

**MINUTES OF THE
BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, & LABOR
APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE**

Room 210, Senate Building

February 7, 2014

Members Present: Sen. Brian E. Shiozawa, Senate Chairman
Rep. Jim Bird, House Chairman
Rep. Stewart E. Barlow, House Vice Chair
Sen. Curtis S. Bramble
Sen. Gene Davis
Sen. Wayne A. Harper
Sen. Scott K. Jenkins
Sen. Stuart C. Reid
Sen. Jerry W. Stevenson
Rep. Patrice M. Arent
Rep. James A. Dunnigan
Rep. Jeremy A. Peterson
Rep. Val L. Peterson
Rep. Dixon M. Pitcher
Rep. Angela Romero
Rep. V. Lowry Snow
Rep. Brad R. Wilson

Members Absent: Rep. Ryan D. Wilcox

Staff Present: Dr. Andrea Wilko, Chief Economist
Mr. Zackery King, Fiscal Analyst
Ms. Rosemary Young, Committee Secretary

Note: A copy of related materials and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at www.le.utah.gov.

Chair Bird called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Governor's Office of Economic Development

Sophia DiCaro, Deputy Director and COO of the Governor's Office of Economic Development, invited her team members to stand. The vision of the office is to have Utah lead the nation as the best performing economy and to be recognized as a premier global business destination. The Governor's budget recommendations for GOED were reviewed.

Christopher Conabee, Managing Director of Corporate Recruitment and Business Services, and Jeff Edwards, Economic Development Corporation of Utah, with a slide show explained the EDTIF or tax credit program and the Industrial Assistance Fund and how they work together in helping Utah be competitive with other states in recruiting businesses. There are 248 active

projects in the pipeline, some of which can take years to come to fruition. The IAF is critical to being able to begin a conversation with many businesses, and is one tool that brings net new revenues and opportunities to the state.

The break down of the Tourism Marketing Fund was explained and it was pointed out that the ROI is \$5.06 in state tax revenue. The Global branding initiative "Life Elevated" was discussed with input from Vicki Varela, Director of the Office of Tourism.

Request For Appropriation

With four handouts, Dirk Clayson, Kane County Commission, and Brent Chamberlain, Kanab City Council, requested \$100,000 one time for purposes of renovating the Old Middle School as a convention center and to provide a stage for the **Western Legends Roundup**. Rep. Noel asked for support for the project.

Cynthia Buckingham, Executive Director, distributed a handout and requested an additional \$22,100 in ongoing funds to bring the total appropriation to \$85,000 for the **Utah Humanities Council** to allow the council to support a greater number of local initiatives such as the Smithsonian traveling exhibit to five small Utah museums. Rep. Wilson expressed his support for the request.

Rep. Westwood distributed two handouts and requested \$50,000 ongoing for the **Utah Summer Games** in Cedar City. Casey McClellan, Executive Director of the games; Scott Jolley, Cedar City Chamber of Commerce; and Sen. Vickers spoke in support of the request.

Rep. Dunnigan brought the request for \$20,000 ongoing to cover hard costs of staging, lighting, sound equipment etc. for **Symphony in the Park - Taylorsville Dayzz**. The symphony comes at no cost and provides the opportunity for west Salt Lake County people to become acquainted with their music in a family oriented setting.

Rep. Snow introduced Kevin Smith, CEO **Tuacahn Amphitheatre**, and Jeffrey Fisher, Chairman of Development, **Tuacahn Center For The Arts**, who showed a short video and explained their relationship with Disney theatricals and requested \$250,000 one time to build an arts center and add to seating in the amphitheatre.

A number of young people who are members of **FIRST Robotics** attended and were represented by Jakob Thygerson who explained their program of building robots and participating in competition with a goal of getting to a world competition. This program is under the auspices of **4H STEM**, and Rep. Cunningham, with a handout, requested \$40,000 one time for this program aimed at building engineers of the future.

Rep. Draxler requested \$74,000 ongoing for **History Day**, a state-wide program similar to science fair for history. The program is no longer sponsored by Utah State University. Wendy Atzet from the Department of Heritage and Arts, coordinates **History Day** and explained that part of the focus is for young people to learn how to do history research. Olivia Baird, an Orem High School student and participant in the program, explained that the program helps prepare students for college and the workforce.

Sen. Stevenson requested \$150,000 one time for the **Hill Air Show** which brings 600,000 participants into the state.

Sen. Davis requested \$100,000 one time for **Museum Grants**, assisted by Jayceen Craven Walker, Utah Museum Association. There are over 250 museums in Utah who would use the funds for grants and for curating their artifacts. The money would be allocated to the Office of Museum Services under the Department of Heritage and Arts.

In behalf of the museum in West Jordan Rep. Bird requested \$20,000 one time.

How future meetings and the additional requests for appropriations will be handled was discussed. The committee members will be provided with a list of one-time money requests and a list for ongoing money requests.

MOTION: Rep. Dunnigan moved to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously with Rep. Wilson absent for the vote.

Chair Bird adjourned the meeting at 9:29 a.m.

Sen. Brian E. Shiozawa, Chair

Rep. Jim Bird, Chair