

**MINUTES OF THE
NATIVE AMERICAN LEGISLATIVE LIAISON COMMITTEE**
Monday, November 8, 1999 - 9:00 a.m. - Room 416 - State Capitol

Members Present:

Sen. Beverly Ann Evans, Cochair
Rep. M. Keele Johnson, Cochair
Sen. Millie M. Peterson
Sen. Pete Suazo
Sen. R. Mont Evans
Rep. Eli H. Anderson
Rep. Judy Ann Buffmire
Rep. James R. Gowans
Rep. Susan J. Koehn
Rep. Jack A. Seitz

Members Excused:

Rep. Jordan Tanner

Staff Present:

John Q. Cannon, III,
Research Analyst
Patricia Owen,
Associate General Counsel
Vanessa Thompson,
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 Johnson called the meeting to order at 9:11 a.m.

2. Committee Business -

MOTION: Rep. Anderson moved to approve the minutes of the October 21, 1999 meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. M. Evans and Rep. Koehn absent for the vote.

3. Uintah Basin Revitalization Fund -Mr. Keith Burnett, Department of Community & Economic Development, distributed and discussed a handout titled "Uintah Basin Revitalization Fund Legislative Report – November 1999." He discussed the projects funded by the Revitalization Fund. Committee discussion followed.

4. Taxation - Ms. Patricia Owen distributed a handout titled "State Tax Policy and Tribal Relations" and discussed options the Legislature has in dealing with taxation issues.

Mr. John Harja, Governor's Office of Planning and Budget, discussed the status of taxation agreements between the governor and the Northern Ute Tribe (Ute Tribe).

Committee discussion and public comment followed.

5. Taxation Issues Related to the Northern Ute Tribe - Mr. Phil Pugsley, Utah Attorney General's Office, distributed and discussed two maps "Uintah Valley Indian Reservation – Jurisdiction October 21, 1997," and "Uintah Valley Indian Reservation – Ownership October 21, 1997."

Ms. Owen distributed and discussed a handout titled "Basics of Individual Income Tax – Basics of Motor Fuel Tax."

Mr. Harja discussed ongoing negotiations with the Ute Tribe. He noted the court-ordered injunction that has been in place since 1985, and discussed concerns about its impact when it is lifted. Mr. Harja said that the governor's office and the Ute Tribe are close to an agreement on tax issues.

Mr. Roland McCook, Ute Business Committee, addressed the committee about taxation issues for the Ute Tribe. He noted that the Ute Tribe believes the state does not exempt the Ute Tribe from taxes—they are already exempt.

Mr. Rob Thompson, General Counsel, Ute Tribe, explained the current injunction addressing jurisdiction within reservation boundaries. He noted that the Ute Tribe provides services on the reservation including road maintenance, ambulance service, and other services.

Committee discussion and public comment followed.

MOTION: Chair Evans moved that she and Rep. Johnson, as chairs of the committee, ask the Legislative Management Committee for authorization to hold an additional meeting if it is necessary.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: Sen. M. Evans moved that the chairs ask the Legislative Management Committee for a meeting or meetings as needed. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Adjourn -

Sen. M. Evans moved to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously. Rep. Johnson adjourned the meeting at 11:59 a.m.