

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

Room 210 Senate Building

January 28, 2016

Members Present: Sen. David P. Hinkins, Co-Chair
Rep. Mike McKell, Co-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
Rep. Scott Chew
Rep. Susan Duckworth
Rep. Brian M. Greene
Rep. Stephen G. Handy
Rep. Timothy Hawkes
Rep. Lynn N. Hemingway
Rep. Ken Ivory
Rep. Michael E. Noel
Rep. Lee B. Perry
Rep. Marc K. Roberts

Members Absent: Sen. Kevin T. Van Tassell

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.

Chair McKell called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m. and introduced Jonathan Djambov who was visiting for the day.

1. Department of Agriculture and Food, Review of Budget

Mr. Ivan Djambov, Fiscal Analyst, introduced the information which is posted online (le.utah.gov) for the Department of Agriculture and Food. He reported on H.B. 5, Base Budget Bill, discussing information available for each line item, such as funding sources, amounts, and programs within that line item. He instructed the committee on how to reach the Compendium of Budget Information, a resource to obtain background information and context, links to the law, and tables with expenditures over several years.

Commissioner LuAnn Adams, Department of Agriculture and Food (DAF), played a video giving an overview of programs within the department. DAF promotes the healthy growth of agriculture and the conservation of Utah's natural resources. Commissioner Adams reported on the department's theme, "Riding for the Brand." The employees of the department are working better as a team; communication between divisions has improved, all resulting in more efficiency and fewer overlaps.

Mr. Travis Waller, Division Director, Regulatory Services, highlighted activities and achievements accomplished over the past year. Regulatory Services has oversight of products in the areas of food

safety, weights and measures, dairy, bedding, upholstered furniture, and quilted clothing, and the egg grading program. They are charged to provide sound services to ensure safe, wholesome, clean, and uniform products throughout the state.

Ms. Anna Marie Vail, Deputy Bureau Chief, Livestock Inspection Bureau, discussed the inspection program. It is designed to deny a market for potential thieves and to detect the true owners of livestock. Their mission is to provide timely, quality, and courteous service to the livestock men and women of the State in an effort to protect the cattle and horse industry. Ms. Vail reviewed their proactive approach to increasing inspection numbers and decreasing the number of missing livestock reports.

Ms. Robin Cahoon, Director, Utah's Own, reported that the goal of the program is to strengthen the State's economy through helping agriculture and food companies produce safe, quality products and by increasing consumer brand awareness of Utah's Own brand. Ms. Cahoon is working to fine tune the program so that the most can be made out of every tax payer investment dollar.

Mr. Robert Hougaard, Director, Division of Plant Industry and Conservation, provided an update on the employees of the Utah Association of Conservation Districts. Those employees were transferred to state employment in July. He discussed the following programs:

- Phytosanitary certificates; plant health certificates required for export to other countries.
- Heat treatment used in the firewood program.
- Infrared imaging technology in the honey bee program.

2. Department of Natural Resources, Review of Base Budget

Mr. Djambov briefly introduced the resources for the Department of Natural Resources budget by directing the committee to the Copenidium of Budget Information link. Mr. Djambov explained that some restricted sources for building blocks are in jeopardy due to the decline in revenues.

Executive Director, Mike Styler, Department of Natural Resources, distributed "Utah Department of Natural Resources Annual Report, 2016," and through a video presentation reviewed issues that cross boundaries between divisions. The theme for the year is "Active Management Works: We're Committed to Enhancing Utah's Resources." Proactive management with partners creates healthy landscapes. Priority issues facing all of the divisions have been identified, such as, fire, big game, water, sensitive species, recreation infrastructure, and energy.

MOTION: Rep. Hinkins moved to adjourn. Chair McKell adjourned the meeting at 10:05.

Sen. David Hinkins, Chair

Rep. Mike McKell, Chair