

**MINUTES OF THE
NATURAL RESOURCES, AGRICULTURE, AND ENVIRONMENT
INTERIM COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, September 21, 2016 – 8:30 a.m. – Room 30 House Building

Members Present:

Sen. Scott K. Jenkins, Senate Chair
Rep. Lee B. Perry, House Chair
Sen. Allen M. Christensen
Sen. Margaret Dayton
Sen. Jani Iwamoto
Sen. Peter C. Knudson
Sen. Evan J. Vickers
Rep. Melvin R. Brown
Rep. Scott H. Chew
Rep. Jack R. Draxler
Rep. Susan Duckworth
Rep. Stephen G. Handy

Rep. Timothy D. Hawkes
Rep. Lynn N. Hemingway
Rep. Mike K. McKell
Rep. Michael E. Noel
Rep. Derrin Owens
Rep. Douglas V. Sagers
Rep. Scott Sandall

Staff Present:

Mr. J Brian Allred, Policy Analyst
Ms. RuthAnne Frost, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Katie LeFevre, Legislative Assistant

Note: A list of others present, a copy of related materials, and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at www.leg.utah.gov.

1. Committee Business

Chair Jenkins called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

MOTION: Rep. Perry moved to approve the minutes of the July 13, 2016, meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Knudson, Rep. McKell, and Rep. Sagers absent for the vote.

2. Report on State Agency Best Practices and Stewardship Efforts to Improve Air Quality

Ms. Chamonix Larsen, State Coordinator of Resource Stewardship, distributed "Coordinator of Resource Stewardship Annual Report" and presented "Insight to Opportunities and Strategies, Best Practices for Clean Air." She explained her role as Coordinator of Resource Stewardship and reviewed the efforts of state agencies to improve air quality.

3. Air Quality

Overview

Mr. Bryce Bird, Director, Division of Air Quality, presented "Utah's Air Quality Program." He discussed Utah's air quality, federal air quality standards, and current air quality issues.

Mr. Bird and Mr. Patrick Barickman, Environmental Program Manager, Division of Air Quality, responded to questions from the committee.

Tier 3 Fuels/Vehicles

Mr. Glade Sowards, Policy Analyst, Division of Air Quality, presented "Improved Air Quality through the Use of Tier 3 Fuels in Utah." He discussed the tier 3 vehicle emission standards and gasoline and sulfur standards.

Mr. Lee Peacock, Executive Director, Utah Petroleum Association, responded to questions from the committee.

Electric Vehicles

Rep. Handy and Mr. Kevin Emerson, Program Director, Utah Clean Energy, presented "Reauthorization and Extension of Electric Vehicle Tax Credit." Rep. Handy discussed the benefits of electric vehicles and the electric vehicle incentives offered in other states. He responded to questions from the committee.

Mr. Jeff Larsen, Vice President of Regulation, Rocky Mountain Power, explained efforts to enhance infrastructure for electric vehicles. He responded to questions from the committee.

Ms. Tammy Cooper, Communications and Northern Coordinator, Utah Clean Cities, discussed the importance of incentives for electric vehicles.

Long Term Planning and Projections

Mr. Bird presented "The Storage Tank Emissions Pilot Project." He discussed the workload challenges and future plans. He outlined the improvements compared to previous years and responded to questions from the committee.

The committee heard public comment. Ms. Kathy Van Dame, Policy Director, Utah Clean Air Coalition, asked a clarifying question regarding magnesium.

4. Utah Wildfire Risk Assessment and Management

This item was not discussed.

5. U.S. Forest Service – Forest Plan Revisions

Mr. John Erickson, Forest Supervisor, Ashley National Forest, shared an update on forest plan revisions. He responded to questions from the committee.

Mr. Mark Pentecost, Forest Supervisor, Manti-Lasal National Forest, distributed "Forest Service Talking Points" and "Forest Plan Revision Pamphlet." He explained the components of the forest plan revision process and discussed efforts to encourage public input in the forest plan revision. Mr. Pentecost responded to questions from the committee.

Sen. Jenkins expressed concern regarding the low public attendance at forest plan revision meetings.

6. Potential State Park Expansion/School and Institutional Trust Lands

Mr. Kim Christy, Deputy Director, School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration, presented "Legislative Parks Presentation." He shared an overview of School and Institutional Trust Land that could potentially be used to expand State Parks. He responded to questions from the committee.

Mr. Fred Hayes, Director, Division of State Parks, expressed willingness to consider potential state park expansion and explained the Division of State Park's current projects. He responded to questions from the committee.

7. Other Items/Adjourn

MOTION: Rep. Perry moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Knudson, Rep. McKell, and Rep. Sagers absent for the vote.

Chair Jenkins adjourned the meeting at 11:07 a.m.