

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

Room 210 Senate Building

February 10, 2015

**Members Present:** Sen. David P. Hinkins, Chair  
Rep. Mike McKell, Chair  
Rep. Kay J. Christofferson, House Vice Chair  
Sen. Jim Dabakis  
Sen. Margaret Dayton  
Sen. Scott K. Jenkins  
Sen. Peter C. Knudson  
Sen. Ralph Okerlund  
Sen. Kevin T. Van Tassell  
Rep. Scott Chew  
Rep. Susan Duckworth  
Rep. Brian M. Greene  
Rep. Stephen G. Handy  
Rep. Timothy Hawkes  
Rep. Ken Ivory  
Rep. Justin Miller  
Rep. Michael E. Noel  
Rep. Lee B. Perry  
Rep. Marc K. Roberts

**Staff:** Mr. Ivan D. Djambov, Fiscal Analyst  
Mr. Brian Wikle, Fiscal Analyst  
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](http://www.le.utah.gov).

Vice Chair Christofferson called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

**LEGISLATIVE REQUESTS FOR FUNDING**

Rep. Edwards distributed the handouts, "North Salt Lake Landslide" and "North Salt Lake Landslide, February 10, 2015," assisted by Mayor Len Arave, North Salt Lake. She requested \$500,000 one-time from the General Fund for the North Salt Lake landslide area.

Rep. Webb distributed the handout, "Bear Lake Invasive Species Inspections Appropriations Request" and requested \$100,000 one-time from the Sovereign Lands Management Account for invasive species inspections at Bear Lake.

Rep. Hutchings requested \$1,000,000 for Jordan River and Utah Lake improvements.

Rep. Draxler, assisted by Dr. Ken White, Dean of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, Utah State University, and Commissioner LuAnn Adams, Department of Agriculture and Food, distributed the handout, "Utah Agriculture in the Classroom" and requested funds for the Agriculture in the Classroom Program.

Rep. Redd, assisted by Mr. Bryce Bird, Director, Department of Air Quality (DAQ), requested \$750,000 ongoing from the General Fund for air quality research through DAQ.

Rep. Perry, assisted by Commissioner LuAnn Adams, requested \$100,000 ongoing from the General Fund for the Utah's Own Program.

Rep. Perry, assisted by Mayor Lee Dickemore, Farr West City, and Mr. James Ebert, Weber County Commission, distributed the handout, "Smith Family Park Community Fishery" and requested funds to build a community fishery next to the Smith Family Park.

Rep. Stratton, assisted by Kathleen Clarke, Director, Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office (PLPCO), requested \$3,000,000 for the Commission for Stewardship of Public Lands: \$1,450,000 in matching funds to reimburse the 29 counties at \$50,000 per county as they create their resource management plan; \$500,000 for PLPCO; \$50,000 for travel expense for the Commission; and \$1,000,000 for litigation and interfacing of the strategy in moving forward.

Sen. Hinkins requested \$3,000,000 for Colorado River Basin conservation.

Sen. Hinkins requested funds to study and dredge the Millsite Reservoir.

Sen. Hinkins requested funds for Gordon Creek stream bank alteration.

Sen. Hinkins requested funds to infuse NEPA for use by cities and counties around the state for wildlife restoration and fire mitigation.

Rep. McKell, assisted by Mr. Reed Price, Utah Lake Commission, distributed the handout, "Utah Lake is Utah's Gem," and requested \$700,000 for the removal of carp in Utah Lake.

Rep. Arent, assisted by Director Bryce Bird, distributed the handout, "Carrot Eligible Technologies and Potential Emissions Reductions," and requested \$1,000,000 for the Clean Air Retrofit, Replacement, and Off-Road Technology Fund.

Rep. Snow, assisted by Director Bryce Bird, requested one-time and ongoing appropriations to meet air quality compliance.

Rep. Noel, assisted by Mr. Jeff Rasmussen, Division of State Parks and Recreation, requested \$260,000 from the Capital Budget Fund to rebuild the Kodachrome Park access road bridge.

Rep. Noel, assisted by Director Clarke, requested \$2,000,000 to fund RS 2477 projects, \$1,000,000 for PLPCO-Protect States' Rights Litigation, and \$1,850,000 for RS 2477 lawsuits.

**MOTION:** Rep. McKell moved to approve the minutes of the February 2, 2015 meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Dayton, Sen. Hinkins, and Rep. Roberts absent for the vote.

Sen. Okerlund, assisted by Mr. Bob Barry, Utah Conservation Districts (UCD), requested funds for equipment and supplies for UCD.

Sen. Shiozawa, assisted by Director Bryce Bird, requested \$135,000 for Attorney General Air Quality staff.

Sen. Van Tassell requested continuing funds for an ozone study based in the Uintah Basin conducted by USU Uintah Basin.

Sen. Van Tassell requested \$1,000,000 one-time to fund the Utah Grazing Improvement Program for the benefit of Sage Grouse habitat and protection and for fire protection on private land inside the Sage Grouse areas.

Sen. Van Tassell requested \$2,000,000 to continue to keep Sage Grouse from being listed on the Endangered Species List.

Vice Chair Christofferson instructed the committee on procedures for prioritizing funding to be voted on at the next meeting on February 12, 2015.

Mr. Ivan Djambov, Fiscal Analyst, introduced the materials and clarified the process for voting at the next meeting. The materials will be consolidated and a packet will be provided with information on building blocks, intent language, fees, and federal funds.

Sen. Hillyard requested \$100,000 to begin the process to enlarge the Bear Lake State Park Marina.

#### **DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

Mr. Mike Styler, Director, Department of Natural Resources (DNR), discussed a slide presentation commenting on funding requests that were not included in the analyst's recommendations. He requested \$2,000,000 ongoing from the Sovereign Lands Management Restricted Account to address threats from conifer encroachment, wildfire, and cheatgrass.

Mr. Styler also requested \$2,500,000 for catastrophic fire (landscape resilience, community preparedness, wildfire response and management).

Mr. Styler requested \$200,000 from the General Fund for This Is The Place State Park. Mr. Ellis Ivory, Board Chair, This Is The Place Foundation, commented on the history of the Park and Foundation. He asked for support from the committee to get ongoing funding for park operations.

**MOTION:** Rep. Noel moved to place \$400,000 ongoing on the list for This Is The Place Foundation.

**SUBSTITUTE MOTION:** Rep. Miller moved to allocate \$200,000 from ongoing and \$200,000 from one time funds. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Dabakis and Sen. Okerlund absent for the vote.

Mr. Styler requested \$240,000 from the General Fund for Great Salt Lake wetlands mitigation studies.

Mr. Styler, assisted by Mr. Kent Jones, State Engineer and Director, Division of Water Rights, requested \$438,000 ongoing for water rights adjudication.

Mr. Styler, assisted by John Baza, Director, Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining, requested \$35,000 one-time and \$168,500 ongoing from the Oil and Gas Restricted Account for a petroleum engineer. He also requested \$70,000 one-time and \$310,500 ongoing for well inspectors.

**MOTION:** Rep. Handy moved to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously. Vice Chair Christofferson adjourned the meeting at 10:50 a.m.