

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

Wednesday , January 31, 2018 • 8:00 a.m. • 210 Senate Building

**Members Present:**

Sen. David P. Hinkins, Senate Chair  
Rep. Stewart E. Barlow, House Chair  
Rep. Scott H. Chew, House Vice Chair  
Sen. Jim Dabakis  
Sen. Margaret Dayton  
Sen. Don L. Ipson  
Sen. Peter C. Knudson  
Sen. Ralph Okerlund  
Sen. Evan J. Vickers  
Rep. Carl R. Albrecht  
Rep. Kay J. Christofferson

Rep. Susan Duckworth  
Rep. Stephen G. Handy  
Rep. Karen Kwan  
Rep. Michael E. Noel  
Rep. Lee B. Perry  
Rep. Douglas V. Sagers  
Rep. Keven J. Stratton  
Rep. Christine F. Watkins

**Staff Present:**

Mr. Ivan D. Djambov, Fiscal Analyst  
Mr. Alexander R. Wilson, Fiscal Analyst  
Ms. Katiemarie Harmon, 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).

Chair Chew called the meeting to order at 8:06 a.m.

**1 . Water Data Audit**

Mr. Jim Behunin, Office of the Legislative Auditor General, gave a presentation entitled, "An In-Depth Follow-up of Projections of Utah's Water Needs."

[2-An In-depth Follow-up of Projection's of Utah's Water Needs](#)

Mr. Darrin Underwood, Deputy Director, Office of the Legislative Auditor General, answered a question from Chair Chew.

Rep. Handy commented on a metering issue.

Sen. Dabakis commented on the efficiency of the tiered system.

Rep. Albrecht asked if the auditors had tracked water time usage.

Rep. Sagers asked questions to Mr. Behunin.

Mr. Behunin continued his presentation.

Sen. Dayton asked a question about unaccounted water and fire hydrants.

Rep. Christofferson asked why there should be legislation when the cities are capable of monitoring the water usage.

**2 . Approval of Minutes**

**MOTION:** Sen. Dayton moved to approve the minutes. The motion passed with a vote of 16 - 0 - 3 .

Yeas-16

Rep. C. Albrecht  
Rep. S. Barlow  
Rep. S. Chew  
Rep. K. Christofferson  
Sen. J. Dabakis  
Sen. M. Dayton  
Rep. S. Duckworth  
Sen. D. Hinkins  
Sen. P. Knudson  
Rep. K. Kwan  
Sen. R. Okerlund  
Rep. L. Perry  
Rep. D. Sagers  
Rep. K. Stratton  
Sen. E. Vickers  
Rep. C. Watkins

Nays-0

Absent-3

Rep. S. Handy  
Sen. D. Ipson  
Rep. M. Noel

**3 . Water Resources Base Budget**

Mr. Keith Larson, Bowen Collins and Associates, gave a presentation entitled, "Water Use Data Collection Program - Independent Evaluation."

Chair Chew asked Mr. Larson a question about unaccounted water.

Dr. Rob Sowby, Hansen, Allen and Luce Engineers, answered Rep. Albrecht's question about the average water loss.

Sen. Dayton asked a question about the life span of a water meter.

Rep. Hinkins asked a question about how much water has to flow before the meter begins to record.

Rep. Duckworth commented on the effectiveness of metering compared to the past.

Rep. Kwan asked a clarification question about the presentation.

Rep. Noel asked a question about secondary water metering and water usage at commercial residencies such as hotels.

Chair Chew commented that the information presented is encouraging but there are still improvements to be made.

### [3a-Water Resources, State Fund Reduction Concepts](#)

Mr. Ivan Djambov, Fiscal Analyst, LFA, explained, "Water Resources, State Fund Reduction Concepts."

Mr. Eric Mills, Director, Division of Water Resources, presented on the Division of Water Resources and explained, "Water Resources Legislative Handout."

### [3b-Water Resources Legislative Handout](#)

Sen. Okerlund asked about the federal match for the dams.

Rep. Handy asked how far away are we from having accurate water usage data.

Sen. Ipson commented that the water use per capita is not computed correctly in St. George.

Sen. Dabakis asked if there is any money being budgeted for the Lake Powell Pipeline.

Sen. Hinkins asked further questions about the Lake Powell Pipeline.

Rep. Noel commented that it is possible to do the Lake Powell project for less money.

## **4 . Water Rights Base Budget**

Mr. Djambov gave a presentation on Water Rights base budget and explained, "Water Rights, State Fund Reduction Concepts."

### [4a-Water Rights, State Fund Reduction Concepts](#)

Mr. Kent Jones, State Engineer, Utah Division of Water Rights, gave an overview of the agency, and showed a video used by the agency.

Rep. Stratton asked a question about the adjudication process.

Mr. Jones gave an explanation of, "Water Rights Legislative Handout."

### [4b-Water Rights Legislative Handout](#)

Rep. Albrecht asked a question about the negotiations with the forest service.

## 5 . Vote on H.B. 5, Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environmental Quality Base

Mr. Djambov explained the base budget bill and the voting process.

### [5-Voting Packet for H.B. 5, Base Budget Bill](#)

**MOTION:** Rep. Barlow moved to change the targets for Item 38, Watershed, lines 866-867 (refer to "Voting Packet for H.B. 5, Base Budget Bill" Item 1A). The motion passed with a vote of 15 - 0 - 4 .

Yeas-15

Rep. C. Albrecht  
Rep. S. Barlow  
Rep. S. Chew  
Rep. K. Christofferson  
Sen. M. Dayton  
Rep. S. Duckworth  
Rep. S. Handy  
Sen. D. Hinkins  
Sen. D. Ipson  
Rep. M. Noel  
Rep. L. Perry  
Rep. D. Sagers  
Rep. K. Stratton  
Sen. E. Vickers  
Rep. C. Watkins

Nays-0

Absent-4

Sen. J. Dabakis  
Sen. P. Knudson  
Rep. K. Kwan  
Sen. R. Okerlund

Sen. Vickers commented he would like to hear from the chairs about the suggested proposals.

Rep. Noel asked if the Watershed Restoration Initiative (WRI) is trying to match federal dollars.

Mr. Michael R. Styler, Executive Director, Department of Natural Resources, helped answer questions.

**MOTION:** Sen. Hinkins moved to have new performance measures for the Office of Energy Development (refer to "Voting Packet for H.B. 5, Base Budget Bill" Item 1B). The motion passed with a vote of 15 - 0 - 4 .

Yeas-15

Rep. C. Albrecht  
Rep. S. Barlow

Nays-0

Absent-4

Sen. J. Dabakis  
Sen. P. Knudson

Rep. S. Chew  
Rep. K. Christofferson  
Sen. M. Dayton  
Rep. S. Duckworth  
Rep. S. Handy  
Sen. D. Hinkins  
Sen. D. Ipson  
Rep. M. Noel  
Rep. L. Perry  
Rep. D. Sagers  
Rep. K. Stratton  
Sen. E. Vickers  
Rep. C. Watkins

Rep. K. Kwan  
Sen. R. Okerlund

**MOTION:** Rep. Barlow moved to make a technical correction to PLPCO non-lapsing balances (refer to "Voting Packet for H.B. 5, Base Budget Bill" Item 2A). The motion passed with a vote of 14 - 0 - 5 .

Yeas-14

Nays-0

Absent-5

Rep. C. Albrecht  
Rep. S. Barlow  
Rep. S. Chew  
Rep. K. Christofferson  
Sen. M. Dayton  
Rep. S. Duckworth  
Sen. D. Hinkins  
Sen. D. Ipson  
Rep. M. Noel  
Rep. L. Perry  
Rep. D. Sagers  
Rep. K. Stratton  
Sen. E. Vickers  
Rep. C. Watkins

Sen. J. Dabakis  
Rep. S. Handy  
Sen. P. Knudson  
Rep. K. Kwan  
Sen. R. Okerlund

Rep. Noel, Rep. Stratton, and Rep. Albrecht asked clarifying questions about the non-lapsing balances.

**MOTION:** Sen. Hinkins moved to add non-General Fund appropriations to the substitute base budget bill (refer to "Voting Packet for H.B. 5, Base Budget Bill" Item 2B). The motion passed with a vote of 14 - 0 - 5 .

Yeas-14

Nays-0

Absent-5

Rep. C. Albrecht  
Rep. S. Barlow  
Rep. S. Chew  
Rep. K. Christofferson  
Sen. M. Dayton  
Rep. S. Duckworth  
Sen. D. Hinkins  
Sen. D. Ipson  
Rep. M. Noel  
Rep. L. Perry  
Rep. D. Sagers  
Rep. K. Stratton  
Sen. E. Vickers  
Rep. C. Watkins

Sen. J. Dabakis  
Rep. S. Handy  
Sen. P. Knudson  
Rep. K. Kwan  
Sen. R. Okerlund

**MOTION:** Rep. Barlow moved to change the General Fund Reductions List (refer to "Voting Packet for H.B. 5, Base Budget Bill" Item 2C).

Rep. Noel asked a clarifying question about the agencies that are receiving budget cuts.

Rep. Barlow commented on the Wild Horses and Burros Management money.

Rep. Stratton commented on the budget reductions list.

**MOTION:** Rep. Sagers moved to change line item 4, and later withdrew the motion (refer to "Voting Packet for H.B. 5, Base Budget Bill" Item 2C Line 4).

Sen. Vickers spoke against the motion.

Rep. Sagers moved to change the budget for the X-ray Machine Inspection Program. No vote was taken due to the loss of quorum.

Rep. Stratton recommended receiving the opinions of those present although there was no longer a quorum present.

Sen. Vickers explained there is a precedent for receiving the opinions of the legislators present.

Sen. Hinkins asked for a voice vote.

**MOTION:** Sen. Hinkins moved to adjourn.

Chair Chew adjourned the meeting at 10:54 a.m.