

**MINUTES OF THE  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE**

Thursday, September 19, 2013 – 8:00 a.m. – Room 325 House Building

**Members Present:**

Sen. Stuart C. Reid, Senate Chair  
Rep. Brad R. Wilson, House  
Chair Sen. Patricia W. Jones Sen.  
Ralph Okerlund Rep. Patrice  
Arent Rep. Jim Bird Rep.  
Rebecca Chavez-Houck Rep.  
Bradley L. Dee Rep. Brad G. Last  
Mr. Todd Bingham Mayor Tom  
Dolan Mr. Spencer Eccles  
Mr.  
Scott  
Hirsch  
hi  
Mr. J.  
Steve  
n  
Price  
Mr.  
Wesl

ey  
Smith

**Members**

**Absent:**

Mr.  
Rob  
Despain

**Staff Present:**

Mr. Benjamin N. Christensen,  
Policy Analyst Mr. Peter Asplund,  
Associate General Counsel Ms.  
Jennifer K. Christopherson,  
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 Wilson called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m.

**MOTION:** Rep. Arent moved to approve the minutes of the August 22, 2013, meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Rep. Dee absent for the vote.

**2. Air Quality Mitigation by Government Entities**

Rep. Arent discussed the Air Mitigation by Government Entities reports and stated that it is important that people know that government is not ignoring the poor air quality problem. She spoke about some of the efforts many public and private entities are making to help air quality, including: green teams; alternative and hybrid vehicles; programmable thermostats; energy audits; transportation plans and follow-through; telecommuting; flexible work schedules; anti-idling efforts; teleconferencing; "turn it off" campaigns; energy efficient buildings; bike-share programs; and red-air day potluck lunches. Rep. Arent stated that someone is needed to facilitate best practices and that the model can be found in corporate America.

Mr. Ryan Evans, Vice President, Business and Community Relations, Salt Lake Chamber, spoke about the Clean Air Champions program and stated that the Salt Lake Chamber tries to capture the best practices and the bottom-line benefit that companies have seen for each practice. He presented "H.B. 168 Air Quality Mitigation by State Agencies" and discussed the tactics that would make the biggest

difference and the related cost savings, including: car sharing, bike sharing, solar power, and priority parking.

### **3. Division of Air Quality Recommendations**

Mr. Bryce Bird, Director, Division of Air Quality, distributed and discussed "PM2.5 SIP Update" and "Utah Division of Air Quality Discussion Sheet: Direct and Quantifiable Air Quality Benefits." He said that Utah's inversions are unique and that the state has a chemistry problem. He spoke about the major reductions in the state since 2002 for all pollutants and that additional research funding is needed. He explained that the best opportunities for air-pollution control are through refineries and that there needs to be more focus on days where meteorology overwhelms any control strategy.

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### **4. Potential Task Force Recommendations**

Chair Wilson explained what will take place in the October task force meeting and said that the committee will workshop the recommendations gathered. He distributed "Economic Development Task Force Potential Recommendation Ideas" and opened committee discussion.

Mr. Hirschi discussed two ideas, including local government-provided incentives for primary industry, and workforce development for Utah's high school students.

Rep. Arent recommended that the state evaluate the effectiveness of existing incentives.

Mr. Smith commented that the big lever to economic development is investments, including: education, highways, water facilities, and other public infrastructure. He stated that investment should only be made in wise business regulation.

Mr. Price said that the state needs to provide incentives to grow existing businesses.

### **5. Other Items / Adjourn**

Chair Wilson requested that committee members send any additional ideas for recommendations to Ben Christensen or Jennifer Christopherson by 5 p.m. on Friday, October 4, 2013. He explained that new ideas will be added to the list and that the compiled list will then be sent to committee members. He instructed committee members to prioritize the ideas for discussion at the October task force meeting.

Mr. Christensen informed the committee that, under Joint Rules, bills must be drafted under a first-in, firstout basis. He stated that there are only two exceptions for the rule, including if a legislator makes the bill one of the legislator's three priority bills or if an interim committee prioritizes a bill. He explained that since the Economic Development Task Force is not an interim committee, a legislator on the task force would need to use one of the legislator's priority status bills in order to get a bill drafted in time for committee consideration at the October meeting.

**MOTION:** Rep. Dee moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Reid, Sen. Okerlund, Rep. Bird, Rep. Last, and Mr. Bingham absent for the vote. Chair Wilson adjourned the meeting at 11:09 a.m.