

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

Friday , February 2, 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. 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

Members Absent:

Sen. Peter C. Knudson
Sen. Ralph Okerlund
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.

Chair Barlow called the meeting to order at 8:08 a.m.

Rep. Kwan asked if the organizations with potential cuts would have the opportunity to present.

Mr. Ivan Djambov, Fiscal Analyst, LFA (Legislative Fiscal Analyst), responded to Rep. Kwan's question.

1 . LFA Overview

Mr. Djambov gave an explanation of the budget and introduced the following documents:

2a-Intent Language Summary

2b-New Federal Grants

[2c-Fees, H.B. 8](#)

Rep. Christofferson asked if the agencies had submitted the details on the costs of the fees and reasons for the fee changes.

Mr. Djambov explained the budget review process and introduced the information contained in COBI (Compendium of Budget Information).

2 . Energy Office Requests

Mr. Alex Wilson, Fiscal Analyst, LFA, gave an overview of the Office of Energy, as shown in COBI, and gave an explanation of the budget changes.

2a-Intent Language Summary

Dr. Laura Nelson, Director, Office of Energy Development, gave a presentation on the agency and their budget requests.

Sen. Hinkins asked Ms. Nelson a question about grants.

Rep. Noel asked Dr. Nelson about the agency's response to California's excise tax on coal.

Rep. Albrecht asked a question about the production tax credit for large facilities.

Sen. Dabakis asked a question about the coal port in Oakland and Community Impact Fund Board (CIB) money.

Sen. Hinkins asked Sen. Dabakis about his views on coal.

3 . Division of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands Requests

Mr. Djambov gave a presentation on the budget requests from Forestry, Fire, and State Lands.

2a-Intent Language Summary

Mr. Brian Cottom, Director, Forestry, Fire, and State Lands, gave a presentation on the budget requests of the agency using the following documents:

[4a-Wildfire Suppression and Rehab Supplemental Request](#)

[4b-Catastrophic Fire Request](#)

[4c-Phragmites Request](#)

Rep. Duckworth asked how much money it will take to eliminate the invasive species.

Sen. Hinkins commented that the State has received federal funding for invasive species.

Rep. Sagers asked a question about how much of the Brian Head fire was on federal lands.

Rep. Albrecht commented on the importance of documenting the costs incurred by the fire.

4 . Species Protection Requests

Mr. Djambov gave a presentation on the Species Protection Requests.

Mr. Michael R. Styler, Executive Director, Department of Natural Resources, gave a presentation on the Species Protection requests.

Mr. Chris Keleher, Director of Recovery Programs, Department of Natural Resources, presented using the following documents:

[5a-Species Protection Presentation](#)

[5b-Species Protection, Recovery Office Request](#)

[5c-Species Protection, Management of Rare Plant Data Request](#)

Sen. Hinkins asked a question about the plant Penstemon.

Chair Barlow asked a question about the \$250,000 and \$40,000 budget requests.

Sen. Dabakis asked a question about the \$250,000 budget request and the protected list.

Sen. Hinkins clarified the purpose of the agency is to create a safe habitat for the species.

Rep. Chew commented that Utah is better equipped to protect certain species than the federal government.

Rep. Albrecht asked what a "byfid duct pyrg" was as presented on the handout.

Mr. Styler clarified the goal of the agency is to protect species against Federal listings by protecting them at the State level.

Rep. Kwan commented on the budget requests.

Sen. Dayton restated the purpose of the Department of Natural Resources.

5 . Department of Agriculture and Food Requests

Mr. Djambov gave a presentation on the requests of the Department of Agriculture and Food.

[6a-Agriculture New Fees](#)

Rep. Christofferson asked a question about the Agriculture and Food's budget request.

Ms. LuAnn Adams, Commissioner, Department of Agriculture and Food, responded to questions.

Mr. Scott Erickson, Deputy Director, Department of Agriculture and Food, responded to questions.

Ms. Adams introduced the brand inspection requests.

Mr. Cody James, Director, Animal Industry Division, Department of Agriculture and Food presented on "Brand Inspection Request."

[6c-Brand Inspection Request](#)

Rep. Perry asked if the agency has talked to Sheriff's about training deputies. Mr. James explained that they have done so in certain counties.

Rep. Sagers asked about livestock theft and branding.

Ms. Adams explained the \$600,000 budget request is to continue operations based on demands.

Sen. Hinkins asked about the cost of potential future federal regulations.

Mr. Erickson presented on budget requests that focused on equipment using COBI and the following documents:

[6b-Bedding FTE Request](#)

[6g-GIP Truck Request](#)

Sen. Dayton asked about the potential budget cuts for Utah's Own.

Chair Barlow asked if the fees they are charging would be enough to cover the \$25,000 that will be removed.

Sen. Vickers commented on the profitability of Utah-made products.

Sen. Dabakis commented on Oregon's ability to market local products.

Mr. Erickson commented on a stipend for companies who redesign their logos to include "Utah's Own."

Rep. Kwan asked a question about the fee schedule.

6 . State Fair Requests

Sen. Van Tassel gave background information on the State Fair Park and Mr. Larry Mulenaux presented the budget requests using, "State Fair Presentation."

[7-State Fair Presentation](#)

Rep. Christofferson asked if the State Fair Park has a ten-year plan to become self-sustaining.

Sen. Hinkins asked about the long-term lease issue.

Rep. Duckworth commented that it is encouraging to see the changes to the State Fair Park.

MOTION: Rep. Handy moved to adjourn.

Chair Barlow adjourned the meeting at 10:48 a.m.