

AGENDA

GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS INTERIM COMMITTEE

UTAH LEGISLATURE

Wednesday, June 20, 2007 • 9:00 a.m. • Room W025 House Building

Approximate
Time Frame

9:00 1. Committee Business

- Call to order
- Approval of the minutes of the May 16, 2007 meeting

9:05 2. State Capital Complex Construction Projects and Plans -- Update

In 1998 the Legislature enacted Title 63C, Chapter 9, State Capitol Preservation Board, which provides that the Board shall exercise complete jurisdiction and stewardship over capitol hill facilities, capitol hill grounds, and the capitol hill complex. However certain areas are reserved under legislative control. The Board is required to preserve, maintain, and restore the capitol hill complex, facilities, grounds, and their contents. The Board's duties are accomplished by an executive director through an annual work plan and a long-range master plan. Restoration of the capitol, which began in March 2002, is expected to be complete in January 2008. Public open house events will be scheduled for December 2007. The employee parking structure east of the capitol is scheduled for completion in December 2007. What is the cost and status of these projects? What other plans and projects are on the long-range master plan, completed, or under construction? How are the projects funded? What is the relationship of the State Capitol Preservation Board and the Division of Facilities Construction and Management? What is the State Capitol Preservation Board and how is it organized? How can the Legislature help?

- David Harris Hart, State Capitol Preservation Board

9:40 3. Ombudsman Functions

Four ombudsmen are created in Utah statute: (1) a property rights ombudsman; (2) a long-term care ombudsman; (3) a child protection ombudsman; and (4) an obscenity and pornography complaints ombudsman. An ombudsman typically provides information, investigation, and mediation to assist citizens and agencies related to resolve disputes with the provision of government services. What is the role of an ombudsman? How are they organized? What do they accomplish? Are they a worthwhile function in government? Are they cost effective? Should more ombudsmen be authorized by the Legislature? If so, for what purposes?

- Brent N. Bateman, Office of the Property Rights Ombudsman, Department of Commerce
- Dianne Warner-Kearney, Child Protection Ombudsman, Department of Human Services
- Kathleen Bailey, Long Term Care Ombudsman, Division of Aging and Adult Services, Department of Human Services

10:25 4. Sunset Review - Bonding or Veterans Nursing Home - Ogden

During a May 2005 special session, the Legislature authorized \$4,600,000 in general obligation bonds for a veterans' nursing home in Ogden. Section 63B-14-101, Utah Code Annotated, which was enacted by the bill, includes an intent statement that the State Bonding Commission may not issue the bonds until it receives a letter from the adjutant general of the National Guard certifying that federal funds for the project have been authorized. The bill included a provision repealing the bond authorization on December 31, 2006. The repeal date has extended in a bill passed during the 2006 General Session to December 31 2008. The Committee has been assigned to review the issue and recommend whether the bond authorization should be reauthorized, allowed to sunset, or whether another option is desirable.

- Terry D. Schow, Division of Veterans Affairs
- Dennis N. McFall, Utah National Guard

10:55 5. Other Items / Adjourn