

**CORRECTED MINUTES OF THE JOINT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2006, 4:00 P. M.
Room W135, West Office Building, State Capitol Complex**

Members Present: Sen. Lyle Hillyard, Committee Co-Chair
 Rep. Ron Bigelow, Committee Co-Chair
 Sen. Gene Davis
 Sen. Mike Dmitrich
 Sen. Dan Eastman
 Sen. Beverly Evans
 Sen. Karen Hale
 Sen. Peter Knudson
 Sen. Ed. Mayne
 Pres. John Valentine
 Rep. Jeff Alexander
 Rep. Ralph Becker
 Speaker Greg J. Curtis
 Rep. Ben C. Ferry
 Rep. Patricia W. Jones
 Rep. Brad King
 Rep. Roz McGee
 Rep. Stephen H. Urquhart

 Sen. Curtis Bramble, Vice-Chair
 Rep. David Clark, Vice Chair

Staff Present: John Massey, Legislative Fiscal Analyst
 Michael Kjar, Deputy Director, Fiscal
 Bonnie Brinton, Secretary
 Norda Shepard, Secretary

A list of others present and handouts are on file with the committee minutes.

Committee Co-Chair Hillyard called the meeting to order at 4:44 p.m. He announced that signs, clapping or demonstrations of any kind are not appropriate in committee meetings.

1. Approval of Minutes

MOTION: Co-Chair Bigelow moved to approve the minutes of February 21, 2006.

The motion passed unanimously with Pres. Valentine and Rep. King absent for the vote.

2. New Ongoing Funding

MOTION: Co-Chair Bigelow moved to authorize the appropriation of additional ongoing funds for the items listed in the "Recommended" column on the sheet titled "FY 2007 Ongoing General/Education Fund Building Block Priorities" and dated today, February 27, 2006.

Co-Chair Bigelow pointed out the previous lists only showed items recommended by the subcommittees. He stated there are a number of items recommended in this motion that have not necessarily been identified with the subcommittees or were low priority items that were recommended for funding. Those are listed under Executive Appropriations Committee. These items relate to compensation or issues of a nature that normally would not be funded with the normal subcommittee prioritization.

Rep. McGee asked if the Labor Commission Workload for \$175,000 was recommended by the subcommittee. Co-Chair Hillyard said that it was low on their priority list; but for compelling reasons, it was felt that funding should occur and was placed under Executive Appropriations Committee. Rep. McGee also asked what the \$750,000 under Legislature would cover. Co-Chair Bigelow said this would cover an increase in NCSL dues, ongoing costs for Blackberries and a request from Research and General Council for an additional staff member.

In answerer to questions concerning the additional 0.5% COLA, Co-Chair Hillyard explained that a public employees' salary increase of 2.5% had initially been approved . This proposed additional 0.5%, with the commitment of the public employees' that they will fund another 0.5% from health insurance benefits cost thus giving the state employees a 3.5% salary increase. This will be included in 1st Sub. H.B. 4.

Rep. Becker asked if the reduction of \$13,200,000 for the ongoing Capital Development Budget would result in some specific buildings not being funded or funded in a different way. Co-Chair Hillyard stated that the Capital Facilities budget has ongoing capital amount in the neighborhood of \$38 million and there are savings from bonding from the last several years that are there. In order to balance the budget and fund the Utah Science, Technology and Research (USTAR) for \$15,250,000 this money had to be withdrawn out of Capital Facilities ongoing budget.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: Rep. Alexander moved to authorize the appropriation of additional ongoing funds for the items listed in the "Recommended" column on the blue sheet titled "FY 2007 Ongoing General/Education Fund Building Block Priorities" and dated today, February 27, 2006 but to eliminate CFAS, Reduce Ongoing Capital Development Budget (\$13,200,000); and EDCV, SB 75 (Mansell) USTAR; and to reduce Additional COLA (Health Benefit Incentive) to \$2,750,000

The substitute motion passed with Sens. Hale and Mayne and Reps. Becker, Jones, and McGee voting in opposition.

3. New One Time Funding

MOTION: Co-Chair Bigelow moved to authorize the appropriation of additional one-time funds for the items listed in the "Recommended" column on the sheet titled "FY 2006 & 2007 One Time General/Education Fund Building Block Priorities" and dated today, February 27, 2006, with the exception of the USTAR item under Executive Appropriations Committee, ECDV, for \$50,000,000.

Rep. Becker asked for a explanation of the difference in the NRAS Capital Facilities Improvements amounts--Subcommittee, \$3,000,000 and Recommended, \$5,000,000.

Co-Chair Bigelow stated that this item would not be in the S. B. 4 and would be held. The difference would be appropriated to the "This Is The Place" park. He explained that this item had not been discussed in the Subcommittee's considerations.

Rep. Becker requested additional information regarding this allocation. He also noted gaps in funding that he considered worthy of continuing discussion; namely, dental and vision, also HIV/AIDS medicational review.

Rep. Jones commented on the critical needs in Human Services that should be reviewed; for example, in-home services for the aging population.

Co-Chair Hillyard stated that the recommendations of the Subcommittees have been considered very important, and the Executive Appropriations Committee have tried to follow these recommendations as much as possible.

Rep. McGee stated her hope that two items could be revisited; first, the Disability Waiting List. She suggested that the Committee consider placing \$2,000,000 one-time money there. She stated that \$150,000 has already been recommended for Assisted Employment Pilot Projects. Placing additional funds there would help make innovations possible. In addition, she suggested revisiting the Utah Birth Defects Network.

The motion passed with Sen. Hale and Reps. Becker, Jones and McGee voting in opposition.

Co-Chair Bigelow noted the packets distributed to Committee members contains S.B. 4 with a summary on orange paper. H.B. 1 is also contained in the packet and the lavender sheet contains a summary to help cross-reference items and amounts. The information for S.B. 5, Amendments to the Minimum School Program, will be distributed tomorrow morning. 1st Sub. H.B. 4 State Agency and Higher Education Compensation Amendments, was also in the packet.

Co-Chair Hillyard stated that after careful review, anyone may direct questions regarding the information to either Chair. This information will be available on the internet immediately after the meeting.

MOTION: Co-Chair Bigelow moved to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:08 p.m.

Minutes reported by Bonnie Brinton and Norda Shepard, Committee Secretaries.

Sen. Lyle W. Hillyard, Co-Chair

Rep. Ron Bigelow, Co-Chair