

**MINUTES OF THE
UTAH INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION**
Thursday, August 20, 2009 8:00 a.m. – Room 450 State Capitol

Members Present:

Sen. Mark B. Madsen, Senate Chair
Rep. Sheryl L. Allen, House Chair
Sen. Brent H. Goodfellow
Rep. Jackie Biskupski
Rep. Phil Riesen
Mr. Brian Farr
Mr. Brett W. Heimburger
Mr. Miguel R. Rovira

Members Absent:

Sen. Peter C. Knudson
Rep. Lorie D. Fowlke
Rep. Kerry W. Gibson

Staff Present:

Ms. Victoria Stirling, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Wendy L. Bangerter, 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. Commission Business

Chair Allen called the meeting to order at 8:25 a.m.

MOTION: Rep. Gibson moved to approve the minutes of the November 19, 2008 meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Rep. Biskupski was absent for the vote.

2. Utah International Trade Strategy: Overview

Mr. Derek Miller, Acting Executive Director, Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED), explained that international trade is a key indicator and important part of Utah's economy. He stated that Utah is weathering the economic storm in part because we have a robust international trade component.

Mr. Craig Peterson, GOED, presented and reviewed a slide presentation "Utah International Trade." He reflected on the past administration, what was accomplished, and our future direction. His presentation addressed leading export destinations and goods, trade growth, jobs created, and the mission of the International Trade & Diplomacy Office.

3. Utah International / Regional Trade Export Report

Dr. Keith Martin, Martin Doors, gave a slide presentation and explained what international trade has meant to his business, which began locally and is now worldwide. He emphasized how the World Trade Center Utah (WTCU) helped Martin Doors move into the international market.

4. Utah International Trade Networks

Mr. Lew Cramer, WTCU, distributed and reviewed "World Trade Center Utah Annual Report 2008-2009." He emphasized how Utah is competing with the entire world and the state's determination to avoid participating in the world economic downturn. He stated the mission of the WTCU to assess, educate, and connect companies. He announced there is a delegation from China coming in September, illustrating that Utah is a destination for international visitors.

5. International Trade / World Trade Organization / Treaty: Updates

Mr. Peter Riggs, Executive Director, Forum on Democracy, joined the meeting via phone from New York. He reviewed past administrations' trade policy and explained President Obama's current trade policy. Mr. Riggs gave updates on a broad range of international treaties and treaty organization activities. He referred to a letter received from Rep. Allen, as well as from other states, emphasizing that the states need more consultation with the United States Trade Representative (USTR). He answered questions about bilateral investment treaties regarding the challenges of those treaties. He reviewed seven questions and decisions that the Obama administration must address.

6. World Trade Organization Gambling Issue Update: Antigua

Mr. Riggs addressed and summarized the United State's World Trade Organization treaty on gambling, the current status of the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) negotiations, and emphasized continual state involvement.

7. Other Items / Adjourn

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, September 24, 2009 at 1:00 p.m.

MOTION: Rep. Riesen moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Allen adjourned the meeting at 10:30 a.m.