

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

Room 30 House Building, State Capitol Complex

February 9, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sen. Todd Weiler, Chair
Rep. Kraig Powell, Chair
Rep. Rich Cunningham, Vice Chair
Sen. Gene Davis
Sen. Margaret Dayton
Sen. Karen Mayne
Sen. Daniel W. Thatcher
Rep. Sophia DiCaro
Rep. Susan Duckworth
Rep. Steve Eliason
Rep. Bradley G. Last
Rep. Marie H. Poulson
Rep. John R. Westwood

MEMBERS ABSENT: Sen. Curtis S. Bramble
Rep. Justin Miller

STAFF PRESENT: Mr. Brian D. Fay, Fiscal Analyst
Dr. Thomas Young, Senior Economist
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.

Sen. Weiler called the meeting to order at 6:20 p.m.

MOTION: Rep. Westwood moved to approve the minutes of the January 27, 2015, meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Davis and Sen. Thatcher absent for the vote.

Utah Futures

Ms. Tami Pyfer, Education Advisor to the Governor, assisted by Ms. Laura Hunter, (UEN) Chair of the Utah Futures Steering Group, stated they are requesting a supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$1 million for FY 2015 and an ongoing appropriation of \$1.4 million beginning in FY 2016, for the Utah Futures website. A handout was provided titled "Utah Futures." Ms. Pyfer explained that Utah Futures is a career and counseling website tool available to career education students, higher education students, and the adult population in the state of Utah.

At the close of the 2014 General Session, the Legislature passed S.B. 34 which required an independent evaluation of Utah Futures. In September of 2014, the external evaluation panel

concluded that Utah Futures should be maintained as a Utah-built service. Ms. Pyfer further explained that the program needs the ongoing funding to become a fully functional career and college planning tool.

Ms. Pyfer and Ms. Hunter responded to questions from the committee.

Utah Education Network

Dr. Ray Timothy, Executive Director, assisted by Ms. Lisa Kuhn, Chief Financial Officer, provided handouts: "Utah Data Alliance Looking back, Moving Forward", "UEN Funding Request for FY2016", and "UTN Funding Request for FY2016".

Dr. Timothy discussed the Utah Education Network (UEN) funding request. UEN is requesting \$4.5 million ongoing for sustainability operations of the Network. They are further requesting \$6.2 million one-time for equipment. This funding will replace outdated equipment and make sure it is operational, thus eliminating network downtime and costly emergency repairs.

Dr. Timothy further stated that in FY14 they requested \$645,000 ongoing funds and were funded \$345,000 ongoing and \$300,000 one-time. They are requesting \$645,000 ongoing for FY16.

Dr. Timothy explained that Utah Telehealth Network (UTN) connects hospitals, clinics, and health departments over the internet. It keeps patients in local communities, saving time and travel costs. UTN serves 110 hospitals, clinics and health departments, 58 of which rely on UTN for network connectivity and support. They are requesting \$142,000 ongoing appropriation for operational priorities. In addition, they are asking for \$501,800 one-time funding to refresh and replace network equipment.

Ms. Deb LaMarche, UTN Associate Director, responded to questions from the committee.

The Leonardo

Mr. Nicholas Gibbs, Senior Director Rockwell Collins, Former Board Chair of the Leonardo, introduced Leonardo Board Members: Dr. Denesh Patel, current board chair; Preston Eichers, chief Financial Officer; Senator Jake Garn, former astronaut and U.S. Senator; Marshall Wright, board of trustees; Dr. Yoon Mi Hamrick, Outreach Volunteer; and Anthony Spehar, Northrup-Grumman, retired Vice President ICBM Missiles. Mr. Gibbs expressed appreciation to the Legislature for their past support and provided a handout, "Flight".

Ms. Alexandra Hesse, Executive Director, further thanked the committee for their support over the years. They are asking for a one-time funding of \$750,000 for an exhibit called "Flight" from Leonardo's DaVinci's flying machines to the future of flight. The exhibit will span over 10,000 square feet, covering the history of flight to the science and engineering of flight. It will display the technology of flight and simulation showing what the future of flight might look like.

Mr. Gibbs told the committee that Rockwell Collins has been a supporter of the Leonardo for many years with cash and in kind contributions approaching one million dollars. He further explained that there are 105 aerospace and defense companies that will be able to showcase their technologies and help STEM grow in the state of Utah through this exhibit. He proposed that Rockwell Collins, as well as other industry peers, will provide a significant contribution of 3.2 million required to realize this exhibit. He stated that in order for the exhibit to go forward, he is requesting the committee to invest the \$750,000 of public money to leverage the contributions from the private sector.

Mr. Gibbs and Ms. Hesse responded to questions from the committee.

Valley Mental Health

Mr. Gary Larcenaire, Executive Director of Valley Behavioral Health, assisted by board members: Mr. Bruce Cummings and Mr. John Pingree. Mr. Larcenaire provided a handout, "800 Utah Jobs Lost and Mental Health Services Cut for 25,000 People".

Mr. Larcenaire explained the current status of Valley Behavioral Health, formerly Valley Mental Health. He explained that they were a former Salt Lake County government entity. After the split from the county, their employees were still members of the Utah Retirement System (URS). Both Valley and URS agree that Valley employees need to exit from the retirement system. They further agree that they need to exit with dignity and still be able to continue to have resources in their infrastructure to continue to be viable but also pay for the exit. They are asking for \$3,000,000 one-time to URS to help defray the cost of an eligible qualified entity to exit under the rules. Their board has authorized them to match the \$3,000,000 for the estimated \$6,000,000 exit price tag.

Mr. Larcenaire responded to questions from committee members.

Mr. Dee Larsen, Utah Retirement System, responded to questions from the committee regarding Valley Mental Health withdrawing from the system.

MOTION: Sen. Dayton moved that the prioritization be: (1) UEN, (2) Valley Mental Health, (3) Utah Futures, and (4) Leonardo in the amounts listed on the agenda.

SUBSTITUTE

MOTION: Rep. Cunningham moved the Leonardo be moved to (9) on the prioritization list. The motion passed. Rep. Dayton, Rep. DiCaro, Rep. Duckworth, Rep. Eliason, and Rep. Powell voted in opposition.

MOTION: Sen. Davis moved to approve the prioritization list as follows:
(1) Utah Data Alliance - \$300,000 ongoing
(2) UEN Sustainability - \$4,500,000 ongoing

- (3) UEN Equipment - \$6,200,000 one-time
- (4) UTN Operational Support - \$105,000 ongoing
- (5) UTN Telecom Costs - \$37,000 ongoing
- (6) UTN Network Equipment - \$243,300 one-time
- (7) UTN Network Reliability - \$108,500 one-time
- (8) UTN Rural Facility Connections - \$150,000 one time
- (9) Leonardo - \$750,000 one-time
- (10) Valley Mental Health (will require the passage of additional legislation) - \$3,000,000 one-time
- (11) Utah Futures (if appropriated, to include intent language requiring performance measures) - \$1,400,000 ongoing and \$1,000,000 one-time

The motion passed with Rep. DiCaro, Rep. Eliason, and Rep. Powell voting in opposition.

MOTION: Sen. Davis moved to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

Sen. Weiler adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Sen. Todd Weiler, Chair

Rep. Kraig Powell, Chair