

(Draft Minutes)
MINUTES OF THE
NATIVE AMERICAN LEGISLATIVE LIAISON COMMITTEE
Wednesday, September 5, 2018 • 1:00 p.m. • 20 House Building

Members Present:

Sen. Kevin T. Van Tassell, Chair
Rep. John R. Westwood, Chair
Sen. Luz Escamilla
Sen. Jani Iwamoto
Rep. Marie H. Poulson
Rep. Angela Romero
Rep. Douglas V. Sagers
Rep. Christine F. Watkins

Rep. Mark A. Wheatley

Members Absent:

Sen. David P. Hinkins
Rep. Michael E. Noel

Staff Present:

Mr. Art L. Hunsaker, Policy Analyst
Ms. Patricia Owen, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Julia Octavia Conner, Administrative Assistant

Note: A copy of related materials and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at www.le.utah.gov.

1 . Committee Business

MOTION: Sen. Van Tassell moved to approve the minutes. The motion passed with a vote of 7 - 0 - 4 .

Yeas-7

Sen. L. Escamilla
Rep. M. Poulson
Rep. D. Sagers
Sen. K. Van Tassell
Rep. C. Watkins
Rep. J. Westwood
Rep. M. Wheatley

Nays-0

Absent-4

Sen. D. Hinkins
Sen. J. Iwamoto
Rep. M. Noel
Rep. A. Romero

2 . Reports: San Juan School District and Eagle View Elementary School

Mr. Ron Nielson, Superintendent, San Juan School District, discussed San Juan School District's plan for teacher retention and student test score improvements.

[2D - San Juan School District Quality Teacher Incentive Program \(QTIP\) \(HB 43\)](#)

[2E - San Juan School District Quality Teaching Incentive Program](#)

Mr. Nielson responded to questions and comments from the committee.

Ms. Christy Fitzgerald, Principal, Tse'bi'i'nidzizgai Elementary, San Juan School District, discussed the progress the elementary school has made in teacher retention and student grades.

Ms. Fitzgerald responded to questions and comments from the committee.

Mr. Chris Jones, Principal, Eagle View Elementary, Uintah School District, discussed Eagle View's teacher recruitment and retention.

[2C - Eagle View Elementary Presentation](#)

[2B - Eagle View Elementary Data Display](#)

Mr. Jones responded to questions and comments from the committee.

Mr. Nielson responded to questions and comments from the committee.

Ms. Sydnee Dickson, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, spoke in favor of HB 43 and her experience with different school climates and needs.

Ms. Dickson responded to questions and comments from the committee.

Mr. Nielson responded to questions and comments from the committee.

3 . Utah Tribal Leaders Report: Priority Issues

Mr. Davis Filfred, Utah Tribal Leaders Chair, and Navajo Nation Council Delegate, discussed the three priority issues among the tribal leaders.

Mr. Rupert Steele, Chairman, Confederated Tribes of Goshute, spoke to the first priority issue: human remains.

Mr. Steele responded to questions and comments from the committee.

Ms. Shirlee Silversmith, Director, Division of Indian Affairs, discussed the allocated funding in HB 394.

Ms. Silversmith responded to questions and comments from the committee.

Ms. Tamra Borchardt-Slayton, Paiute Tribal Chairperson, discussed the second priority issue: Indian Child Welfare Act.

Ms. Borchardt-Slayton responded to questions and comments from the committee.

Mr. Steele discussed the need for an Indian Child Welfare Act Liaison position.

Ms. Borchardt-Slayton discussed the third priority issue: moving Shirley Silversmith to a cabinet level position.

Ms. Patricia Owen, Associate General Counsel, Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel, responded to questions and comments from the committee.

Mr. Leonard Gorman, Executive Director, Navajo Human Rights Commission, discussed additional Navajo priority concerns, specifically redistricting in San Juan County.

Mr. Gorman responded to questions and comments from the committee.

Mr. Darren Parry, Chairman, Northwestern Band of the Shoshone Nation Tribal Council, discussed funding needs for the planned Boa Ogoi Cultural & Interpretive Center.

Mr. Steele discussed the Native American Health Liaison position.

4 . Other business/Adjourn

In the absence of a quorum, Rep. Westwood ruled the meeting adjourned.