

**MINUTES OF THE
EXECUTIVE OFFICES & CRIMINAL JUSTICE
APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE
Room 25 House Building
January 30, 2014**

Members Present: Sen. Daniel Thatcher, Co-Chair
Rep. Eric K. Hutchings, Co-Chair
Rep. Keven J. Stratton, House Vice Chair
Sen. Jim Dabakis
Sen. Mark B. Madsen
Sen. Stuart C. Reid
Rep. Rich Cunningham
Rep. Richard Greenwood
Rep. Craig Hall
Rep. Gregory H. Hughes
Rep. Brian S. King
Rep. Merrill F. Nelson
Rep. Curtis Oda
Rep. Jennifer M. Seelig

Members Excused: Sen. Curtis S. Bramble
Sen. Ralph Okerlund

Staff Present: Mr. Gary Syphus, Fiscal Analyst
Mr. Zackery King, Fiscal Analyst
Ms. Jennifer Eyring, Committee Secretary

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

Co-Chair Thatcher called the meeting to order at 2:15 p.m.

1. Approval of Minutes

No minutes were approved.

4. Guardian ad Litem (GAL)

Mr. Gary Syphus, Fiscal Analyst, explained budget information, trend analysis, and analyst recommendations. The analyst recommends taking \$250,000 from closing nonlapsing funds for reallocation.

Ms. Liz Knight, Director, gave an overview of GAL programs and accomplishments. In response to the analyst recommendation, she stated that some of the nonlapsing funds are already committed. They also have use for the remaining funds. Questions from the committee concerning investigators and attorney compensation were discussed.

2. State Auditor

Mr. John Dougall, State Auditor, provided a slide presentation that gave an overview of accomplishments, reorganization, oversight responsibilities, types of audits performed, timeliness goals, data analytics, and changes in employee compensation. The Office would like to establish a trust fund to accrue employee compensation for the Personal Time Off (PTO) plan. The presentation continued with budget and FTE information.

Mr. Zackery King, Fiscal Analyst, reviewed the base budget and trend analysis, noting the fluctuation in nonlapsing balances.

Mr. Dougall stated he would like to use the nonlapsing balance to fully fund past liabilities of the PTO.

3. Unfinished Business from the previous meeting.

Co-Chair Hutchings described how the base budget bill would be addressed. The final bill with committee changes would be presented to the Executive Appropriations Committee on Monday evening, February 3, 2014. Changes to the budget could be accomplished through the base budget bill or through the building block process.

Mr. King added that the changes to the Crime Victim Reparations Fund would be addressed by the Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice (CCJJ) as a building block request.

MOTION: Vice Chair Stratton moved to approve the following intent language as found on the page "Base Budget Week Funding Recommendations - Courts" under the Juror, Witness, Interpreter Line Item: "The Legislature intends that the Courts submit a report to the Executive Offices and Criminal Justice Appropriations Subcommittee during the 2014 interim detailing expenses from this account, trends and efforts made to minimize expenses, and maximize performance." The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Rep. Nelson moved that the Judicial Nominating Commission be limited to judicial selection criteria as set in statute 78A-10-103(2).

The committee discussed whether it was the time and place for such a discussion to be held.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: Co-Chair Hutchings moved to go on to the next item on the agenda. The motion passed with Sen. Reid, Rep. Greenwood, Rep. Hughes, Rep. Nelson and Rep. Oda voting against the motion, and Sen. Dabakis absent for the vote.

5. Corrections

Mr. Rollin Cook, Executive Director, discussed the handout "Base Budget and Addressing Staff Needs" provided to the committee. The presentation included base budget information, building block requests, budget reductions, nonlapsing fund use for Gunnison West 1, staff needs and outdated facilities, Department response to Legislative Fiscal Analyst Recommendations, and staff vacancies. Concerns about staff shortages, safety and moral were expressed.

Mr. Mike Haddon, Deputy Director, spoke about the difficulty in hiring staff and the time it takes for hiring and training a new staff member.

The committee discussed how the probable move of the prison affects budget decisions and current needs.

Mr. Haddon reiterated that the West 1 project in Gunnison needs to be funded this year. He also discussed the work program, which provides goods and services to state agencies, and work skills and opportunities to inmates.

Mr. Syphus discussed analyst recommendations on the handout "Base Budget Week Funding Recommendations - Corrections." The handout includes an agency response to each recommendation.

Mr. Haddon responded to the analyst recommendations, stating they are working on those areas, but don't yet know what budget savings they will be able to accomplish. The Department would prefer to keep things as they are currently while they pursue other options. Mr. Haddon discussed the Drug Offender Reform Act (DORA) study. The Department wants to keep the DORA program.

Co-Chair Hutchings informed the subcommittee that after consulting counsel, the motion from Rep. Nelson was appropriate for their discussion as long as it pertained to the budget.

MOTION: Rep. Cunningham moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Dabakis, Sen. Madsen, Sen. Reid, Rep. Greenwood, and Rep. Hughes absent for the vote.

Co-Chair Thatcher adjourned the meeting at 4:42 p.m.

Sen. Daniel W. Thatcher, Co-Chair

Rep. Eric K. Hutchings, Co-Chair