

SALT LAKE COUNTY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
MINUTES

January 3, 2008

2 pm

N2003

SL County Government Center

**WELCOME**

Mayor Corroon called the meeting to order at 2:05 pm and, as the new President for 2008, welcomed everyone. He announced that Mayor Money is the Vice President and Mayor Cullimore is the Secretary/Treasurer.

**MINUTES**

Mayor Cullimore made the MOTION to approve the minutes of the November 1 and November 26, 2007, COG minutes as well as the minutes from the Expanded COG meetings on November 1 and November 26, 2007. The motion was seconded by Councilman Jensen and the vote was unanimous.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Mayor Corroon welcomed Congressman Jim Matheson and turned time over to him. The Congressman indicated if there are any federal appropriations needed for cities; please contact him, Allison Heyrend or Mike Reberg in his Salt Lake office. February 29, 2008 is the deadline for requests. He is willing to act as an advocate

The Congressman indicated he is on the Energy and Commerce committee which is a very broad spectrum committee. They deal with energy, health care, telecommunications, food safety, FDA, toy and product safety, commerce. Because it is such a wide ranging committee, it is usually considered an exclusive committee. Because of his experience, however, the Congressman has special dispensation to be on the Science and Research committee as well.

Questioned about transportation trends, Mr. Matheson stated that earmarks for 2007 were half what they were in 2006. He wants a more transparent process with regards to legislators putting their names next to earmarks as wells as having a financial interest statement signed by the initiating legislator.

He indicated that auto companies will have requirements that vehicles should be capable of driving 35 MPG by the year 2020. His focus is on developing clean fuel and weaning Americans away from foreign oil. There is an energy bill which will provide money for research into capturing CO2 from burning coal.

Congressman Matheson stressed continued relationship building among local, state and federal governments.

### **Committee Appointments for COG**

Mayor Crane made the MOTION, seconded by Councilman Jensen, that the COG appointments to the WFRC, RGC and Trans Comm continue as listed. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Jensen made the MOTION, seconded by Mayor Gray, that Mayor Crane be reappointed to EQAC. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Jensen made the MOTION, seconded by Mayor Smith, that Bill Harry, VECC Exec Director, be forwarded to the Governor for consideration to the State 911 Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Webb made the MOTION, seconded by Councilman Jensen, that Rep. Gregory Hughes be re-appointed to the UTA Board of Trustees for a second term. The motion passed and mayors were asked to sign the agreement for the UTA appointment. Once a simple majority of signatures has been received, it will go to the County Council for their advice and consent.

Mayor Newton indicated that they will appoint a Mayor Pro-Tem at their council meeting this week and that person will then assume membership on the COG as a city of the first class representative for West Jordan.

### **Meeting Schedule for 2008**

Discussion was held about scheduling COG meetings for 2008. The following changes were made in the suggested format:

= General Assembly to be scheduled in September in the evening with a short COG meeting at 6 pm

= Legislative Luncheon to be the first Thursday in December with a short COG meeting at 11 before the lunch. It was suggested that the Utah Cultural Celebration Center in WVC was a good location for size and distance.

= Expanded COG will be held as needed, but the members would like to have it in conjunction with the General Assembly in September with evening meetings preferred.

There was some discussion about having school superintendents make reports to the COG on quarterly basis.

## **INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS**

### **Legislative Update**

Lincoln Shurtz gave an update on proposed issues to be discussed during the legislature this year. He handed out a booklet entitled ‘Municipal Outlook’ (on file) and invited everyone to attend the Legislative Policy Committee meetings which will begin January 28 in W130 at the State capital. The meetings will then be every Monday for lunch. He stated that if a city has specific concerns, contact the ULCT individually.

There are four major areas being discussed this year: local land use authority, water forfeiture, property tax restructuring and justice court modifications.

The ULCT is endorsing the following with regards to land use:

1. An impact fees bill which will expand notice provisions for enacting new capital facilities plans and impact fees and establish a 90 day delayed effective date for impact fee ordinances.
2. An improvement assurance bill will place the process of accepting or rejecting developer’s publicly-dedicated subdivision improvements into the ‘ripcord’ process established in the 2007 legislative session and establish a one year standard for improvement warranties, with a process for an extended two year warranty under certain circumstances.
3. A potential geologic hazards/flood plains bill which codifies that geologic hazards and flood plain ordinances are authorized to protect life and protect ample damage to real property.

The ULCT and the Property Rights Coalition have agreed that neither group will bring land use legislation and both will join in a united front with respect to any other land use bills that may be introduced outside of this consensus building process.

The League strongly supports legislation to exempt from forfeiture water held by public suppliers that is held for reasonable future requirements of the public.

Property tax issues focus on three areas

1. Concerns over reappraisal are generally a result of failure in the performance of the assessing authorities because they have not taken measures to keep values current.
2. Local governments did not receive any additional property tax revenue because of increase in property values. Truth in taxation law limits property tax revenue to last year’s property tax revenue plus new growth (new construction). Increases in value are offset by reductions in tax rates.

3. Only about 10% of Utah cities actually went through the truth in taxation process. They were generally located in high growth areas and often were the first increases in many years.

Justice Court modification recommendations by the League are as follows:

1. Cities and towns be allowed to select their own judges and remain a city employee.
2. Potential municipal justice court judges be reviewed by a local nominating committee.
3. Judges will continue to be part time or full time as the case load determines.
4. Judges would be subject to retention elections every four or six years.
5. Salary would be set by the municipality employing the judge, but future raises would be based on an average of the annual pay increase for all city employees.
6. Judges will be required to have at least a four year college degree; sitting judges would be exempt.
7. Efforts will be made to mesh the software and information sharing concerns raised by the Supreme Court.

Lincoln encouraged the members of COG to contact their individual legislators with regards to transportation issues and the quarter cent transportation project prioritization process.

## **HUMAN SERVICES & HOUSING**

Mayor Wall asked that two resolutions be considered in today's meeting, but was taken ill and unable to present them. Copies of the resolutions were passed to the members of COG for discussion..

Mayor Seghini suggested taking the resolutions to the Legislative Policy Committee and the Association of Counties for a unified approach to the fuel tax resolution.

Mayor Nordfelt made the MOTION, seconded by Councilman Jensen, to accept the fuel tax resolution with deletions.

Discussion was that the likelihood of a fuel bill passing this legislative session was minimal. Mayors were reminded that any state fuel tax is divided with 75% going to UDOT and 25% to the local county. A fuel tax imposed at this point will go toward I-15 in Utah County as this is the major road project at this point. If the focus is on SL County projects, then it would need to be a local fuel tax.

There was the feeling that this resolution may be premature and there should be coordination with the Chamber of Commerce and the trucking industry.

Mayor Nordfelt, with acceptance by Councilman Jensen, WITHDREW the MOTION.

Mayor Newton made the MOTION, seconded by Mayor Cullimore, to accept the manufactured housing support resolution.

The motion passed unanimously.

**OTHER**

Mayor-elect Becker introduced Ben McAdams as the Intergovernmental Coordinator for Salt Lake City.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm.

**PRESENT**

Tom Pollard (Exc)	Alta	Claudia Anderson (Exc)	Bluffdale
Kelvyn Cullimore, Jr.	Cttnwd Hts	Darrell Smith	Draper
Lynn Crane	Herriman	Dennis Webb	Holladay
JoAnn Seghini	Midvale	Dan Snarr (Exc)	Murray
Bill Applegarth	Riverton	Mayor-elect Becker	Salt Lake City
Carlton Christensen	SLC	Peter Corroon	SL County
Jenny Wilson (Exc)	SL County	Michael Jensen	SL County
Tom Dolan (Exc)	Sandy	Bryant Anderson	Sandy
Kent Money	South Jordan	Bob Gray	South Salt Lake
Russ Wall (Exc)	Taylorsville	David Newton	West Jordan
Dennis Nordfelt	West Valley	Russ Brooks	West Valley

Andrea Packer	UTA	Alyson Heyrend	Cong. Jim Matheson
Rita Lund	SL County	Liane Stillman	Cttnwd Hts
John Hiskey	Sandy	Chuck Chappell	WFRC
William Harry	VECC	Mary Taylor	Sen. Hatch
Jan Wells	Murray	Ben McAdams	SLC
Nichole Dunn	SL Co	Greg Schulz	SL County
Sam Klemm	WFRC	Michelle Bagulay	Herriman/UTA
Lynn Pace	SLC	Leigh Dethman	Deseret News
Barbara Thomas	WFRC		