

(Draft - Awaiting Formal Approval)
**MINUTES OF THE
EXECUTIVE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE**
Thursday, February 16, 2017 • 4:10 p.m. • 445 State Capitol

Members Present:

Sen. Jerry W. Stevenson, Senate Chair
Rep. Dean Sanpei, House Chair
Sen. Kevin T. Van Tassell, Senate Vice Chair
Rep. Bradley G. Last, House Vice Chair
Sen. J. Stuart Adams
Sen. Gene Davis
Sen. Luz Escamilla
Sen. Jani Iwamoto
Sen. Peter C. Knudson
Sen. Karen Mayne
Sen. Ralph Okerlund
Rep. Joel K. Briscoe
Rep. Sandra Hollins

Speaker Gregory H. Hughes
Rep. Brian S. King
Rep. John Knotwell
Rep. Angela Romero
Rep. Brad R. Wilson

Members Absent:

President Wayne L. Niederhauser
Rep. Francis D. Gibson

Staff Present:

Mr. Jonathan Ball, Director
Mr. Steven M. Allred, Deputy Director
Ms. Greta G. Rodebush, Administrative Assistant

Note: A list of others present, a copy of related materials, and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at le.utah.gov.

1. Call to Order/Approval of Minutes

Chair Stevenson called the meeting to order at 4:22 p.m. There were no minutes to approve.

2. Subcommittee Budget Reports

Executive Offices and Criminal Justice (Tab 3)

[2a-Executive Offices and Criminal Justice Appropriations Subcommittee Report \(2017 GS\)](#)

Sen. Daniel W. Thatcher reviewed the ongoing and one-time reallocations lists on pages 3-3 and 3-4 of the report. The subcommittee realized some savings in Corrections due in large part to the effort of the Justice Reform Initiative (JRI).

Sen. Thatcher and Rep. Eric K. Hutchings discussed the ongoing and one-time funding requests on page 3-1, that included funding to cover a shortfall for the (AG) Child Protection: Declined Federal Match. The subcommittee also prioritized compensation for Corrections staff, the Utah Highway Patrol, and the Attorney General's Office.

Rep. Bruce R. Cutler discussed Item 6, (BOP) Electronic Records System.

Rep. Hutchings discussed Item 10, (Courts) Guardianship Reporting and Monitoring Program.

Rep. Angela Romero commented on a \$2 million funding request for Item 11, (DPS) HB 200 Sexual Assault Kit Processing Amendments.

Rep. Sanpei asked for more information JRI funding needs versus social service treatment needs, overlap in services, and possible appropriation changes.

Rep. Bradley G. Last inquired about the unfilled positions at the Draper Prison.

Sen. Thatcher responded to Chair Stevenson's inquiry about intent language from the 2016 General Session that redirected nonlapsing balances to the new prison.

Sen. Jani Iwamoto expressed her appreciation to the subcommittee chairs and LFA staff for their work.

Higher Education (Tab 4)

[2b-Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee Report \(2017 GS\)](#)

Rep. Keith Grover introduced the ongoing and one-time funding request priority lists on pages 4-1 and 4-2. The top ongoing requests included restoration of the 2 percent reduction in the base budget bill, compensation for the Utah System of Higher Education and the Utah College of Applied Technology, and funding student enrollment growth.

Sen. Evan J. Vickers discussed ongoing priorities related to strategic workforce investment, funding for market demand programs, and the Regents' Scholarship.

Rep. Derrin R. Owens commented on the institutions' reallocation efforts and complimented LFA staff for their work.

Rep. King spoke in support of ongoing funding for Item 14, University of Utah Huntsman Cancer Institute - Backfill Decline in Earmarked Tobacco Settlement Funds, and Item 16, University of Utah Huntsman Cancer Institute Operations.

Rep. Briscoe asked clarifying questions about Item 12, Student Athlete Graduation Improvement, and subcommittee adjustments to the base budget for Higher Education's Operating and Capital Budgets on page 4-Supplemental-1.

Rep. Sanpei expressed some concern about the shortage of dollars in light of this year's funding requests.

Mr. Spencer Pratt and Rep. Owens responded to Rep. Sanpei's questions regarding proposed ongoing funding for compensation, student enrollment growth, and Regents' Scholarship.

In regards to Item 12, Student Athlete Graduation Improvement, Sen. Escamilla was interested in learning how each institution targets the student athletic population.

Chair Stevenson inquired about the \$2 million funding request for Item 14, (UU) University of Utah Huntsman Cancer Institute - Backfill Decline in Earmarked Tobacco Settlement Funds. Rep. Grover clarified that the original request for backfill money was \$4 million.

Infrastructure and General Government (Tab 5)

[2c-Infrastructure and General Government Appropriations Subcommittee Report \(2017 GS\)](#)

Sen. Wayne Harper gave the initial report. The subcommittee prioritized four ongoing items and 12 one-time projects as listed on page 5-1. The subcommittee's top ongoing priority was to fund DFCM Capital Improvements for FY 2018 at 1.1 percent of the value of all state buildings.

Sen. Harper highlighted subcommittee actions regarding internal transfers and reallocations within the Department of Transportation, nonlapsing intent language for agencies in the current year, intent language supporting agency operations within internal service funds, and authorized fees.

Sen. Harper also discussed the subcommittee's recommended order of funding options for one-time capital development projects.

Rep. Gage Froerer gave an overview of some proposed changes to the capital development process that would help avoid issues that have arisen in the past regarding two capital funding projects. The proposed changes are found on pages 5-Supplemental-29 through 5-Supplemental 31 of the report.

Rep. Sanpei asked if the intent language that directs Transportation Funds to be used for specific projects violates the Transportation Commission's prioritization process. Sen. Harper responded and explained the subcommittee's reasoning for recommending those projects.

The committee discussed the issue of committing ongoing funding to partially-funded buildings, in particular, Dixie State University Human Performance Center and the University of Utah Medical Education & Discovery Rehabilitation Hospital.

Rep. Sanpei expressed concern that the Legislature might not be able to come up with additional funding for partially-funded buildings in the future and may have to bond. He referred to the subcommittee's recommended order of funding options for one-time capital development projects in making his point.

Sen. Davis asked if the buildings are critical to the mission of the universities. Rep. Froerer and Rep. Brooks responded in the affirmative.

Chair Stevenson asked for more information about funding for a building at the Dixie Applied Technology College. Rep. Froerer and Sen. Harper responded.

Executive Appropriations Committee (Tab 10)

[2d-Executive Appropriations Committee Report \(2017 GS\)](#)

Mr. Steven Allred, Deputy Director, LFA, reviewed the ongoing and one-time funding request priority lists on page 10-1. He noted that the one-time list included five requests for appropriation and that the remaining ongoing and one-time building block requests were listed in alphabetical order and not in priority order.

Mr. Allred also reviewed the ongoing and one-time reallocations lists on page 10-2 that shift funding for Legislative Secretaries in the House and the Senate to Legislative Research and General Counsel (LRGC) and funding for the Ethics Commission to the Legislative Services line item.

Chair Stevenson reminded the committee that new revenue numbers would be forthcoming.

3. Requests for Appropriation

There were no additional requests for appropriation.

4. Other Business/Adjourn

MOTION: Rep. Sanpei moved to adjourn.

The motion passed with a vote of 17-0-3.

Voting in the affirmative were:

Stevenson J, Sanpei D, Van Tassell K, Last B, Adams J S, Davis G, Escamilla L,
Iwamoto J, Knudson P, Mayne K, Okerlund R, Briscoe J, Hollins S, King Brian S,
Knotwell J, Romero A, Wilson B

Absent or not voting were:

Niederhauser W, Gibson F, Hughes G

Chair Stevenson adjourned the meeting at 5:47 p.m.