

(Draft - Awaiting Formal Approval)  
**MINUTES OF THE  
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES INTERIM COMMITTEE**  
Wednesday, May 16, 2012 – 2:30 p.m. – John A. Moran Eye Center

**Members Present:**

Sen. Allen M. Christensen, Senate Chair  
Rep. Paul Ray, House Chair  
Sen. Patricia W. Jones  
Rep. Tim M. Cosgrove  
Rep. Bradley M. Daw  
Rep. Daniel McCay  
Rep. Dean Sanpei  
Rep. Evan J. Vickers

**Members Absent:**

Sen. Mark B. Madsen  
Sen. Stuart C. Reid  
Sen. Luz Robles  
Rep. Wayne A. Harper  
Rep. Ronda Rudd Menlove  
Rep. Christine F. Watkins

**Staff Present:**

Mr. Mark D. Andrews, Policy Analyst  
Ms. RuthAnne Frost, Associate General Counsel  
Ms. Lori Rammell, 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](http://www.le.utah.gov).

**1. Committee Business**

Chair Ray called the meeting to order at 2:53 p.m. Sen. Reid, Rep. Harper, and Rep. Watkins were excused from the meeting.

**2. Obesity/Spark Program**

Dr. John Ratey, Harvard University Professor and author of *Spark: The Revolutionary New Science of Exercise and the Brain*, presented a slide show that examined the effectiveness of exercise as an anti-depressant, then explained the chemistry behind that effect. He also presented data showing that improved academic scores among students were directly related to increased exercise. He advocates a "New P.E." in schools: it is less competitive, includes a wider range of activities, and involves smaller groups of one or two students at play. He explained how student participation in this "New P.E." at one particular school improved student behavior and resulted in fewer disciplinary incidents.

Chair Ray suggested that the committee give some thought to doing some sort of exercise program as a committee.

**3. John A. Moran Eye Center — Special Briefing and Tour**

Dr. Randall J. Olson, Chairman and CEO, John A. Moran Eye Center, welcomed the committee and public to the Moran Eye Center. He presented a slide show outlining the role and mission of the Moran Eye Center, including clinical care, community outreach, and medical student training. Dr. Olsen added, in reference to Dr. Ratey's remarks, that research has shown that exercise improves macular degeneration as well.

Ms. Jenny Wilson, Executive Director, Institutional Advancement, John A. Moran Eye Center, continued the discussion of Moran's vision and mission, reviewed board and faculty membership, and discussed Moran's international programs treating those with eye diseases.

Mr. Wayne Imbrescia, Executive Director, John A. Moran Eye Center, presented a slide show covering some of the history of the Moran Eye Center and its purpose in finding cures for blinding eye conditions. He outlined the eye center's relationship with the University of Utah.

Dr. Jeff Pettey, Ophthalmologist, John A. Moran Eye Center, gave an overview of ophthalmology and the education required to become an ophthalmologist. He made a distinction between ophthalmologists and optometrists, the first a medical doctor and surgeon, the latter not a medical doctor. He discussed the outreach services Moran Eye Center performs around the state of Utah, including cataract surgeries for uninsured patients.

Dr. David Peterson, President, Utah Ophthalmology Society and pediatric ophthalmologist, further discussed the distinction between ophthalmologists and optometrists, but emphasized their cooperation in treating eye patients. He pointed out that cataract surgery is the most frequently performed eye surgery in the country, and that macular degeneration and glaucoma are the two most common eye diseases. Dr. Peterson then took questions from the committee.

#### **4. Adjourn**

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

Chair Ray adjourned the meeting at 4:05 p.m.