

**MINUTES OF THE
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS INTERIM COMMITTEE**
Wednesday, July 20, 2005 – 9:00 a.m. – Room W130 House Building

Members Present:

Rep. Douglas C. Aagard, House Chair
Sen. Parley Hellewell, Senate Chair
Sen. Lyle W. Hillyard
Sen. Brent H. Goodfellow
Rep. Roger E. Barrus
Rep. DeMar "Bud" Bowman
Rep. Tim M. Cosgrove
Rep. Glenn A. Donnelson
Rep. Neal B. Hendrickson
Rep. Eric K. Hutchings
Rep. John G. Mathis
Rep. Mark W. Walker
Rep. Mark A. Wheatley

Members Absent:

Sen. Dan R. Eastman
Rep. Craig W. Buttars
Rep. Janice M. Fisher
Rep. Patrick L. Painter

Staff Present:

Mr. Benjamin N. Christensen, Policy Analyst
Mr. Eric N. Weeks, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Cassandra N. Bauman, Legislative Secretary

Note: A list of others present, copy of related materials, and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at www.le.utah.gov.

1. Committee Business

Chair Hellewell called the meeting to order at 9:09 a.m. Rep. Fisher was excused from the meeting.

MOTION: Sen. Hillyard moved to approve the minutes of the June 15, 2005 meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Goodfellow and Rep. Wheatley absent for the vote.

2. Prayer in Government Meetings -- Legal Briefing

Sen. Hellewell provided background on the continuing debate over allowing religion in government. He cited information from numerous sources, including Original Intent: The Courts, the Constitution, & Religion by David Barton.

Mr. Frederick M. Gedicks, Professor of Law, Brigham Young University Law School, distributed an outline of his testimony, "Legal Briefing: Prayer in Government Meetings." He explained the "establishment clause" and the difference between a government expression and a private expression in prayer and the constitutionality of each, both locally and federally. He stated that, in this context, government can control the time, place, and manner of the prayer but cannot control the content of the prayer. He responded to questions from the Committee.

3. Government Efficiency -- Current Efforts and Other Options

Mr. Christensen distributed and reviewed "Achieving Government Efficiency: Six Keys."

Mr. John Schaff, Legislative Auditor General, stated that 70 percent of all the legislative audit findings and recommendations have the following common causes: (1) lack of governance exercised over programs or

agencies, (2) inadequate policies and procedures, (3) ineffective reporting standards, and (4) insufficient data reporting. He suggested publishing a self-audit booklet to distribute to state agencies that would assist them in their efforts of achieving government efficiency and allow for follow-up audits. He responded to questions from the Committee.

MOTION: Rep. Hutchings moved to direct the Office of the Legislative Auditor General to create a self-audit and efficiency checklist booklet for distribution to government entities. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Hillyard, Rep. Donnelson, and Rep. Walker absent for the vote.

Mr. John J. Acker, Department of Human Resource Management, distributed and reviewed "Sample Human Resource Operational Measures." He responded to questions from the Committee.

Ms. D'Arcy Dixon Pignanelli, Executive Director, Department of Administrative Services, indicated that the executive branch agencies have been working on implementing performance measures with reportable data. She indicated that one measurement of state government is being done by comparing services provided by state agencies to same or similar services in the private sector.

Mr. Kim Christensen, Deputy Director, Department of Administrative Services, explained balanced score cards in reviewing performance measures. He stated that there are five categories that the balanced score cards contain: customer satisfaction, financial performance, employee satisfaction, and process excellence in efficiency and effectiveness.

Ms. Pignanelli indicated that the Executive Appropriations Committee distributed material that has helped to understand the implications of the efficiency and effectiveness in government, the Legislature has been asking agency heads "How are you going to measure the value of my investment?"

4. Other Items / Adjourn

MOTION: Sen. Goodfellow moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Hillyard, Rep. Barrus, and Rep. Walker absent for the vote.

Chair Hellewell adjourned the meeting at 11:33 a.m.