

**MINUTES OF THE HOUSE
NATURAL RESOURCES, AGRICULTURE, & ENVIRONMENT
STANDING COMMITTEE**

Room C445, State Capitol

February 12, 2013

Members Present: Rep. Mike Noel, Chair
Rep. Doug Sagers, Vice Chair
Rep. Roger Barrus
Rep. Joel Briscoe
Rep. Mel Brown
Rep. Kay Christofferson
Rep. Jack Draxler
Rep. Susan Duckworth
Rep. Becky Edwards
Rep. Steve Handy
Rep. Ken Ivory
Rep. John Mathis
Rep. Mike McKell
Rep. Merrill Nelson
Rep. Ryan Wilcox
Rep. Larry Wiley

Staff Present: Mr. J Brian Allred, Policy Analyst
Ms. An Bradshaw, Committee Secretary

Note: A list of visitors and handouts are filed with committee minutes

Chair Noel called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

S.B. 30 Water and Irrigation Amendments (*Sen. M. Dayton*) (Rep. R. Wilcox**)**

Sen. Dayton introduced the bill to the committee with the assistance of Mr. Kent Jones, State Engineer, Division of Water Rights

MOTION: Rep. Wiley moved to pass the bill out favorably. The motion passed unanimously with Rep. Brown, Rep. Draxler, Rep. Edwards, and Rep. McKell absent for the vote.

S.B. 115 Water Development Commission Amendments (*Sen. M. Dayton*) (Rep. K. Grover**)**

Sen. Dayton introduced the bill to the committee.

MOTION: Rep. Handy moved to pass the bill out favorably. The motion passed unanimously with Rep. Brown, Rep. Draxler, Rep. Edwards, and Rep. McKell absent for the vote.

S.C.R. 3 Threatened Species Damage and Management Plan Concurrent Resolution (*Sen. E. Vickers*) (Rep. J. Westwood**)**

Sen. Vickers and Rep. Westwood introduced the bill to the committee.

MOTION: Rep. Wiley moved to amend the bill as follows:

1. Page 3, Lines 80 through 83:

80 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature and the Governor urges, upon
81 successful achievement of an established recovery population on property {~~that is not~~
~~privately~~
82 ~~owned~~} within Iron County for a period of five consecutive years, that the Utah Prairie
Dog be
83 delisted from "threatened" status within Iron County.

The motion to amend passed unanimously with Rep. Brown, Rep. Draxler, and Rep. McKell absent for the vote.

MOTION: Rep. Briscoe moved to pass the bill out favorably. The motion passed unanimously with Rep. Brown, Rep. Draxler, and Rep. McKell absent for the vote.

H.C.R. 4 Concurrent Resolution on Utah Wildfires (*Rep. J. Briscoe*)

Rep. Briscoe introduced the bill to the committee. Mr. Jason Curry, spokesman, Utah Division of Forestry and State Lands answered questions from the committee. Handouts were provided.

MOTION: Rep. Briscoe moved to amend the bill as follows:

1. *Page 2, Lines 49 through 57:*

49 WHEREAS, 88% of wildfire starts were extinguished by local {~~fire~~
~~departments~~} resources before

50 they reached catastrophic size;

51 WHEREAS, unfortunately, two aerial firefighters were killed when the air tanker they
52 were flying in crashed near the White Rock Fire, three volunteer firefighters were seriously
53 injured during the initial attack phase of the Clay Springs Fire, and one resident was killed
in

54 the Wood Hollow fire after refusing to evacuate;

55 WHEREAS, costs to the state for fire suppression have been estimated at \$16 million;

56 WHEREAS, Utah {~~received~~} applied for and received approval for five
Fire Management Assistance Grants through the

57 Federal Emergency Management Agency;

2. *Page 3, Lines 75 through 76:*

75 WHEREAS, the division also completed {~~project~~} hazard fuel mitigation
work on more than 40 properties as a

76 direct result of this grant funding;

The motion to amend passed unanimously with Rep. Brown and Rep. McKell absent for the vote.

MOTION: Rep. Barrus moved to further amend the bill as follows:

1. *Page 4, Lines 93 through 96:*

93 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah,
the
94 Governor concurring therein, express deep appreciation to the many dedicated individuals
from
95 state, federal, and local agencies, and volunteers who worked to mitigate fuel hazards
and to those who responded to the fires that raged across
96 the state during the 2012 wildland fire season.

The motion to amend passed unanimously with Rep. Brown and Rep. McKell absent for the vote.

MOTION: Rep. Duckworth moved to pass the bill out favorably. The motion passed unanimously with Rep. McKell absent for the vote.

H.B. 216 Wasting Wildlife Amendments (*Rep. R. Wilcox*)

Rep. Wilcox introduced the bill to the committee with the assistance of Ms. Robin Cahoon, Marketing Coordinator, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources.

MOTION: Rep. Wiley moved to pass the bill out favorably. The motion passed unanimously with Rep. McKell absent for the vote.

MOTION: Rep. Wiley moved to place the bill on the Consent Calendar. The motion passed unanimously with Rep. Barrus and Rep. McKell absent for the vote.

MOTION: Rep. Wilcox moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Rep. Barrus and Rep. McKell absent for the vote.

Chair Noel adjourned the meeting at 3:24 p.m.

Rep. Mike Noel, Chair