

**MINUTES OF THE  
EXECUTIVE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE**  
Tuesday, August 22, 2017 • 2:00 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  
President Wayne L. Niederhauser  
Sen. Ralph Okerlund

Rep. Joel K. Briscoe  
Rep. Francis D. Gibson  
Rep. Sandra Hollins  
Speaker Gregory H. Hughes  
Rep. Brian S. King  
Rep. John Knotwell  
Rep. Angela Romero  
Rep. Brad R. Wilson

**Staff Present:**

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

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).

**1. Call to Order/Approval of Minutes**

Chair Dean Sanpei called the meeting to order at 2:12 p.m.

**2. Fiscal Health Check-up: Expenditures and Revenues**

Mr. Jonathan Ball, Director, Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst (LFA), introduced LFA's newest staff member, Mr. Ryan Mortenson.

Mr. Gary Ricks, Fiscal Analyst, LFA, introduced the Revenues and Expenditures sections of the Fiscal Health Dashboard.

Dr. Thomas Young, Economist/Forecaster, LFA, reported on General Fund, Education Fund, and Transportation Fund revenues for FY 2018.

Mr. Ryan Mortenson, Staff Economist, LFA, reported on Medicaid collections for FY 2017.

Sen. Luz Escamilla asked about the decline in Medicaid collections for FY 2017. Mr. Russell Frandsen, Fiscal Analyst, LFA, responded.

Mr. Mortenson reported on Medicaid expenditures for FY 2018.

Mr. Ricks reported on Higher Education, Public Education, Criminal Justice, and Transportation expenditures for FY 2018.

Chair Sanpei inquired about Medicaid year-end costs for FY 2017. Mr. Ricks and Mr. Frandsen responded.

Mr. Ball commented on Medicaid costs.

**MOTION:** Sen. Jerry W. Stevenson moved to adopt the minutes of July 25, 2017. The motion passed with a vote of 19-0-1.

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Yeas-19

Sen. J. Adams  
Sen. G. Davis  
Sen. L. Escamilla  
Rep. F. Gibson  
Rep. S. Hollins  
Rep. G. Hughes  
Sen. J. Iwamoto  
Rep. B. King  
Rep. J. Knotwell  
Sen. P. Knudson  
Rep. B. Last  
Sen. K. Mayne  
Sen. W. Niederhauser  
Sen. R. Okerlund  
Rep. A. Romero  
Rep. D. Sanpei  
Sen. J. Stevenson  
Sen. K. Van Tassell  
Rep. B. Wilson

Nays-0

Absent-1

Rep. J. Briscoe

**3. Federal/Non-federal Grants**

Mr. Ken Matthews, Federal Assistance Management Officer, Governor's Office of Management and Budget, presented the report. Mr. Gary Syphus, Fiscal Analyst, LFA, provided assistance.

Federal/Non-federal Grants Summary, August 2017

[Federal/Non-federal Grants Summary, August 2017](#)

Sen. Escamilla inquired about proposed changes to the Utah Department of Health's (UDOH) Medicaid waiver request. Mr. Frandsen responded that the UDOH would be addressing this topic later on in the meeting.

**MOTION:** Sen. Stevenson moved to recommend acceptance of the federal and non-federal grants as outlined on page 1 of the handout entitled, "Federal/Non-Federal Grants Review and Approval: under the heading, "Grants Requiring EAC Review and Recommendation" and dated today, August 22, 2017. The motion passed with a vote of 18-0-2.

Yeas-18

Sen. G. Davis  
Sen. L. Escamilla  
Rep. F. Gibson

Nays-0

Absent-2

Sen. J. Adams  
Rep. J. Briscoe

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Rep. S. Hollins  
Rep. G. Hughes  
Sen. J. Iwamoto  
Rep. B. King  
Rep. J. Knotwell  
Sen. P. Knudson  
Rep. B. Last  
Sen. K. Mayne  
Sen. W. Niederhauser  
Sen. R. Okerlund  
Rep. A. Romero  
Rep. D. Sanpei  
Sen. J. Stevenson  
Sen. K. Van Tassell  
Rep. B. Wilson

**4. Statutory Provisions Governing Dedicated Credits and Nonlapsing Authority**

Mr. Steven Allred, Deputy Director, LFA, highlighted six policy issues that could clarify statutory provisions governing dedicated credits and nonlapsing authority. He was joined by Ms. Clare Tobin Lence, Fiscal Analyst, LFA.

Issue Brief - 2017 Interim - Clarifying Statute Governing Dedicated Credits and Nonlapsing Authority  
[Issue Brief - 2017 Interim - Clarifying Statute Governing Dedicated Credits and Nonlapsing Authority](#)

**MOTION:** Sen. Stevenson moved to open a bill file and direct staff in the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst's Office to work with the committee co-chairs and staff from the Governor's Office of Management and Budget and the Division of Finance to clarify statutes governing dedicated credits and nonlapsing authority as presented to us today. The motion passed with a vote of 18-0-2.

Yeas-18

Sen. J. Adams  
Rep. J. Briscoe  
Sen. L. Escamilla  
Rep. F. Gibson  
Rep. S. Hollins  
Rep. G. Hughes  
Sen. J. Iwamoto  
Rep. B. King  
Rep. J. Knotwell

Nays-0

Absent-2

Sen. G. Davis  
Rep. B. Last

Sen. P. Knudson  
Sen. K. Mayne  
Sen. W. Niederhauser  
Sen. R. Okerlund  
Rep. A. Romero  
Rep. D. Sanpei  
Sen. J. Stevenson  
Sen. K. Van Tassell  
Rep. B. Wilson

## **5. ProStart Implementation**

Dr. Jill Curry, Fiscal Analyst, LFA, introduced the ProStart Culinary Arts Program that included one-time funding for TeenChef Pro, a televised teen chef cooking competition.

Dr. Sydnee Dixon, State Superintendent of Public Education, Utah State Board of Education, gave an update on legislative funding for the ProStart Culinary Arts Program.

ProStart Report

[ProStart Report](#)

Ms. Thalea Longhurst, State Director of Career and Technical Education, State Board of Education, discussed ProStart's declining student enrollment and responded to questions.

Speaker Gregory H. Hughes asked if the USBE would be using the \$250,000 one-time funding the Legislature appropriated in FY 2018 for ProStart's TeenChef Pro cooking show and competition this year. Ms. Dixon responded in the affirmative.

Speaker Hughes asked the if the USBE and the Utah Restaurant Association felt that culinary arts was a draw for at-risk students.

Dr. Dixon indicated that culinary arts continues to be a draw for at-risk students in many areas of the State.

Sen. Karen Mayne spoke on the importance of offering a variety of career options for all students.

Sen. J. Stuart Adams commented on the importance of offering programs that build students' self-esteem.

Dr. Dixon shared some relevant data on the benefits of career and technical education.

Ms. Melva Seine, President, Utah Restaurant Association, spoke about the ProStart Culinary Arts Program, student enrollment, and the need for a well-qualified workforce.

#### **6. Hunter Access to SITLA Land**

Mr. Ivan Djambov, Fiscal Analyst, LFA, discussed agreements between the Division of Wildlife Resources (DWR) and the School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA) that have provided hunter access to SITLA lands.

Mr. Mike Fowlks, Director, DWR, reported on current DWR negotiations with SITLA. He indicated that the DWR had agreed in principle to pay SITLA approximately \$1.8 million for Hunter Access.

Chair Sanpei asked Mr. Fowlks to clarify that the contract amount was going to be \$1.8 million. Mr. Fowlks responded in the affirmative.

Sen. Adams asked if Hunter Access was totally funded. Mr. Fowlks confirmed that it was.

#### **7. Wildland Fire Suppression and Restoration Costs**

Mr. Djambov briefly discussed wildland fire suppression and restoration costs for the 2017 fire season.

Rep. Briscoe asked Mr. Cottam to share some statistics about human-caused fires in Utah.

Mr. Brian Cottam, State Forester, and Director of the Division of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands, discussed the handout, "Utah Fire Stats as of August 22, 2017," the costs of fire suppression, and the Brian Head fire.

Utah Wildfire Stats

Mr. Cottam responded to questions about human-caused fires, federal and state cost sharing, studies on green house gases, improving land management, the settlement of reimbursement costs, and post-fire rehabilitation costs.

Mr. Cottam also responded to and commented on questions about fuel reduction projects and the Brian Head fire.

#### **8. Water Rights Adjudications**

Mr. Djambov introduced water rights adjudication.

Mr. Blake Bingham, Assistant State Engineer, Adjudication Section, Division of Water Rights, discussed a three-pronged approach to streamline the water rights adjudication process.

Mr. Ben Jensen, Assistant Attorney General, Utah Attorney General's Office, discussed the role and impact of the Special Master in the Utah Lake and Jordan River General Adjudication. He responded to questions.

### **9. Review of State Homeless Coordinating Committee Awards**

Mr. Jonathan Hardy, Director, Housing and Community Development Division, Department of Workforce Services, and representing the State Homeless Coordinating Committee (SHCC), discussed the "Shelter the Homeless" grant award.

Proposed Awards from Homeless to Housing Account, August 2017

[Proposed Awards from Homeless to Housing Account, August 2017](#)

Rep. Francis D. Gibson asked how the grant awards from the Homeless to Housing Account tie in with the Operation Rio Grande Project. Mr. Hardy responded.

Sen. Stevenson thanked Speaker Hughes and President Wayne L. Niederhauser for their efforts in addressing the homeless problem.

Sen. Stevenson asked clarifying question about public and private funding partnerships. Mr. Hardy responded.

Speaker Hughes explained the correlation between the "Shelter the Homeless" grant award and Operation Rio Grande.

Sen. Mayne asked if the three Homeless Resource Centers have room for growth. Mr. Hardy responded.

**MOTION:** Sen. Stevenson moved to recommend the acceptance of the proposed grant awards from the Homeless to Housing Account as recommended by the State Homeless Coordinating Committee and presented to us today. The motion passed with a vote of 16-0-4.

Yeas-16

Sen. J. Adams  
Sen. L. Escamilla  
Rep. F. Gibson  
Rep. S. Hollins  
Rep. G. Hughes  
Rep. B. King  
Rep. J. Knotwell  
Sen. P. Knudson  
Rep. B. Last

Nays-0

Absent-4

Rep. J. Briscoe  
Sen. G. Davis  
Sen. J. Iwamoto  
Sen. W. Niederhauser

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Sen. K. Mayne  
Sen. R. Okerlund  
Rep. A. Romero  
Rep. D. Sanpei  
Sen. J. Stevenson  
Sen. K. Van Tassell  
Rep. B. Wilson

**10. Other Business/Adjourn**

Chair Sanpei called attention to the Department of Health's written report on Medicaid Expansion.

Department of Health Report on Medicaid Expansion as Required by H.B. 437, 2016 G.S.  
[Department of Health Report on Medicaid Expansion as Required by H.B. 437, 2016 G.S.](#)

Sen. Escamilla asked if any changes had been made to the State's Medicaid waiver request following public comment on proposed waiver revisions.

Mr. Nathan Checketts, Director, Division of Medicaid and Health Financing, Utah Department of Health, reviewed three changes to the Medicaid waiver request that the UDOH had submitted to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

Mr. Checketts distributed the handout, "Utah's Targeted Adult Expansion for Medicaid," and responded to questions regarding the use of funds, Medicaid coverages, and the definition of chronically homeless.

**MOTION:** Sen. Stevenson moved to adjourn. The motion passed with a vote of 15-0-5.

Yeas-15

Sen. J. Adams  
Sen. L. Escamilla  
Rep. S. Hollins  
Rep. G. Hughes  
Rep. B. King  
Rep. J. Knotwell  
Sen. P. Knudson  
Rep. B. Last  
Sen. K. Mayne  
Sen. W. Niederhauser  
Sen. R. Okerlund  
Rep. D. Sanpei

Nays-0

Absent-5

Rep. J. Briscoe  
Sen. G. Davis  
Rep. F. Gibson  
Sen. J. Iwamoto  
Rep. A. Romero

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Sen. J. Stevenson

Sen. K. Van Tassell

Rep. B. Wilson

Chair Sanpei adjourned the meeting at 4:09 p.m.