

Meeting Outline

June 17, 2020 | Click [here](#) for online streaming, requests to comment, and committee information.

Political Subdivisions Interim Committee

Online Meeting, Wednesday, June 17, 2020

1:15 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

(Outline version: 06/16/20)

Anchor location for meeting: Room 20 House Building, State Capitol Complex, Salt Lake City, Utah
Due to public health restrictions, members of the public are not permitted to attend the meeting at the anchor location but are invited to participate [online](#).

Approximate
Time Frame

1:15

1. Committee Business

Background

- Call to order
- [Draft minutes of the November 20, 2019, meeting](#)
- [Potential Interim Study Topics, by Committee](#) (Source: Compiled by Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel; amended and adopted by the Legislative Management Committee May 13, 2020)
- [Political Subdivisions Interim Study Topics, Statutorily Required Reports, Sunset Reviews](#) (Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel)
- [2020 Interim Schedule](#) (Adopted by the Legislative Management Committee May 13, 2020)

Issues

- [Joint Rule 7-1-401](#) requires each interim committee to adopt a list of interim study items during the interim committee's first meeting.
- [Joint Rule 7-1-602](#) specifies that an interim committee may authorize the committee chairs to independently open one or more committee bill files throughout the interim period under certain conditions.

Presenters

- **Sam Brucker**, Policy Analyst, Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel
- **Gus Harb**, Attorney, Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel

Potential Action

- Approve draft minutes of the November 20, 2019, meeting.
- Discuss, amend, approve draft interim study plan per JR 7-1-401.
- Discuss, approve motion regarding JR 7-1-602.

1:30 2. **COVID-19 State of Affairs:
Municipalities, Counties, Special Service Districts, & Local Health Departments**

The committee will consider political subdivision issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Background

On March 6, 2020 Governor Herbert declared a [state of emergency](#) in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. In the following weeks, [several political subdivisions issued](#) “shelter-in-place” mandates independently of the state.

This study item examines [local government officials' emergency authorities](#), the resources available to adequately respond to a crisis, communication lines between state and local officials, the implications of shelter-in-place orders, and the current fiscal landscape of political subdivisions.

- [COVID-19 Information for Local Governments](#) (Source: Utah League of Cities and Towns)
- [COVID-19 Resources](#) (Utah Association of Counties)
- [COVID-19 Resources](#) (Utah Association of Special Districts)
- [COVID-19 Resources](#) (Utah Association of Local Health Departments)

The following are links to the stakeholder presentations:

- [Utah League of Cities and Towns](#)
- [State of the Counties and Local Health Departments During COVID-19](#)
- [State and Local Emergency Powers](#)

Issues

- *What are local government emergency authorities?*
- *What resources were available? Was it adequate?*
- *What are the communication lines between state, local, and health department officials? Did state statutes provide enough guidance?*
- *What is the fiscal landscape?*
- *How did political subdivisions of various sizes respond?*
- *Are there remaining gaps, or statutory changes, the Legislature should address for political subdivisions to effectively respond to COVID-19 challenges?*

Presenters

Overview

- **Gus Harb**, Attorney, Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel

Local Health Departments

- **Jill Parker**, Executive Director, Utah Association of Local Health Departments

Counties

- **Lincoln Shurtz**, Director of Legislative Affairs, Utah Association of Counties
- **Brandy Grace**, CEO, Utah Association of Counties

Municipalities

- **Victoria Ashby**, Director of Government Relations, Utah League of Cities and Towns
- **Wayne Bradshaw**, Policy Director, Utah League of Cities and Towns
- **Emily Niehaus**, Mayor, Moab City
- **Dawn R. Ramsey**, Mayor, South Jordan
- **Roger Tew**, Senior Policy Advisor, Utah League of Cities and Towns

Legislature

- **Representative Timothy Hawkes**

Special Service Districts

- **LeGrand Bitter**, Executive Director, Utah Association of Special Districts
- **Mark BeCraft**, Fire Chief, North Davis Fire District
- **Roy Watts**, Manager, Powder Mountain Water and Sewer
- **Robin O'Driscoll**, Director, Uintah Recreation District

Potential Action

- Request additional information.
- Request draft legislation.

3:15

3. Municipal Annexation Amendments – Special Session Bill

The committee will receive an explanation on a bill for the fifth special session that clarifies local annexation laws.

Background

This bill reverses a change made in [H.B. 393](#), which took effect on March 24, 2020. Prior to H.B. 393, an annexation petition in a first-class county could not propose the annexation of an area proposed for incorporation. H.B. 393 extended this prohibition to all counties. This bill reverses the change made in H.B. 393 so that the prohibition against annexing an area proposed for incorporation only applies to first class counties.

- [S.B. 5004 Municipal Annexation Amendments](#)

Presenters

- **Senator David G. Buxton**

3:30 4. Emergency Medical Services Interim Study Update

The committee will hear about issues associated with emergency medical services.

Background

In the 2020 General Session, the House Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Committee heard testimony on [H.B. 190 "Local Government Cooperation Contacts"](#). The bill required that cities and counties provide or contract for emergency medical services within their jurisdictions.

The [Emergency Medical Services \(EMS\) Local Government Contracts report](#) by Representative Dan Johnson, Chief Brad Hannig, and Commissioner Darin Bushman provides additional information.

Issues

- *How are emergency medical services paid for?*
- *Should they be considered an essential service?*

Presenters

- **Representative Dan Johnson**
- **Darin Bushman**, County Commissioner, Piute County
- **Brad Hannig**, Fire Chief, Logan City
- **Dean Penovich**, Deputy Preparedness Director, Utah Department of Health
- **Guy Dansie**, EMS Program Director, Bureau of Emergency Medical Services and Preparedness, Utah Department of Health

Available for questions as needed

- **Victoria Ashby**, Director of Government Relations, Utah League of Cities and Towns
- **Lincoln Shurtz**, Director of Legislative Affairs, Utah Association of Counties

Potential Action

- Request additional information.

3:45 5. Other items/Adjourn