

**MINUTES OF THE
NATURAL RESOURCES, AGRICULTURE, AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE**

Room 25 House Office Building

February 11, 2014

Members Present: Sen. David Hinkins, Co-Chair
Rep. John G. Mathis, Co-Chair
Rep. Mike McKell, House Vice Chair
Sen. Jim Dabakis
Sen. Margaret Dayton
Sen. Kevin T. Van Tassell
Rep. Jerry Anderson
Rep. Roger E. Barrus
Rep. Jon Cox
Rep. Susan Duckworth
Rep. Brian Greene
Rep. Ken Ivory
Rep. Michael E. Noel
Rep. Lee B. Perry
Rep. Larry B. Wiley

Members Absent: Sen. Ralph Okerlund
Sen. John L. Valentine

Staff: Mr. Ivan Djambov, Fiscal Analyst
Ms. Angela Oh, Economist
Ms. Linda Service, Committee Secretary

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

Vice Chair McKell called the meeting to order at 8:08 a.m.

1. Legislative Requests for Funding

Due to a federal mandate, Sen. Hinkins and Rep. Mathis made a request for \$384,300 one-time for animal identification traceability on livestock moving interstate, and \$89,100 for ongoing maintenance of the electronic tracking system for the Department of Agriculture and Food.

Rep. McKell requested \$800,000 one-time for the Utah Lake Commission to continue their program for carp removal from Utah Lake.

Rep. Perry, assisted by Weber County Commissioner, Kerry Gibson, and Rep. Dee, distributed a handout and requested \$2,575,000 one-time from the Disaster Relief Fund to reimburse Weber County for work done to rebuild infrastructure damaged in the Ogden Bay Waterfowl Management Area due to flooding along the Weber River.

Sen. Hinkins recognized former Rep. Jim Gowens.

Rep. Dee requested \$500,000 ongoing from the General Fund for the Clean Air Initiative to run commercials for the rest of 2014 and into 2015 centering attention on ownership of the air quality in Utah.

Rep. Noel requested \$500,000 from the Oil and Gas Restricted Account to begin on-the-ground projects conserving sage grouse and its habitat.

Rep. Perry distributed a pamphlet titled "Utah's Own" and requested a \$100,000 one-time appropriation to the Department of Agriculture for Utah's Own. In addition, Rep. Perry distributed a publication titled "Utah State University Extension Water Use and Conservation Initiative."

Rep. Redd requested a \$1,000,000 one-time, nonlapsing appropriation for air quality research through the Division of Air Quality to contract with local universities to help understand air quality problems.

Rep. Redd requested \$300,000 one-time to do an emissions inventory study in the Uintah Basin to set up a photo chemical modeling system to understand air quality problems in that area.

Rep. Redd requested \$400,000 ongoing for four FTEs to focus on the Uintah Basin. Rep. Noel suggested funds might come from the Executive Appropriations Committee rather than the Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environmental Appropriations Subcommittee.

Rep. Nielson requested \$250,000 ongoing for five to six seasonal FTEs with the equipment necessary to increase enforcement and \$1,750,000 one-time, nonlapsing for education and mitigation of wood burning where there is a single source and a permit to burn.

Rep. Arent, assisted by Bryce Bird, Director, Division of Air Quality, requested \$200,000 for two clean air programs, H.B. 61, to help businesses and individuals reduce emissions from small engines. A handout titled "HB 61 - Clean Air Programs" was distributed.

Rep. Edwards, accompanied by Mayor Len Arave, North Salt Lake, distributed two handouts - one titled "North Salt Lake Springhill Landslide Stabilization Request," the other titled "Springhill Landslide Mitigation." Rep. Edwards requested \$300,000 to complete the stabilization of the Springhill landslide area.

Rep. Menlove, distributed a handout showing estimated costs for parking needed to improve public access to Bear Lake beaches. She requested one-time funding from Sovereign Lands Management Restricted Account of \$1,000,000 or \$500,000 to provide the initial funds for these parking areas.

Sen. Hinkins, along with Kyle Ecker, Emery County, requested \$400,000 for Huntington Creek mitigation to protect already existing infrastructure.

Sen. Adams requested \$300,000 to complete the Mountain Accord study which is an attempt to

alleviate both air quality problems along the Wasatch Front and transportation problems in the Wasatch Mountains.

Sen. Vickers requested \$185,000 for prairie dog mitigation in Iron County.

Rep. Wiley, along with Randy Parker and Clay Nielson, State Fair Park Board of Directors, requested an appropriation of \$750,000 to reimburse the State Fair Corporation for deferred maintenance expenditures. The request reflects adversely impacted revenue due to a rain-out during the 2013 State Fair. A handout showing cash flow for January through September 2013 was distributed.

Rep. Johnny Anderson, assisted by Mayor Ted Eyre, Murray City, requested \$332,500 to mitigate a public safety hazard on the Jordan River. A handout was distributed titled "Jordan River Hazard Mitigation Legislative Funding Request."

Rep. Duckworth requested an appropriation of \$400,000 ongoing for four FTEs for the Division of Air Quality.

School Institutional Trust Lands Administration

Kevin Carter, Director, School Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA), requested \$300,000 one-time to continue SITLA's land exchange activities and \$46,300 to continue work on the RS 2477 roads.

Department of Agriculture

LuAnn Adams, Commissioner, Department of Agriculture and Food, introduced directors for building block requests:

Robert Hougaard, Director, Plant Industry and Conservation Division, requested \$45,000 for a compliance specialist and \$31,000 for one vehicle based out of St. George.

Jay Schvaneveldt, Acting Director, Regulatory Services, requested: (1) one inspector and one vehicle in the Bedding, Upholstery, and Quilted Clothing Program; (2) three food inspectors and one vehicle in the Food Inspection Program; and (3) three fuel station inspectors and one vehicle in the Weights and Measures Program. Stephen Ogilvie, Director, Administrative Services, responded to questions from the subcommittee.

Department of Environmental Quality

Amanda Smith, Executive Director, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), requested the following: (1) \$50,000 for the indoor radon program to continue work with local health departments to educate people on the threat of indoor radon; (2) \$800,000 for the drinking water program to fill a gap caused by a cut in federal funding, to fund a contract with the local health departments that perform a portion of sanitary surveys, and to update data processing;

(3) \$400,000 to meet a cost-share match for remedial action at superfund sites in the state; (4) \$30,000 transfer of nonlapsing funds for radiation survey instruments for use in the radioactive materials and x-ray programs.

Bryce Bird, Director, Division of Air Quality, requested \$1,800,000 one-time for research to understand air quality issues in the state, to understand methods to control the issues, and to judge effectiveness of controls that are already required and put in place. In addition, the request would cover purchase of an infrared camera, four FTEs, and one vehicle to accommodate expanding work in the Uintah Basin.

Rep. Mathis requested \$400,000 ongoing to local conservation districts.

Department of Natural Resources

Mike Styler, Director, Department of Natural Resources, requested a \$2,950,000 appropriation from the Sovereign Lands Management Restricted Account to build an office in Cedar City and repay over time.

Mr. Styler requested the following appropriations:

- \$600,000 from the Sovereign Lands Management Restricted Account for re-seeding for fire restoration - seeds already purchased;
- \$143,100 one-time General Fund appropriation for a GIS administrator;
- \$1,000,000 one-time to continue momentum on a Navajo water rights settlement;
- \$75,000 ongoing from the General Fund for training of local fire departments through the Department of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands;
- \$106,000 ongoing from the General Fund for Snake Valley monitoring wells to be overseen by Utah Geological Survey

MOTION: Rep. Mathis moved to adjourn. Vice Chair McKell adjourned the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

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