they are in compliance. DEQ is using Lean and Six Sigma processes to identify efficiencies which has been beneficial while supporting and encouraging constant improvement at smaller levels through focus on metrics and customer service. Ms. Smith outlined future issues facing the department, including air and water quality. She addressed the Division of Radiation fall audit indicating that Rep. Dee has a bill which addresses the high points of the audit. The bill increases the violation fines and directs the division on site access permits to require facilities to allow access and allow the division to have information from those facilities. Ms. Smith then responded to the question of federal sequestration and the extent to which it could impact DEQ. Mr. Ken Bousfield, Director, Division of Drinking Water (DDW), distributed a fact sheet indicating the purpose of the division and the type of work accomplished. DDW regulates Utah's 1,004 public drinking water systems by implementing rules relating to source development, treatment, storage, and delivery of drinking water meeting national drinking water quality. The division offers grants and low interest loans to communities throughout the state to build drinking water facilities meeting state and national standards. Despite the increase workload resulting from new rules, public water systems compliance rates have remained high.

Mr. Scott Anderson, Director, Division of Solid and Hazardous Waste (DSHW), stated that the division ensures the proper management of solid and hazardous waste through programs which focus on issuing and updating permits, conducting onsite compliance inspections, and providing technical assistance and education. As an example of the work done by the DSHW, Mr. Anderson mentioned the Geneva Steel property in Utah County which required environmental investigation and appropriate cleanup before redevelopment could move forward on the property.

Mr. Brent Everett, Director, Division of Environmental Response and Remediation (DERR), explained that the division registers and conducts compliance inspections of Utah's 3600+ underground storage tanks (USTs) and helps revitalize communities and return contaminated property to a state of beneficial use by implementing cleanup plans.

Mr. Walt Baker, Director, Division of Water Quality (DWQ), specified that the purpose of the division is to protect the state's waters from pollution. The key issues are nutrient pollution, storm water and increased urbanization, emerging pollutants, Great Salt Lake protection, and reduced flows.

Mr. Bryce Bird, Director, Division of Air Quality (DAQ), discussed concerns over air quality along the Wasatch Front, Cache County, and the Uintah Basin. He responded to questions.

Mr. Rusty Lundberg, Director, Division of Radiation Control (DRC), noted that the division works to assure Utahns the lowest possible exposure to any form of radiation through programs which focus on (1) limiting exposure to the lowest reasonably achievable levels necessary to accomplish medical procedures and to protect the general public and radiation workers; and (2) minimizing exposure from the generation, movement, remediation and disposal of radioactive materials.

Mr. Richard West, representing private land owners along the south shore of the Great Salt Lake wet lands, addressed concern over the health of the lake and pollutants entering the lake. He requested the

subcommittee consider using General Fund monies instead of fees to control the spread of phragmites in the wet lands surrounding the lake.

OFFICE OF ENERGY DEVELOPMENT

Ms. Oh presented a brief overview of the Budget Brief, "Office of Energy Development." The Office of Energy Development (OED) was created by H.B. 475 in the 2011 General Session. OED's mission is to provide leadership in the balanced development of Utah's abundant energy resources through public and private partnerships for economic prosperity, energy independence, and a reliable, affordable energy supply. She commented on issues and recommendations, performance measures, and intent language for OED. Ms. Oh reviewed the Issue Brief, "Office of Energy Development - Federal Funds," which includes Federal Funds Requests for FY 2013 Supplemental, and Federal Funds Requests for FY 2014.

Agency Response

Ms. Samantha Julian, Director, Office of Energy Development, distributed a handout and offered a brief history of the OED. The governor has four cornerstones: education, energy, economic development, and self-determination. OED works to execute economic development and policy. The number one priority is to produce more energy than the state consumes. The key success indicators for OED are the following:: (1) Create and Implement Policy, (2) Assist Industry, (3) Build Relationships, (4) Pursue Funding Opportunities, and (5) Foster Energy Education. Ms. Alair Emory, Administrative Coordinator, OED, responded to questions.

MOTION: Rep. Wiley moved to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously. Rep. McKell adjourned the meeting at 9:55. a.m.

Sen. David Hinkins, Co-chair

Rep. John G. Mathis, Co-chair