

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

Thursday , February 8, 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. Margaret Dayton
Sen. Don L. Ipson
Sen. Evan J. Vickers
Rep. Carl R. Albrecht
Rep. Kay J. Christofferson
Rep. Stephen G. Handy
Rep. Karen Kwan
Rep. Lee B. Perry
Rep. Douglas V. Sagers

Rep. Keven J. Stratton
Rep. Christine F. Watkins

Members Absent:

Sen. Jim Dabakis
Sen. Peter C. Knudson
Sen. Ralph Okerlund
Rep. Susan Duckworth
Rep. Michael E. Noel

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 8:03 a.m.

1 . 8:05 a.m. RFA - Grazing Improvement Program - Rep. Albrecht

Rep. Albrecht presented the appropriation request.

Rep. Chew commented that there are also Federal funds available to match the appropriation.

Rep. Handy asked if the appropriation request is a renewal or a new request.

2 . 8:14 a.m. RFA - Utah's Predator Control Program - Rep. Albrecht

Rep. Albrecht presented the appropriation request.

Sen. Dayton commented their endorsement of the appropriation.

3 . RFA - Equipment for Phragmites removal on Utah Lake - Rep. Christofferson

Rep. Christofferson presented the appropriation request with the assistance of Eric Ellis, Executive Director, Utah Lake Commission.

Rep. Chew asked a question about the machinery.

4 . RFA - Wild Horses and Burros Management - Rep. Stratton

Rep. Stratton presented the appropriation request with the assistance of Mike Styler, Director, Department of Natural Resources.

Sen. Dayton asked where the horses are relocated to and what happens if they die.

Rep. Chew commented on the Wild Horse Summit.

5 . RFA - Water Quality Research on Utah Lake - Rep. Stratton

Rep. Stratton presented the appropriation request with the assistance of Ms. Amanda Smith, Wasatch Front Water Quality Council.

6 . RFA - State and County Resource Management Plan - Rep. Stratton

Rep. Stratton presented the appropriation request.

7 . RFA - Forestry Fire and State Lands - River Analyst - Rep. Hawkes

Rep. Hawkes presented the appropriation request.

Sen. Hinkins asked a question about the management of the Corps of Engineers.

Mr. Brian Cottam, Director, Division of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands, helped answer questions.

Rep. Chew asked a question about the Utah Supreme Court's decision on stream access.

Rep. Stratton asked who is representing the State's interest in the litigation.

[6a-River Analyst Performance](#)

[6b-Weber River Law Suit Area](#)

8 . RFA - Staff Support - Agricultural Water Optimization Fund - Rep. Hawkes

Rep. Hawkes presented the appropriation request.

Sen. Hinkins asked Sen. Vickers if the appropriation is similar to a project in his district.

[7a-Staff Support Budget](#)

9 . RFA - Bear Lake Invasive Species Inspections - Rep. Webb

Rep. Webb presented the appropriation request.

Rep. Sagers commented on the Idaho inspections.

10 . RFA - Agriculture Sprinkler Conversion to Low Evaporative Type - Sen. Vickers, Rep. Westwood

Sen. Vickers and Rep. John Westwood presented the appropriation request with the assistance of Mr. Paul Monroe, Director, Central Iron County Water Conservancy District.

Rep. Sagers asked a question about re-appropriating water.

Rep. Chew asked if different crops would need different spray applicators.

Sen. Dayton asked about the cost to farmers.

Rep. Chew asked a question about Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) funding.

Sen. Vickers commented that the funding is a start, although it will not cover the whole cost.

Ms. LuAnn Adams, Commissioner, Department of Agriculture and Food, helped answer questions about the Agriculture Resource Development Loans (ARDL) Funds.

11 . RFA - Jordan River Recreation Park - Rep. Winder

Rep. Winder presented the appropriation request.

Rep. Kwan commented her support for the appropriation.

12 . RFA - Carbon Canal Diversion Reconstruction - Sen. Hinkins

Sen. Hinkins presented the appropriation request with the assistance of Mr. Val Oveson, Carbon Canal Company, and Mr. Kevin Cottner, President, Carbon Canal Company

Rep. Watkins commented that this appropriation is a high priority for her area.

Rep. Chew asked a question about the structures that the funding would help remove.

[17a-Coal to Carbon Fiber Budget](#)

[17b-Coal to Carbon Fiber Indicators and Timeline](#)

Rep. Christofferson asked if canal companies can purchase insurance.

13 . RFA - Senate Bill 96 - Sen. Hinkins

Sen. Hinkins presented the appropriation request.

Sen. Dayton asked if the appropriation would go to the Office of the Ombudsman.

14 . RFA - Coal to Carbon Fiber - Sen. Hinkins

Sen. Hinkins presented the appropriation request.

Rep. Albrecht commented his support for the project.

Rep. Christofferson asked about the federal grant match.

15 . RFA - Carbon Eco - Sen. Hemmert

Sen. Daniel Hemmert presented the appropriation request with the assistance of Mr. Jeff Hartley, Carbon Eco.

16 . RFA - Great Salt Lake Research - Rep. Duckworth

Rep. Kwan presented the appropriation request with the assistance of Mr. Steve Erickson, Legislative Advocate, Utah Audubon Council (UAC).

Rep. Sagers asked a question about the appropriation.

17 . RFA - Wildlife Genetic Testing - Rep. McKell

Rep. Michael McKell presented the appropriation request with the assistance of Mr. Ben Nadolski, Aquatic Biologist, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources.

Rep. Handy asked for specific details about how they will use the appropriation.

Rep. Chew asked about genetic testing.

Rep. Albrecht asked about genetic testing and the purity of the buffalo.

Mr. Michael Canning, Assistant Director, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, responded to questions.

Rep. Sagers commented on the impact to our State economy.

Rep. Chew commented hunting depends on farmers and ranchers.

Sen. Dayton commented that this presentation is another mention of the Conservation and Wildlife Expo.

18 . RFA - Hannah Culinary Waterline Extension - Sen. Adams

Sen. Adams presented with the assistance of Mark Harris, Vice President, Global Farm Operations, Young Living.

Rep. Kwan asked a question about the corporation.

Rep. Albrecht commented his support for the project.

19 . RFA - Coal to Carbon Fiber - Sen. Hinkins

Mr. Eric Eddings, Professor, Chemical Engineering, University of Utah, and Mr. Jeremiah Riley, Carbon County, assisted in explaining the budget request.

Rep. Handy asked if Utah Science Technology and Research (USTAR) was helping with this project.

Rep. Watkins shared her excitement about this project.

Rep. Albrecht asked if there is a waste product.

Mr. Jake Mellor, Commissioner, Carbon County, spoke.

Rep. Christofferson asked a clarification question.

Sen. Dayton commented on the crucial nature of coal.

MOTION: Sen. Hinkins moved to adjourn. The motion passed with a vote of 11 - 0 - 8 .

Yeas-11

Rep. C. Albrecht
Rep. S. Barlow
Rep. S. Chew
Rep. K. Christofferson
Sen. M. Dayton

Nays-0

Absent-8

Sen. J. Dabakis
Rep. S. Duckworth
Sen. D. Ipson
Sen. P. Knudson
Rep. M. Noel

Rep. S. Handy
Sen. D. Hinkins
Rep. K. Kwan
Rep. D. Sagers
Sen. E. Vickers
Rep. C. Watkins

Sen. R. Okerlund
Rep. L. Perry
Rep. K. Stratton

Chair Barlow adjourned the meeting at 10:20 p.m.