

**MINUTES OF THE  
RETIREMENT AND INDEPENDENT ENTITIES  
APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE**

Room 20 House Building, State Capitol Complex  
February 10, 2014

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Sen. Todd Weiler, Chair  
Rep. Kraig Powell, Chair  
Rep. Merrill F. Nelson, Vice Chair  
Sen. Gene Davis  
Sen. Margaret Dayton  
Sen. Karen Mayne  
Sen. Daniel W. Thatcher  
Rep. Jack R. Draxler  
Rep. Susan Duckworth  
Rep. Steve Eliason  
Rep. Gage Froerer  
Rep. Lynn N. Hemingway  
Rep. Bradley G. Last  
Rep. Carol Spackman Moss

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Sen. Curtis S. Bramble

**STAFF PRESENT:** Mr. Brian D. Fay, Fiscal Analyst  
Ms. Angela J. Oh, Economist/Statistician  
Ms. Karen Mitchell, Committee 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).

Rep. Powell called the meeting to order at 12:37 p.m.

**MOTION:** Sen. Weiler moved to approve the minutes of the January 30, 2014 meeting. The motion pass unanimously with Sen. Davis and Sen. Thatcher absent for the vote.

**Utah Education Network**

Mr. Ray Timothy, Executive Director of Utah Education Network (UEN) assisted by Ms. Lisa Kuhn, Chief Financial Officer, provided the committee with a handout "UEN Funding Request for FY 2015." Mr. Timothy explained that UEN has completed two of a three year phase to equalize connectivity charges for Utah elementary schools. For the final phase of their multi-year strategy, UEN is requesting an additional \$450,000 in ongoing funding. They are further requesting \$150,000 in ongoing funding to keep up with enrollment and system-wide growth.

Mr. Timothy expressed concern for the rise in security issues and incidents of compromise to UEN's infrastructure. The frequency and sophistication of attacks on their system is outgrowing

their ability to manage with the resources they currently have. UEN is requesting an additional \$500,000 in ongoing funds to strengthen security operations.

Mr. Timothy stated that UEN manages over \$22 million in equipment which is over ten years old and incompatible with the current system. They are requesting one-time funding of \$8.5 million to cover the cost of refreshing and replacing outdated equipment.

Mr. Timothy responded to specific questions from the committee regarding what type of equipment would be purchased or replaced with the \$8.5 million they are requesting. Other questions from the committee dealt with the number of schools and school districts that will need to be brought on-line next year. Mr. Timothy stated that he would furnish the committee with detailed information regarding both concerns.

### **The Leonardo**

Ms. Alexandra Hesse, Executive Director, gave a brief explanation of the history behind The Leonardo. When the old Salt Lake City Library vacated it was renovated for The Leonardo. They operate as a non-profit organization with Ms. Hesse as the Executive Director, staff, and a board with representatives from science, technology, private industry, government, and business leaders. Funding comes from a variety of sources: hosting private events, the museum store and café, Utah State Legislature, Salt Lake County, Salt Lake City and the Federal Government. They also received donations and sponsorships from businesses, private foundations and individuals. Salt Lake City continues to own the building and lease it to The Leonardo for \$1.00 a month.

Ms. Hesse reported on the Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit that is currently on display at the Leonardo. She reported on the success and stated it has been a wonderful journey.

Their overall budget last year was over \$2 million. Ms. Hesse explained that the funding the committee approved last year of \$350,000 was spent on: fees to the Israeli Antiquities Authority, the installation of the Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit, The Leonardo fabricated an exhibit that highlighted Utah's relevance in the Dead Sea Scrolls research, support programs and events hosted around the Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit with lectures, films and family programs. She further stated that visitor response has been extremely positive.

The Leonardo is asking for \$750,000 in one-time funding for FY 2015. Ms. Hesse announced the next exhibit would be the return of "Body World."

Ms. Hesse responded to questions from the committee.

### **Heber Valley Railroad**

Sen. Kevin Van Tassell presented the request for the Heber Valley Railroad in the amount of \$250,000 one-time appropriation for the completion and rebuilding of the two steam locomotives. Mr. Mark Nielson, Director, recognized Steve Farrell, Chairman Heber Valley Railroad Board, Mike Kohler, Wasatch County Council, and Ryan Starks, Wasatch County Director of Tourism and Economic Development, who were in attendance. Mr. Nielson explained that the Heber Valley Railroad is an independent entity of the State of Utah. It was created in 1992 and is the only historic railroad operating in the State of Utah. They survive on ticket sales.

They have two 1905 steam locomotives: Steam engine #618 which is loaned to the Heber Valley Railroad from the state of Utah and will require \$100,000 to complete the boiler inspection, and Steam engine #75 which has been in their shop since 2004 and will require \$150,000 to help complete restoration. The Heber Valley Railroad is the State of Utah's railroad.

Mr. Steve Farrell, Chairman, Heber Valley Road Board, thanked the committee for their support and stated that the Heber Valley Railroad is an asset to the state, county, and community. He further mentioned that it brings many visitors to the Wasatch County area.

Mr. Nielson responded to questions from the committee asking whether the steam locomotives would increase their income to off-set the \$250,000 they are requesting. Mr. Nielson stated that he felt that the economic benefit of the locomotives would bring in about \$250,000 a year in added revenue. He stated he would provide a forecast of the benefit of the repaired locomotives to the committee. He also responded to a question regarding the reliability of the restored steam locomotive vs a diesel locomotive. He explained the steam locomotive on their railroad typically would operate 7 to 10 days a month. Locomotive #618, after the boiler inspection is complete, will probably operate for 20 to 25 years without any major expenses.

### **United Way 2-1-1**

Ms. Elizabeth Garbe, Public Policy Director, introduced Liz Oliver, 2-1-1 Director, and turned the time over to Ms. Oliver. Ms. Oliver explained that 2-1-1 was adopted in this area in 2002 to support the 2002 Winter Olympic Games volunteers. In 2011 United Way of Salt Lake brought 2-1-1 into their services. United Way has since invested millions of dollars into the program which has formed a strong foundation. Last year the Legislature appropriated \$250,000 one-time to this program which was used to establish a statewide phone system. This system provides a 24 - 7 coverage where none has been available before. They also implemented a stronger resource data base and a high degree of disaster planning. They are involved in community outreach. This year United Way 2-1-1 is requesting \$550,000 ongoing to support and enhance the above mentioned areas.

The request for funding would help increase their call capacity, strengthen their disaster response with volunteers that would be involved in special training to be on call in case of a disaster. They would focus on their community outreach demographics such as the Latino population, individuals with disabilities, and those that are geographically isolated.

Ms. Oliver shared a call recording with the committee to give them an example of what they are doing. She explained that the operator taking the call soon discovered that the gentleman making the call had many needs and she was able to identify resources to help him. By using the services of 2-1-1, they were able to make use of multiple agencies to assist the caller and his family.

Ms. Oliver further stated that they are able to pinpoint regional data for decision makers to help better serve their communities with various needs. Disaster relief information and volunteer coordination are also 2-1-1 assets.

Ms. Garbe and Ms. Oliver responded to questions and comments from the committee.

**MOTION:** Sen. Weiler moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Rep. Powell adjourned the meeting at 1:34 p.m.

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Sen. Todd Weiler, Chair

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Rep. Kraig Powell, Chair