

**UTAH QUALITY GROWTH COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday, February 23, 2005, 11:00 a.m.

Anderson Commons Reception Center

734 East 200 South

Salt Lake City, Utah 84102

MEMBERS PRESENT

ASHBY, Kenneth	Former Pres. Utah Farm Bureau
BARBER, Brad	Member at Large
BILLINGS, Lewis	Mayor, City of Provo (via teleconference call)
BLACKHAM, Leonard	Executive Director, Dept Agriculture & Food
<i>Mr. Blackham represented by:</i>	STEPHENS, Kyle - Deputy Director, Dept. Agriculture & Food
CAIN, Camille	Weber County Commissioner
CHRISTENSEN, Carlton	Salt Lake City Council
LOFGREN, Dan	CHAIR, Utah Home Builders
PAGE, Carol	Davis County Commissioner
SMITH, Darrell	Mayor, City of Draper
STYLER, Mike	Executive Director, Department of Natural Resources
<i>Mr. Styler represented by:</i>	PEARSON, Robyn - Department of Natural Resources
THOMPSON, Max D.	Realtors

MEMBERS EXCUSED

ALLEN, Dave	Summit County
KOHLER, Mike	Wasatch County Council

STAFF

BENNETT, John	Project Manager
BOHN, Laura	Project Manager
CARVER, Brian	Project Manager
COTTAM, Brian	Project Manager
HANSEN, Mike	Manager, State and Local Planning
NEILSON, Nancy	GOPB Administrative Assistant

GUESTS

BEDEL, Mark	Planner, DCED
JOHNSON, Dani	The Exoro Group
LEHMAN, Jill	Government Relations, The Nature Conservancy
PRICE, Ann	Division of Fire, Forestry & State Lands (583-5540)

RAMJOUE, George	WFRC (363-4250)
SIMONSEN, Soren	Pratt Coalition/AIA
TERRAGNO, Bob	Envision Utah
TEUSCHER, Mark	Cache County

Agenda item #1 – Welcome – Introduction of new members - Dan Lofgren

Nancy Saxton, owner of the Anderson Commons – Conference, Meeting and Reception Center, was asked to share a short history. The James P. Freeze home was constructed in 1892 and is one of the best preserved Victorian homes in downtown Salt Lake. In 1901 the home was purchased by a family from Holland and was kept in the family for 96 years. Dorothy Andersen was the last member of this family to own the home after which it was sold to Saltair Bed and Breakfast proprietors, Nancy Saxton and Jan Bartlett. They are only the third party to own the elaborate home. Their goal is to provide a place with a warm and lovely atmosphere without the sterile environment of an office for meetings.

The newly appointed commission members have received consent from the Senate.

Camille Cain	Weber County Commission
Leonard Blackham	Executive Director, Dept Agriculture & Food
Mike Styler	Executive Director, Department of Natural Resources
Mike Kohler	Wasatch County Council

Commissioner Camille Cain was asked to tell a little bit about herself. She has served on the Weber County Commission for seven years. She is President of the Utah Association of Counties. She is also a member of Envision Utah’s Steering Committee.

Agenda item #2 – Public Input

***Agenda item #3 – Review Minutes of December 8, 2004 and January 28, 2005**

Approval of minutes has been postponed until the next meeting and will include:

Minutes of December 8, 2004
Minutes of January 28, 2005

***Agenda item #4 – Budget Presentation, Spending the Holladay Set Aside – John Bennett**

The staff recommendation to start reallocation of the Holladay ‘set aside’ funds was unanimously approved by the Commission. The reason for the return of funds for spending is because Holladay’s project has changed materially and they need to make a new application. The Commission made it clear that Holladay’s project is noteworthy and they strongly encourage the city to reapply.

Action: Commissioner Carol Page made the motion to reallocate the funds and Brad Barber seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Agenda item #5 – Critical Lands Subcommittee Recommendation on Critical Lands Planning Grants

Action:

The motion made by Ken Ashby and seconded by Commissioner Carol Page was to accept the recommendations of the Critical Lands Subcommittee with one amendment. The Commission amended the amounts allocated to Farmington City and Salt Lake County by adding \$5,000.00 from the Holladay set aside funds. Mark Bedel commented that the Salt Lake County project is part of Jordan River Natural Areas Forum’s (JRNAF) trail completion priority plan. The motion passed and the funding will be as follows:

Kamas/Oakley Critical Lands Plan	\$15,000.00
Cache County Trails Implementation Plan	\$15,000.00
Salt Lake County Jordan River Trail Dev.	\$15,000.00
Salt Lake City Critical Open Lands	\$10,000.00
Farmington Riparian – Wetlands Planning	\$10,000.00
City of St. George Open Space Master Plan	\$10,000.00
South Valley Open Space	\$15,000.00
SCAOG Critical Lands Plan (Six County Association of Governments)	\$15,000.00

Commissioner Carol Page made the suggestion that the information gathered as part of the regional open space plan prepared by the Wasatch Front Regional Council and Davis County be used by Salt Lake County, Riverton and Farmington as they do their planning. This open space plan was paid for in large part by the Quality Growth Commission.

Agenda item #6 – Report on Governor’s Award for Critical Lands Conservation applications – Mike Hansen

Mike Hansen reported that four applications were received for this award. Most were for planning projects, and only the Salt Lake City Watershed Protection Program has actually acquired land. Mike asked the commission if they wanted to consider a McAllister Fund Project as well. Commission members asked the Critical Lands Subcommittee to consider whether a McAllister Fund Project should be honored as well. The subcommittee meets on March 21, 2005.

****Agenda item #7 – Update on legislative session – John Bennett, Wilf Summerkorn
HB 266 – Changes to the Quality Growth Commission, HB 152 – County Option Sales Tax
for Conservation, SB 148 – Conservation Easement Endowment Funding, SB 60 – LUDMA
Rewrite, SB 239 – Public Lands Policy Coordination, HB 264 – Public Lands, others**

HB 266 - Changes to the Quality Growth Commission, Representative Butters

This bill states that of the six local government officials, three must be from counties of the third through sixth class. And that two of the five members from the for-profit or not-for-profit groups must be from 3rd to 6th class counties. Carol Page pointed out that St. George is applying for a 2nd Class County designation and this bill would affect their representation.

This bill creates a new reporting requirement in instances where the commission makes grants in the amount of \$1 million or more. In that instance, the commission must report to the Legislative Management Committee (LMC) but the decision still rests with the commission. The bill has passed the House. Brad Barber expressed concern that it is hard enough to get a full quorum as it is and felt this would make it more difficult. Dan Lofgren felt uncomfortable with a loss to the governor's authority, but he said that is an issue for the governor to fight.

The commission felt that two members from each group would be better for the commission's representation.

Action: The motion was made by Brad Barber that subject to consideration they would take an official position of support. Mayor Darrell Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Appropriations Intent Language for Planning

The Utah Association of Counties is trying to get intent language included in the appropriations bill that would direct the commission to spend ten percent of the money appropriated for McAllister Fund on local planning. The concern about the language regarding municipal and county leadership input on how that planning allocation would be spent has basically been eliminated with the help of Commissioner Camille Cain. The commission looked favorably upon the proposal.

"It is the intent of the Legislature that ten percent (10%) of the money appropriated to the Quality Growth Commission be used to fund local government efforts toward land management planning. This funding will be used by the Quality Growth Commission to assist cities and counties with County Resource Management Planning, Quality Growth Planning, Critical Lands Planning, or other important local government planning needs."

SB 148 – Conservation Easement Endowment Restricted Account, Senator Evans

This bill was originally written by Ann Price (Division of Fire, Forestry and State Lands) and was intended to create a fund wherein landowners could donate money for the purpose of monitoring easements.

During the session the language has been edited and the bill now states that it will create a restricted account where the Departments of Natural Resources and Agriculture can deposit funds for monitoring and maintaining conservation easements.

The bill passed the Senate and has been voted out favorably from the House committee. The commission felt this bill was a great step forward.

Action:

Councilman Carlton Christensen made the motion to give a favorable recommendation as the commission's position and Brad Barber seconded the motion. The motion received unanimous support.

HB 152 – Second Substitute – County Option Sales land Use Tax for Conservation – Representative Buttars

The bill allows certain rural counties the option of adopting a county option sales tax to acquire open and agricultural lands and for other purposes. Since the commission has no direct involvement here they will step back from taking a position.

SB 60 LUDMA

This bill is a very complex one and is 118 pages long. It basically codifies recent court cases that changed local land use law. It also makes some other changes. It provides more flexibility for local government processes yet does not require that they make the changes.

The commission felt that there was no reason to make a stand because it already has its own momentum.

SB 204

The bill concerns the 1/16th sales tax which provides funding for the three water development loan funds. This bill would take the first \$3 million generated by this tax and give it to the Department of Natural Resources for watershed improvement. Commissioners felt this was a good bill that makes sense, but they decided to take no position.

SB 239 – Public Lands Policy Coordination

This bill creates a new office for Public Lands Policy Coordination. This office creates a unified voice for the state on public lands policy. The new office would report to the governor, but it would be located at the Department of Natural Resources which would act as the landlord. Commissioners took no position on this bill.

HB 264 – State Land Use Management Plans Amendment Noel, M.

This bill was extreme in its limitation to the staff in the State and Local Planning Coordinator's office. It also includes questionable verbiage never used in a bill before and could have

undesirable ramifications. The bill is viewed as regressive in nature in that it could wipe out the coordination of planning across the state.

This bill also limited the authority of the governor. After OPB (the Office of Planning and Budget) met with the sponsor the bill has been amended satisfactorily.

Commissioners took no position on this bill, but some members expressed opposition to the proposal.

HB 126 – Amendments to Facilities with Regional Impact (For information only)

(Regarding water treatment plants) Requires local governments to consider a number of items when deciding on the site of facilities of regional impact. Though it requires new coordination, but has no penalty clause.

Others

It was noted that Redevelopment Agencies (RDA's) are under attack as never before. There are two bills that directed towards RDA's. RDA's are intended to increase the value of property. The League of Cities and Towns is very opposed these bills presented by Senator Bramble and Representative Dougall.

UDOT is sponsoring a local corridor funding bill that would allow counties to increase car registration fees up to \$20.00. These funds would provide for long range funding for the preservation of transportation corridors.

SB 183 – Public Transit District Annexation and Funding Amendments (Sen. Bell, G.)

This is a long range UTA plan to 2030. It is regarding long range planning for transportation. It would equalize funding by counties and puts pressure on Utah County to make a decision.

LUNCH: Thanks to Salt Lake City Corporation for providing a wonderful lunch!

Agenda item #8 – Discussion of Planning Assistance to Iron County for County Resource Management Plan (CRMP) – Brian Cottam

Iron County has a one time opportunity and urgent need to position itself for the upcoming BLM Resource Management Planning process by doing aggressive public lands planning at the local level before the BLM process begins. It is a critical time for the county and they are prepared but will need funding to complete the process. Wes Curtis will be involved in ensuring that the CRMP is completed correctly. Iron County would set an example for other counties to follow.

Commissioner Carol Page addressed Mayor Billings's concern about the process of allocating these funds. She pointed out that the commission has in the past provided funding for emergency situations and that it is a critical time for this rural county and that commission

support should be given. She also stated that the flexibility to give support in this matter is important.

Action:

Councilman Carlton Christensen made the motion to support Iron County with funding of \$15,000.00 and Brad Barber seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Agenda item #9 – Presentation on Parleys Trail – Soren Simonsen

Mr. Simonsen invited the commission to a Public Open House on Saturday, March 19, 2005 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. This will be held at the Salt Lake County Government Center at 20-01 South State Street, South Building in the Atrium. The newly completed Master Plan for Parley's Creek Corridor Trail will be on display. He included maps and pamphlets in his presentation.

This project won two Envision Utah Governor's Quality Growth Grand Achievement Awards.

***Agenda item #10 – Presentation on Downtown Revitalization Symposium – Soren Simonsen and Bob Farrington, Request for support for Symposium**

Mr. Simonsen invited those present to attend the following presentation:

**“The Vibrant Downtown”
Tuesday, April 26th, 2005
7:30 am – 12:30 pm
The 23rd Floor Event Center
299 South Main Street, SLC**

Insight and lessons learned for making downtown a magnet for housing, retail, entertainment and economic development will be this main issue. Speakers from across the United States will participate and they include development experts from the public and private sector.

The commission was asked to consider a donation of \$1,000.00 for sponsorship of the Symposium. However, the commission felt that the criteria may not meet McAllister Fund qualifications and asked that the question be put on the agenda for the Critical Lands Subcommittee for review. Mr. Simonsen said that waiting a month for the funding if it passes would not be a problem.

Agenda item #11 – Administrative Matters

The commission was asked to provide a representative for an event dedicating a plaque at the base of Castleton Tower in Grand County. The Plaque will honor those groups who provided funds to protect land around the tower. The LeRay McAllister Fund provided some of this funding, and so the organizers wanted a Commission representative for this event to be held on April 2, 2005. Brad Barber will see if he can attend presentation in Moab

Action Items:

- **Next meeting: March 23, 2005 WFRC**
- **Brad Barber to attend Castleton Tower presentation in Moab on April 2nd**
- **John Bennett to follow through with next meeting notification and notification of action items dealing with legislation.**
- **Nancy to update email list.**

Adjournment 1:40 p.m.