

**MINUTES OF THE  
PUBLIC EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE**

Room 445 State Capitol Building

January 31, 2014

**Members Present:** Sen. Howard A. Stephenson, Co-Chair  
Rep. Bradley G. Last, Co-Chair  
Rep. Steve Eliason, House Vice Chair  
Sen. J. Stuart Adams  
Sen. Lyle W. Hillyard  
Sen. Patricia W. Jones  
Sen. Aaron Osmond  
Sen. Daniel W. Thatcher  
Sen. Stephen H. Urquhart  
Rep. Joel K. Briscoe  
Rep. LaVar Christensen  
Rep. Francis D. Gibson  
Rep. Stephen G. Handy  
Rep. Michael S. Kennedy  
Rep. Carol Spackman Moss  
Rep. Jim Nielson  
Rep. Kraig Powell

**Members Excused:** Rep. David E. Lifferth

**Members Absent:** Sen. Mark B. Madsen

**Staff Present:** Mr. Ben Leishman, Fiscal Analyst  
Dr. Thomas E. Young, Economics  
Ms. Wendy Hill, Secretary

**Note:** 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. Call to Order**

Co-Chair Stephenson called the meeting to order at 8:16 a.m.

## **2. Report**

Sen. Hillyard said the Base Budget will be finished on Monday, February 3, 2014. Four remaining meetings will identify building blocks. He cautioned the subcommittee about using nonlapsing balances in other programs because they may be needed in their current programs. He felt it was important to increase wages to cover health insurance and retirement benefits.

Co-Chair Stephenson said it was the Chairs intention to adopt the Base Budget and reserve balances for Education uses.

### **3. Items from the January 30<sup>th</sup> Agenda**

Dr. Thomas Young, Economist, spoke about “[2b - USOE Initiative](#)” “[2c - Educator Licensing.](#)” “[2d - Child Nutrition](#)” and gave his recommendations.

Dr. Martell Menlove, State Superintendent, Utah Office of Education commented it would require a change in statute to use the liquor tax revenue differently.

Dr. Thomas Young, Economist, spoke about, Charter School Finance Authority, item 14 of the Base Budget bill, <http://le.utah.gov/~2014/bills/static/HB0001.html>.

### **4. Base Budget Review: Utah Schools for the Deaf and Blind**

Dr. Young reported on “[2-Schools for the Deaf and Blind](#)” and gave recommendations.

Mr. Joel Coleman, Superintendent, Utah Schools for the Deaf and Blind (USDB) and Scott Jones, Finance Director, USDB addressed the subcommittee. Mr. Jones explained a few corrections were needed in certain line items. He mentioned H.B.2 from the 2013 General Session. He said the current vendor of Pupil Transportation is cost effective and USDB recommends retaining the remaining two years of the contract. Mr. Jones asked that Pupil Transportation continue as an ongoing line item. Dr. Young responded. Mr. Jones said The Education Fund balance of \$24,000. was used for incentive awards. Co-Chair Last said the Fiscal Analysts have been asked to make suggestions on how to reduce the budget. Mr. Coleman said they have a need for more funds for new teachers to help students in rural areas. Mr. Jones said their nonlapsing balance is needed to update their IT infrastructure.

Co-Chair Last asked about committed funds. Mr. Leishman and Mr. Jones responded. Co-Chair Stephenson commented on nonlapsing balances. Mr. Coleman mentioned the spending plan implemented by Mr. Jones. Co-Chair Stephenson said the Legislature is the funding agent for the USDB and it is important to give them enough funds. Rep. Gibson and Sen. Osmond spoke favorably about the USDB.

### **5. Base Budget Review: Science Outreach**

Mr. Ben Leishman, Analyst explained the budget for the Science Outreach programs. He referred to “[3-Science Outreach - Budget Trend and Performance.](#)” Science providers contract with the state to provide public schools and charter schools science education. Programs include: Informal Science Education Enhancement (iSee), Science Enhancement and Integrated Student and New Facility Learning.

Rep. Briscoe commented about increase of student experiences with iSEE. Ms. Ann Hanniball, Associate Director for Community and Government Relations, Natural History Museum of Utah

responded. A handout was distributed to the committee. She said some new programs were successful with schools. This year the program is providing almost a two to one match with state funds. Mr. Seth Jarvis, Director, Clark Planetarium addressed the subcommittee. He said this year iSEE wants to provide a pilot program for 120 teachers, an intensive teacher training initiative for grades one through eight. As the program matures more teachers and classrooms will be able to participate. Sen. Jones commented favorably about Science Outreach. Sen. Hillyard asked about funds needed for travel expenses and if school districts help with the expenses. Mr. Jarvis said when schools can't come to them because of travel costs iSEE works to go to them. Clark Planetarium focuses their outreach program on rural areas outside the Wasatch front. Mr. Jarvis said school districts pay the costs for transportation. Rep. Briscoe spoke approvingly of iSEE and the Professional Outreach Programs in the Schools (POPS). Rep. Briscoe asked for details on the budget. Sen. Hillyard remarked about the need for iSEE and POPS in rural areas. Rep. Nielson felt decisions concerning these programs should be managed by the State School Board. Co-Chair Stephenson noted Utah is unique for the number of science institutions in comparison to its population.

#### **6. Base Budget Review: Arts Outreach**

Mr. Leishman reported on "[4-Fine Arts Outreach - Budget Trend and Performance](#)." The POPS and Subsidy Program - (Arts, Inc.) are part of the Fine Arts Outreach.

Mr. Brent Haymond, Board Member, Springville Museum of Art and Ms. Hillary Hahn, Director of Foundation and Government Gifts, Utah Symphony/Utah Opera addressed the subcommittee. A video was presented that was produced by Spy Hop an organization that mentors young people in the digital media arts. A handout was distributed to the committee. They asked for \$250,000 in one-time funds and \$200,000 in ongoing funding. Sen. Jones commented positively about the arts. Rep. Moss remarked favorably about Spy Hop. Co-Chair Stephenson mentioned it was great for students to participate in educational experiences.

#### **7. Subcommittee Discussion & Base Budget Proposals**

**MOTION:** Co- Chair Last moved Motion 1: I move to approve the estimated minimum basic tax rate of 0.001477 and the estimated revenue of \$296,709,700 as outlined in Section 1 of House Bill 1 (2014 General Session) to support the Basic School Program in FY 2015. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Adams, Sen. Thatcher, Rep. Christensen and Rep. Gibson absent for the vote.

**MOTION:** Co- Chair Last moved Motion 2: I move to approve the base budget appropriations as outlined in Section 2 of House Bill 1 (2014 General Session) in the following total amounts:

- Basic School Program - \$2,303,113,000
- Related to Basic School Program - \$471,250,300
- Voted & Board Local Levy Programs - \$405,115,000

- School Building Programs - \$14,499,700
- Utah State Office of Education - \$380,505,500
- Utah State Office of Education – Initiative Programs - \$15,909,900
- State Charter School Board - \$3,089,400
- Educator Licensing - \$1,772,400
- Child Nutrition - \$178,785,200
- Fine Arts Outreach - \$3,325,000
- Education Contracts - \$3,137,800
- Science Outreach - \$2,600,000
- Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind - \$28,877,100
- Charter School Finance Authority - \$50,000

The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Adams, Sen. Thatcher, Rep. Christensen and Rep. Gibson absent for the vote.

**MOTION:** Co- Chair Last moved Motion 3: I move to direct staff to create separate programs (appropriation units) for each program in the USOE – Initiatives Program as identified on the sheet titled “Initiatives, FY 2014 Budget” and posted online for the January 30, 2014 meeting of the subcommittee. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Adams, Sen. Thatcher Rep. Christensen and Rep. Gibson absent for the vote.

Rep. Neilson distributed 1st Sub. H.B. 1 and “Strategic Plan Framework.” His plan gives more control to school boards and local school districts over programs and spending. The State Board of Education would supervise iSEE, POPS, and USOE – Initiatives line items. The bill would increase the number of WPU and WPU weightings. Co-Chair Stephenson commented on the bill. Vice Chair Eliason asked if Rep. Nielson had asked the State Board of Education for feedback. Rep. Briscoe asked for clarification. Sen. Jones suggested the bill be studied during interim. Sen. Hillyard expressed some concerns and spoke in opposition. Rep. Nielson said his proposal is asking Executive Appropriations to consider consolidating programs. Co-Chair Stephenson said the motion is conflicting with the previous motions.

**MOTION:** Rep. Nielson moved Public Education Program Consolidation Proposal – 1<sup>st</sup> Substitute House Bill 1. The motion failed with, Sen. Hillyard, Sen. Jones, Sen. Osmond, Sen. Stephenson, Sen. Thatcher, Sen. Urquhart, Rep. Briscoe, Rep. Christensen, Rep. Eliason, Rep. Handy, Rep. Kennedy, Rep. Last, Rep. Moss and Rep. Powell voting in opposition and Sen. Adams and Rep. Gibson absent for the vote.

**MOTION:** Rep. Nielson moved to ask the State School Board to study this issue and present a recommendation at an interim meeting of the subcommittee.

Sen. Thatcher asked that the motion be amended to include the proposal be studied by the Interim Education Committee.

The motion passed with Rep. Moss voting in opposition and Sen. Adams and Rep. Gibson absent for the vote.

**MOTION:** Co- Chair Last moved Motion 4: I move to direct staff, in consultation with the co-chairs, to prepare the changes to House Bill 1, Public Education Base Budget Amendments as directed by these motions and make any technical changes approved by the co-chairs. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Adams and Rep. Gibson absent for the vote.

**MOTION:** Co- Chair Last moved that the subcommittee hold all nonlapsing balances as identified below for further consideration.

	<u>Estimated</u> <i>Ongoing</i>	<u>Balances</u> <i>One-Time</i>	<u>Estimated</u> <u>Available</u>
Basic School Program		31,504,000	6,504,000
Related to Basic School Program		10,648,500	4,370,000
Voted & Board		23,000,000	23,000,000
Utah State Office of Education	500,000	200,000	700,000
State Charter School Board		21,000	21,000
Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind		490,000	490,000
	500,000	65,863,500	35,085,000

The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Adams and Rep. Gibson absent for the vote.

**MOTION:** Rep. Osmond moved to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Adams and Rep. Gibson absent for the vote.

Co-Chair Stephenson adjourned the meeting at 11:02 a.m.

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Sen. Howard A. Stephenson, Co-Chair

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Rep. Bradley G. Last, Co-Chair