

**MINUTES OF THE
WORKFORCE SERVICES AND COMMUNITY
AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INTERIM COMMITTEE**
Wednesday, July 16, 2003 – 2:30 p.m. – Room 131 State Capitol

Members Present:

Sen. Scott K. Jenkins, Senate Chair
Rep. David N. Cox, House Chair
Sen. Karen Hale
Sen. David L. Thomas
Rep. Brent H. Goodfellow
Rep. Gregory H. Hughes
Rep. Dana C. Love
Rep. Steven R. Mascaro
Rep. Karen W. Morgan
Rep. LaWanna "Lou" Shurtliff
Rep. Peggy Wallace

Members Absent:

Sen. Carlene Walker
Rep. Jeff Alexander

Staff Present:

Mr. Mark B. Steinagel, Policy Analyst
Mr. James L. Wilson, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Glenda S. Whitney, Legislative Secretary

Note: A list of others present and a copy of materials can be found at <http://www.image.le.state.ut.us/imaging/history.asp> or by contacting the committee secretary, Glenda Whitney, at 538-1032.

1. Committee Business

Chair Cox called the meeting to order at 2:51 p.m. He introduced Mr. Mark Steinagel as the new Policy Analyst for the Committee.

MOTION: Sen. Hale moved to approve the minutes of June 18, 2003. The motion passed unanimously, with Sen. Jenkins, Rep. Hughes, Rep. Love, and Rep. Morgan absent for the vote.

Mr. Wilson distributed a handout "Business Starts and Stops," that the Committee requested of Mr. Ronald E. Casper, State Director, National Federation of Independent Business, at the June meeting.

2. Travel Development

Mr. Dean Reeder, Director, Travel Council, distributed a binder with information from the Division of Travel Development on tourism in Utah. He reported on the importance of travel development to Utah's economy, and explained comparative marketing for revenue spent for advertizing to out-of-state visitors.

Mr. Reeder noted that the travel board is holding public hearings throughout the state on enhancing the economic contribution of tourism.

Mr. David Harmer, Executive Director, Department of Community and Economic Development, responded to questions from the Committee.

Mr. Kip Pitou, President, Ski Utah, made comparisons between the Utah and Colorado skiing industry.

3. Update on H.B. 240 Venture Capital Enhancement Act

Mr. Harmer presented a progress report on the implementation of the provisions of the Venture Capital Enhancement Act.

4. Office of Child Care

Ms. Lynette Rasmussen, Director, Office of Child Care, made a progress report on the ongoing meetings and changes to the current process of providing for Child Care. She indicated there will be recommended policy and rule changes when the report is completed and she will present them to the Committee at that time.

Ms. Karen Silver, Salt Lake Community Action Program, expressed the need for quality child care.

5. Changes to Utah's Family Employment Plan

The Committee received a slide presentation titled, "Utah's Family Employment Program," regarding changes to the Family Employment Plan. Four poverty advocate groups, Utahns Against Hunger, Salt Lake Community Action, Crossroads Urban Center, and Utah Issues, collaborated on the presentation. A copy of the presentation was distributed to the Committee.

Ms. Gina Cornia, Utahns Against Hunger, discussed the common barriers to employment that families face.

Ms. Silver discussed assessments and explained why assessments are crucial.

Mr. Bill Tibbets, Crossroads Urban Center, discussed welfare reauthorization and the need for better enhancement of job training and placement.

Mr. Tim Schultz, Utah Issues, discussed time limits flexibility and extensions for families in hardship cases. He discussed recommended legislation and non-legislative recommendations to the Family Employment Program.

Ms. Raylene Ireland, Director, Division of Workforce Services, responded to questions from the Committee.

Ms. Helen Thatcher, Program Manager, Division of Workforce Services, reviewed the current assessment process in the system.

Mr. Dan Belnap, Utahns Against Hunger, expressed concern with employment barriers and what is currently available to protect individuals and to help them be self sufficient.

6. U 'n Utah - Economic Development

Mr. Stephen Jury, Managing Partner, U 'n Utah, distributed a handout "A Decade of Responsibility for Utah's Economic Future." He presented a brief summary on a private corporate/public partnership approach to economic development for the state of Utah.

Chair Cox said because of lack of time, Mr. Jury could further address the Committee on this issue at a subsequent meeting.

7. Other Items / Adjourn

Ms. Sarah Brenna, Division of Workforce Services, distributed a handout "Overview of the Health Coverage Tax Credit," for the Committee to review.

MOTION: Sen. Jenkins moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Cox adjourned the meeting at 5:05 p.m. Sen. Thomas, Rep. Goodfellow, Rep. Love, and Rep. Shurtliff were absent for the vote.