



DRAFT MINUTES

EXECUTIVE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

Tuesday, September 15, 2020 | 11:30 a.m. | 30 House Building

Members Present:

Sen. Jerry W. Stevenson, Senate Chair
Rep. Bradley G. Last, House Chair
Sen. Don L. Ipson, Senate Vice Chair
Rep. Jefferson Moss, House Vice Chair
Sen. Luz Escamilla
Sen. Daniel Hemmert
Sen. Jani Iwamoto
Sen. Derek L. Kitchen
Sen. Karen Mayne
Sen. Ann Millner
Sen. Evan J. Vickers
Rep. Francis D. Gibson
Rep. Brian S. King

Rep. Karen Kwan
Rep. Carol Spackman Moss
Rep. Val L. Peterson
Rep. Angela Romero
Rep. Mike Schultz
Speaker Brad R. Wilson

Members Absent:

President J. Stuart Adams

Staff Present:

Steven M. Allred, Deputy Fiscal Analyst
Jonathan Ball, Fiscal Analyst
Greta G. Rodebush, Executive Assistant

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

1 . Call to Order/Approval of Minutes

Chair Last called the meeting to order at 11:45 a.m.

MOTION: Sen. Stevenson moved to approve the minutes of August 18, 2020. The motion passed with a vote of 19 - 0 - 1.

Yeas-19

Sen. L. Escamilla
Rep. F. Gibson
Sen. D. Hemmert
Sen. D. Ipson
Sen. J. Iwamoto
Rep. B. King
Sen. D. Kitchen
Rep. K. Kwan
Rep. B. Last
Sen. K. Mayne
Sen. A. Millner
Rep. C. Moss
Rep. J. Moss
Rep. V. Peterson
Rep. A. Romero
Rep. M. Schultz
Sen. J. Stevenson
Sen. E. Vickers
Rep. B. Wilson

Nays-0

Absent-1

Sen. J. Adams

2 . Federal/Non-federal Grants and CARES Act Funding Update

Taylor Kaufman, Federal Assistance Management Officer, Governor's Office of Management and Budget (GOMB), presented the report.

[2a-Federal/Non-federal Grants Packet, September 2020](#)

Alex Wilson, Financial Analyst, Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst (LFA), provided some additional analysis of the federal and non-federal grants.

MOTION: Sen. Stevenson moved to recommend acceptance of the federal and non-federal grants as outlined on page 1 of the handout entitled, "Federal/Non-Federal Grants Review and Approval" under the heading, "Grants Requiring EAC Review and Recommendation" and dated today, September 15, 2020. The motion passed with a vote of 19 - 0 - 1.

Yeas-19

Sen. L. Escamilla
Rep. F. Gibson
Sen. D. Hemmert
Sen. D. Ipson
Sen. J. Iwamoto
Rep. B. King
Sen. D. Kitchen
Rep. K. Kwan
Rep. B. Last
Sen. K. Mayne
Sen. A. Millner
Rep. C. Moss
Rep. J. Moss
Rep. V. Peterson
Rep. A. Romero
Rep. M. Schultz
Sen. J. Stevenson
Sen. E. Vickers
Rep. B. Wilson

Nays-0

Absent-1

Sen. J. Adams

Chair Last invited Duncan Evans, Budget Manager, GOMB, to provide an update on Coronavirus Relief Fund spending.

Duncan Evans discussed the status of the COVID-19 State Funds and the CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Fund money.

[2b-COVID-19 State Funds and CARES Act CRF, September 11, 2020](#)

Chair Last inquired about funding reallocations to effectively spend federal money by the end of the year. Duncan Evans responded.

Rep. Kwan asked about the Coronavirus Relief Fund money that was allocated to the Department of Human Services - Behavioral Health Funding. Duncan Evans responded.

3 . Fiscal Health Check-up:

a. Revised Revenue Estimates

Dr. Andrea Wilko, Chief Economist, LFA, presented the report.

[3a-August 2020 Revenue Estimates, FY 2020 - FY 2021 - Revised](#)

MOTION: Sen. Stevenson moved to adopt the revenue estimates for Fiscal Year 2020 and Fiscal Year 2021 as presented on the sheet entitled, "August Revenue Estimates in Thousands of Dollars, FY 2020-FY 2021 - REVISED" and dated August 28, 2020. The motion passed with a vote of 19 - 0 - 1.

Yeas-19

Sen. L. Escamilla
Rep. F. Gibson
Sen. D. Hemmert
Sen. D. Ipson
Sen. J. Iwamoto
Rep. B. King
Sen. D. Kitchen
Rep. K. Kwan
Rep. B. Last
Sen. K. Mayne
Sen. A. Millner
Rep. C. Moss
Rep. J. Moss
Rep. V. Peterson
Rep. A. Romero
Rep. M. Schultz
Sen. J. Stevenson
Sen. E. Vickers
Rep. B. Wilson

Nays-0

Absent-1

Sen. J. Adams

b. Economic Indicators Update

Dr. Andrea Wilko reported on the health of Utah's economy.

[3b-Economic Indicators Update - September 2020](#)

Chair Last commented on the charts for new dwelling unit permits and new residential value. He asked about the differences and the risks in Utah's economy between now and 2007. Dr. Andrea Wilko responded.

Sen. Stevenson asked about the rate of growth in sales tax going forward. Dr. Andrea Wilko responded.

c. Budget of the State of Utah

Ben Leishman, Finance Manager, LFA, presented the report.

[3c-Budget of the State of Utah and Related Appropriations, 2020-2021](#)

Jonathan Ball complimented the report's editor, Ben Leishman, Financial Manager, LFA, and LFA staff for their work on the Budget of the State of Utah, a report on the actions of the Utah State Legislature for the 2020 General Session and five Special Sessions.

MOTION: Sen. Stevenson moved to accept the report, "Budget of the State of Utah and Related Appropriations" as a required report under UCA 36-12-13 and to direct staff to distribute the report to all legislators. The motion passed with a vote of 19 - 0 - 1.

Yeas-19

Sen. L. Escamilla
Rep. F. Gibson
Sen. D. Hemmert
Sen. D. Ipson
Sen. J. Iwamoto
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Rep. C. Moss
Rep. J. Moss
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Rep. M. Schultz
Sen. J. Stevenson
Sen. E. Vickers
Rep. B. Wilson

Nays-0Absent-1

Sen. J. Adams

4 . Review of Budget Actions through Sixth Special Session**a. How the Legislature Managed the COVID-19 Budgetary Impact**

Jonathan Ball presented the report.

[4a-How the Utah Legislature Managed COVID-19 Budgetary Impacts](#)

Rep. Schultz asked questions related to reductions in revenue for income tax versus general sales tax. Jonathan Ball responded.

Sen. Stevenson thanked Jonathan Ball and his staff for their work on the State's budget. Jonathan Ball responded.

Sen. Ipson asked about the July 15th filing date and its impact on the Education Fund. He also complimented LFA staff for their work on the budget. Jonathan Ball responded.

b. Review Changes between August 18 EAC and Sixth Special Session

Jonathan Ball presented the report.

[4b-Changes Between August 18 EAC and Sixth Special Session](#)

Chair Last expressed his appreciation to Jonathan Ball and his staff for their great work.

5 . Wildland Fire Cost Projections

Ivan Djambov, Financial Manager, LFA, gave a brief introduction.

[5a-Memorandum Re: Fire Suppression and Rehabilitation Costs](#)

Mr. Brian Cottam, Director, Division of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands, Department of Natural Resources, discussed the 2020 wildfire season, fire suppression and rehabilitation costs, and a supplemental funding request.

[5b-2020 Wildfire Season Handout](#)

Rep. King thanked Brian Cottam for his report and recognized the hard, dangerous work of fire fighters. He asked about the statistics regarding human-caused fires and common themes related to fire starts. Brian Cottam responded.

Rep. King asked for the division's input on what could be done legislatively to reduce the number of human-caused fires.

Rep. Jefferson Moss asked about the amount of funding that has been set aside to-date for fire suppression. Jonathan Ball and Brian Cottam responded.

Rep. Schultz expressed his appreciation to Brian Cottam, the division, and the firefighters for their efforts. He asked if the Catastrophic Wildfire Reduction Strategy was working and if there was more that the Legislature could do to help in this effort. Brian Cottam responded.

Rep. Schultz recommended that the division work with legislators to come up with a strategy and a recommendation for future funding.

6 . Status of Unemployment Compensation Fund/Lost Wages Assistance Program

Kimberly Madsen, Financial Analyst, LFA, gave a brief overview of the actions that the Legislature took regarding unemployment insurance in each of the special sessions.

Kevin Burt, Division Director, Unemployment Insurance, Department of Workforce Services, presented the report.

[6-DWS Unemployment Insurance Presentation](#)

7 . Other Items/Adjourn

MOTION: Sen. Stevenson moved to adjourn. The motion passed with a vote of 19 - 0 - 1.

Yeas-19

Sen. L. Escamilla
Rep. F. Gibson
Sen. D. Hemmert
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Sen. A. Millner
Rep. C. Moss
Rep. J. Moss
Rep. V. Peterson
Rep. A. Romero
Rep. M. Schultz
Sen. J. Stevenson
Sen. E. Vickers
Rep. B. Wilson

Nays-0

Absent-1

Sen. J. Adams

Chair Last adjourned the meeting at 1:32 p.m.