

**MINUTES OF THE  
PUBLIC UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY INTERIM COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, April 21, 1999 - 9:00 a.m. - Room 223 - State Capitol

**Members Present:**

Sen. Lorin V. Jones, Co-Chair  
Rep. Sheryl L. Allen, Co-Chair  
Sen. Mike Dmitrich  
Sen. Joseph L. Hull  
Sen. Howard C. Nielson  
Rep. Ralph Becker  
Rep. Chad E. Bennion  
Rep. Melvin R. Brown  
Rep. Blake D. Chard  
Rep. Gary F. Cox  
Rep. Kevin S. Garn  
Rep. Brent H. Goodfellow  
Rep. Tom Hatch  
Rep. David M. Jones  
Rep. Gordon E. Snow  
Rep. John E. Swallow

**Members Absent:**

Sen. Leonard M. Blackham  
Rep. David Ure

**Members Excused:**

Rep. David N. Cox

**Staff Present:**

Mr. Richard North,  
Research Analyst  
Ms. Tani Pack Downing,  
Associate General Counsel  
Ms. Junie G. Anderson,  
Legislative Secretary

**Note:** A list of others present and a copy of materials distributed in the meeting are on file in the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel.

**1. Call to Order** - Chair Jones called the meeting to order at 9:12 a.m. Members of the committee and staff introduced themselves and were welcomed by the chairs.

**MOTION:** Rep. Gary Cox moved to approve the minutes of the November 18, 1998 meeting. The motion passed unanimously, with Sen. Hull, Rep. Jones, and Rep. Swallow absent for the vote.

**2. Year 2000 Update - Remediation Progress & Contingency Planning** – Mr. David Moon, Chief Information Officer, Utah, briefed the committee on Utah's progress in becoming Y2K compliant and on the state's contingency plan. He said the Uniform Social Service Delivery System and the Department of Human Services have completed the Y2K testing, but the Child Recovery, Medicaid, and payroll systems are still testing. However, significant work has been finished toward achieving compliance. He also reported on the progress of other state entities with their systems.

Mr. Moon also addressed the issue of funding for the project. He spoke of public awareness and informed the committee that on May 6, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., there will be a statewide town meeting on Y2K that will be broadcast over the Utah Education Network satellite video delivery system to approximately 100 high schools and other state facilities.

Sen. Nielson expressed concern over pharmacies' ability to supply prescriptions as needed.

Mr. Moon addressed Chair Jones' concern over the Utah State Tax Commission's Y2K compliancy stating that he is satisfied that the Tax Commission will be compliant by October.

Mr. Gary Thorup, Holme Roberts & Owen LLP, asked that the Legislature be sensitive to changes that will impact other business systems.

Mr. Mike Avant, Garkane Power Association, reported on his company's progress.

Mr. Ruland Gill, Questar, said that Questar is on schedule in reaching its Y2K goals.

Ms. Nancy Gibbs, Utah Telecom Association, said outdated switches are not Y2K compliant and the major expense for the association will be for changing out the switches.

Mr. Roger Tew, Utah Association of Municipal Power Providers, said the power systems are on target.

**3. Legislative Wrap Up - 1999 General Session** – Ms. Downing briefed the committee on public utility and technology-related bills that passed in the 1999 General Session and discussed some bills that did not pass. She distributed a handout titled "1999 General Session Bills."

**4. 1999 Potential Study Item Review & Prioritization** – Mr. North provided background material for the potential study items titled "Telecommunications Deregulations - 1994 to Present," and "Recognizing Charges on Your Local Phone Bill." He discussed the suggested study items with the committee.

Mr. Steve Mecham, Public Service Commission, provided input pertaining to a discrepancy in the definitions between telephone corporation and telecommunications corporation in the public utilities code.

Mr. Kevin Boardman, PacifiCorp/Scottish Power, and Mr. Ric Campbell and Mr. Lowell Alt, Utah Division of Public Utilities, provided input on the utility merger.

Mr. North also discussed the reports that the committee can select to hear during the interim period as outlined in the chart titled "Statutory Report to the Public Utilities and Technology Interim Committee - 1999."

**5. Adjournment -**

**MOTION:** Rep. Brown moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:47 a.m. The motion passed unanimously.