

(Draft Minutes)
**MINUTES OF THE
NATURAL RESOURCES, AGRICULTURE, AND ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE**

Tuesday, August 14, 2018 – 11:00 A.M. – Utah State Capitol

Members Present:

Sen. David P. Hinkins, Senate Chair
Rep. Scott H. Chew, House Vice Chair
Sen. Don L. Ipson
Rep. Carl R. Albrecht
Rep. Kay J. Christofferson
Rep. Susan Duckworth
Rep. Stephen G. Handy
Rep. Karen Kwan
Rep. Michael E. Noel
Rep. Douglas V. Sagers
Rep. Christine F. Watkins

Members Absent:

Rep. Stewart E. Barlow, House Chair
Sen. Jim Dabakis
Sen. Keith Grover
Sen. Peter C. Knudson
Sen. Ralph Okerlund
Sen. Evan J. Vickers
Rep. Lee B. Perry
Rep. Keven J. Stratton

Mr. Ivan Djambov, Fiscal Analyst
Mr. Alex Wilson, Fiscal Analyst
Ms. Cassidy Hansen, Legislative Assistant

Staff Present:

Note: A copy of related materials can be found at www.le.utah.gov.

1. Bus Departure – East Parking Lot, State Capitol Complex

Members of the Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environmental Quality Appropriations Subcommittee, the Legislative Water Development Commission, presenters, members of the public, and staff boarded the bus.

2. Water Infrastructure Funding

Todd Adams, Deputy Director, Division of Water Resources, Department of Natural Resources (DNR) discussed planning for, maintaining, and funding existing water infrastructure replacement and new water infrastructure construction.

John Mackey, Engineering Manager, Division of Water Quality, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), discussed funding available for repairing and replacing damaged and aging infrastructure over the next 40 to 50 years.

Marie Owens, Director, Division of Drinking Water, DEQ, discussed the need for water development, specifically as the population of Utah grows and physical infrastructure ages.

3. Secondary Water Metering

Mr. Adams discussed the use of unmetered secondary water and the installation of meters in new construction and existing secondary systems.

4. Jordanelle Hydropower Plant Tour (7000 Old Hwy 40, Heber City)

The subcommittee and the commission visited the Jordanelle Hydro Power Plant and observed plant operations while members of Central Utah Water Conservancy District discussed plant construction, alternate energy sources, water development, water funding, how the dam was built, and areas the dam serves.

5. Irrigation Efficiencies and Water Use Duties

Sterling Brown, Vice President of Public Policy, Farm Bureau, discussed the demand for agricultural water and irrigation efficiencies.

Jake Harward, Harward Farms, discussed how drip irrigation increases yield at his family farm, even though the original process of building the infrastructure was costly.

Kent Jones, State Engineer, Division of Water Rights, DNR, discussed irrigation duties, beneficial use, the impact of increased efficiencies, and how those measures relate to the duty of water assigned to a particular acreage.

6. Wallsburg Project (Roundy Lane at the bridge on Main Creek, Wallsburg)

Daniel Gunnell, Resource Coordinator, Department of Agriculture and Food, discussed water projects in the Wallsburg area that have benefited grazing, water quality, and water quantity.

7. Expanded Instream Flow Use

Mr. Jones discussed entities that currently hold instream flow rights and the ramifications of extending instream flow rights to municipalities.

8. Olmstead Power Plant

Members of Central Utah Water Conservancy District discussed the role of the plant in Provo Canyon and its history.

9. Don A. Christiansen Treatment Plant Tour (1120 East Cascade Drive, Orem)

The subcommittee and commission visited the Don. A. Christiansen Water Treatment Plant and discussed the water treatment process.

10. Public Water System Terminus Determination

Ms. Owens discussed water delivery infrastructure for residents outside the political boundaries of a city and in planned unit developments that are behind a master meter within the political boundaries.

11. Lead in Schools program

Ms. Owens discussed sampling efforts to determine the occurrence of elevated lead exposure to children through drinking water in schools. The division reported that detectable lead was found in 90% of schools that participated in the sampling effort. Currently, no agency has responsibility for monitoring or mitigating this issue.

12. Septic Systems in Drinking Water Source Protection Zones

Ms. Owens discussed ordinances enacted by counties that protect drinking water source protection zones by prohibiting the installation of septic systems.

13. Other Business/Return to the State Capitol Complex