



MINUTES

POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS INTERIM COMMITTEE

Wednesday, June 17, 2020 | 1:15 p.m. | 20 House Building

Members Present:

Sen. Jacob L. Anderegg, Chair
Rep. Stephen G. Handy, Chair
Sen. Wayne A. Harper
Sen. Karen Mayne
Sen. Ann Millner
Sen. Jerry W. Stevenson
Rep. Cheryl K. Acton
Rep. Kera Birkeland
Rep. Joel K. Briscoe
Rep. Kim F. Coleman

Rep. Eric K. Hutchings
Rep. Marsha Judkins
Rep. Merrill F. Nelson
Rep. Val K. Potter
Rep. Lawanna Shurtliff
Rep. Elizabeth Weight

Staff Present:

Samantha D. Brucker, Policy Analyst
Gus Harb, Associate General Counsel
Nathan Erickson, Administrative Assistant

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

Chair Handy called the meeting to order at 1:25 p.m.

1 . Committee Business

2 . Clarify Local Annexation Laws - Special Session Bill

[3.2 Draft Legislation - Municipal Annexation Amendments](#)

Senator Buxton provided background information on and introduced the bill "Municipal Annexation Amendments" and answered clarifying questions from the committee.

3 . COVID-19 State of Affairs:

[2.6 State and Local Emergency Powers](#)

Gus Harb, Attorney, Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel, gave a brief overview of state and local emergency powers and answered clarifying questions from the committee.

[2.5 The State of the Counties and Local Health Departments During COVID-19](#)

Jill Parker, Executive Director, Utah Association of Local Health Departments, gave a presentation concerning local health departments' response to the COVID-19 Pandemic and answered clarifying questions from the committee.

Lincoln Shurtz, Director of Legislative Affairs, Utah Association of Counties, also addressed the committee.

Jill Parker continued to address the committee and answer questions.

4 . Committee Business

MOTION: Sen. Anderegg moved to approve the minutes from the November 30, 2020, meeting. The motion passed with a vote of 15 - 0 - 1.

Yeas-15

Rep. C. Acton
Sen. J. Anderegg
Rep. K. Birkeland
Rep. J. Briscoe
Rep. K. Coleman
Rep. S. Handy
Sen. W. Harper
Rep. E. Hutchings
Rep. M. Judkins
Sen. K. Mayne
Sen. A. Millner
Rep. M. Nelson
Rep. V. Potter
Sen. J. Stevenson
Rep. E. Weight

Nays-0

Absent-1

Rep. L. Shurtliff

[1.1 2020 Interim Study Items](#)

MOTION: Sen. Anderegg moved to approve the 2020 Political Subdivisions Interim Study Item List, which may be amended at times by committee chairs with approval from House and Senate leadership. The motion passed with a vote of 15 - 0 - 1.

Yeas-15

Rep. C. Acton
Sen. J. Anderegg
Rep. K. Birkeland
Rep. J. Briscoe
Rep. K. Coleman
Rep. S. Handy
Sen. W. Harper
Rep. E. Hutchings
Rep. M. Judkins
Sen. K. Mayne
Sen. A. Millner
Rep. M. Nelson
Rep. V. Potter
Sen. J. Stevenson
Rep. E. Weight

Nays-0

Absent-1

Rep. L. Shurtliff

MOTION: Sen. Anderegg moved to authorize the committee chairs to independently open bill files. The motion passed with a vote of 15 - 0 - 1.

Yeas-15

Rep. C. Acton
Sen. J. Anderegg
Rep. K. Birkeland
Rep. J. Briscoe
Rep. K. Coleman
Rep. S. Handy
Sen. W. Harper
Rep. E. Hutchings
Rep. M. Judkins
Sen. K. Mayne
Sen. A. Millner
Rep. M. Nelson
Rep. V. Potter
Sen. J. Stevenson
Rep. E. Weight

Nays-0

Absent-1

Rep. L. Shurtliff

MOTION:

Sen. Anderegg moved to open a committee bill file with the objective of looking at the underlying Emergency Management Act, working with Utah Association of Counties, Utah League of Cities and Towns, and Local Health Department Association, to make corrections and additions to help streamline and fix the underlying statute. And also to include the sponsors of the bill be Senator Jacob L. Anderegg and Representative Eric K. Hutchings. The motion passed with a vote of 15 - 0 - 1.

Yeas-15

Rep. C. Acton
Sen. J. Anderegg
Rep. K. Birkeland
Rep. J. Briscoe
Rep. K. Coleman
Rep. S. Handy
Sen. W. Harper
Rep. E. Hutchings
Rep. M. Judkins
Sen. K. Mayne
Sen. A. Millner
Rep. M. Nelson
Rep. V. Potter
Sen. J. Stevenson
Rep. E. Weight

Nays-0

Absent-1

Rep. L. Shurtliff

Lincoln Shurtz, Director of Legislative Affairs, Utah Association of Counties, gave a presentation on how to Utah Association of Counties is responding to and has been affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic and answered clarifying questions from the committee.

Brandy Grace, CEO, Utah Association of Counties, provided comment during the presentation on the issue.

Lincoln Shurtz continued presenting to the committee.

Representative Timothy Hawkes spoke in favor of the committee's direction and action and explained how S.B. 3009 addresses many of the issues the committee is discussing.

Victoria Ashby, Director of Government Relations, Utah League of Cities and Towns, introduced how municipalities have responded to and been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Emily Niehaus, Mayor, Moab City, spoke to how the city of Moab has innovated and responded to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

LeGrand Bitter, Executive Director, Utah Association of Special Districts, spoke to how special service districts have been affected by and are responding to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Mark BeCraft, Fire Chief, North Davis Fire District, spoke to how the fire district has been affected by and responded to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Roy Watts, Manager, Powder Mountain Water and Sewer, spoke to the effects the COVID-19 pandemic had had on the water and sewer district.

Robin O'Driscoll, Director, Uintah Recreation District, spoke to how the district has been affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic.

MOTION: Sen. Anderegg moved to open a bill file and, with the Utah Association of Counties, begin identifying the first steps that need to be taken to address to help the transition of Utah County moving to be a county of the first class. The motion passed with a vote of 15 - 0 - 1.

Yeas-15

Nays-0

Absent-1

- Rep. C. Acton
- Sen. J. Anderegg
- Rep. K. Birkeland
- Rep. J. Briscoe
- Rep. K. Coleman
- Rep. S. Handy
- Sen. W. Harper
- Rep. E. Hutchings
- Rep. M. Judkins
- Sen. K. Mayne
- Sen. A. Millner
- Rep. M. Nelson
- Rep. V. Potter
- Rep. L. Shurtliff
- Rep. E. Weight

Sen. J. Stevenson

5 . Emergency Medical Services Interim Study Update

Representative Dan Johnson introduced the agenda item of emergency medical service interim study update.

Darin Bushman, County Commissioner, Piute County, spoke to problem emergency medical services are facing in the state.

Brad Hannig, Fire Cheif, Logan City, also spoke to the issue.

MOTION: Rep. Potter moved to adjourn.

Chair Handy adjourned the meeting at 4:08 p.m.