

**MINUTES**  
**Wasatch Front Regional Council**  
**Meeting of May 27, 2004**

Commissioner Burton, Chairman, called the meeting of the Wasatch Front Regional Council to order at 3:05 p.m. at 295 North Jimmy Doolittle Road, Salt Lake City, Utah.

**Members Present**

Janice Auger	Mayor, Taylorsville
Glen H. Burton, Chair	Commissioner, Weber County
Dave Connors	Mayor, Farmington
Michael J. Cragun	Commissioner, Davis County
George Garwood, Jr.	Mayor, South Ogden / ULCT
Matthew Godfrey	Mayor, Ogden
Robert Grow	Representative, Envision Utah
Daniel B. Hancock	Councilman, Morgan County
Michael H. Jensen	Councilman, Salt Lake County
Kent Money	Mayor, South Jordan
Dennis Nordfelt	Mayor, West Valley City
Fred Oates	Mayor, Harrisville
Carol Page	Commissioner, Davis County
Charlie Roberts	Mayor, Tooele
JoAnn B. Seghini	Mayor, Midvale
Jerry Stevenson	Mayor, Layton

**Members Not Present**

Ross C. Anderson	Mayor, Salt Lake City
Ken Bischoff	Commissioner, Weber County
Tom Dolan	Mayor, Sandy
Dannie R. McConkie	Representative, UAC / Alternate
Nancy Workman	Mayor, Salt Lake County

**Alternate Members Present**

Carlton Christensen	Councilman, Salt Lake City
J. Lynn Crane	Mayor, Herriman City
R. Mont Evans	Mayor, Riverton
Bryan D. Holliday	Mayor, West Jordan
Wes Losser	Mayor, South Salt Lake
Darrell H. Smith	Mayor, Draper

**Press Present**

Joe Baird	S.L. Tribune
Lisa Roskelley	Standard-Examiner

**Others Present**

Mike Allegra	Utah Transit Authority
Justin Allen	Congressman Bishop's Office
D.J. Baxter	Salt Lake City
Loveit Baumgardner	WFRC Staff
Wayne Bennion	WFRC Staff
Ed Blaney	WFRC Staff
Annette Call	Congressman Cannon's Office
Pat Casaday	Sandy City
Chuck Chappell	Director, WFRC
Nina Dougherty	Sierra Club
LaNiece Dustman	WFRC Staff
Sharon Gray	WFRC Staff
Doug Hattery	WFRC Staff
Cheryl Heying	UDAQ
Sam Klemm	WFRC Staff
George Ramjouw	WFRC Staff
Michael Sears	S.L. City Council
Lincoln Shurtz	Utah League of Cities and Towns
Robert Spendlove	Governor's Office of Planning and Budget
Bob Teragano	Envision Utah
John Thomas	UDOT

Mayor Anderson, Commissioner Bischoff, Mayor Dolan, and Commissioner McConkie were excused from the meeting.

**Consent Agenda**

***Action on the minutes, financial statement, and check register:*** Councilman Jensen moved to approve the minutes of the WFRC meeting of April 29, 2004, along with the financial statement and check register for April, 2004. The motion was seconded Mayor Holladay and passed unanimously.

**Chairman's Report**

***Reports from COGs:***

Commissioner Burton noted that there were no additional reports from the COGs for this meeting.

### **Budget Committee Report**

***ACTION to amend FY04 Budget and Work Program:*** Councilman Jensen reported that the WFRC has the opportunity to partner with UTA and Mountainland Association of Governments in contracting with The Utah Foundation through the Salt Lake Chamber of Commerce to analyze transportation funding options and make recommendations on such funding issues as (1) maintaining current B&C funding program; (2) practical cap on sales tax for the region; and (3) funding sources that have been used by other regions for transit and highway improvements. He noted that the cost of the study is \$43,000 and WFRC's share of those expenses would be \$10,000. He stated that the Council's staff would like to amend the current year's budget and work program to enable WFRC's participation in this study. He stated that the Budget Committee met prior to the Council meeting to review this request and recommends its approval.

Councilman Jensen moved to amend the FY04 Budget and Work program to include this study. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Page and passed unanimously.

***ACTION to approve FY05 UPWP and Budget:*** Councilman Jensen reported that the final draft of the FY05 Budget and summary of the Work Program were included in Council members' packets. He stated that this budget includes a 5% increase in local contributions over the previous year to enable WFRC to meet its federal fund matching requirements and is substantially the same as the draft previously provided to the Council members. He stated that the Budget Committee met prior to the Council meeting to review the final draft of the FY05 Budget and summary of the work Program and recommends its approval.

Councilman Jensen moved that Council approve the final draft of the FY05 Budget and summary of the Work Program. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cragun and passed unanimously.

***ACTION to select auditing firm to perform audit of Council's financial statements for FY04:*** Councilman Jensen reminded Council members of the discussion held on selecting an auditing firm at the April, 2004, Council meeting, as follows:

*Councilman Jensen reported that the Council needs to select an auditor for the FY05 period. He stated that RFPs have been distributed to six auditing firms, of which four returned proposals and two firms declined. He stated that after review of the proposals, the Budget Committee recommended staying with the firm Hansen, Barnett, and Maxwell for an additional year.*

*Council members discussed the firms and the proposals that had been submitted.*

*Councilman Jensen noted that it is good to change firms every so often, but stated that the Budget Committee didn't feel a need to change firms at this time. Councilman Jensen then moved that the Council approve the selection of Hansen, Barnett, and Maxwell.*

*Mayor Oates noted that the FY05 Audit had not been included as an agenda item, and felt it should be best to vote on the proposals at a future meeting.*

*Councilman Jensen withdrew his motion and stated that it would be included as an agenda item at the May, 2004 Council meeting. He stated that Council members can take action on it at that time.*

Councilman Jensen noted that a brief comparison of the audit proposals was included in Council members' packets. He reminded Council members that the Budget Committee gave consideration to the overall cost of the audit, the experience of the submitting firms, the practice of rotating auditing personnel to provide fresh perspective to the audit, and the possible additional audit expense generated by the required conversion to comply with GASB 34. He stated that the Budget Committee felt that by continuing to use Hansen, Barnett & Maxwell (HBM) the overall cost of the audit, which includes any work that may be required for GASB 34 conversion, is reasonable and that HBM's practice of rotating audit personnel while providing continuity of audit management would provide both experience and fresh perspective that the Council desires. The uncertainty of cost associated with GASB 34 conversion would make the other proposals less desirable at this time and, while the request for proposal was for FY04 and the succeeding four years, the Council would be free to re-evaluate this decision at a later date.

Councilman Jensen moved to approve engaging Hansen Barnett & Maxwell to perform the audit of the Council's financial statements. The motion was seconded by Mayor Auger and passed unanimously.

### **Water Committee Report**

Mayor Roberts reported on the Water Supply Committee meeting held on Tuesday, May 11, 2004. He noted that approximately 33 people attended the meeting. He stated that according to the information presented at the meeting, all areas within the Wasatch Front are still experiencing the consequences of a long period of drought. He stated that while moisture totals for this year at some locations are near normal, the snow pack so vital for filling the reservoirs was seriously diminished during the long day warm spell in early spring. He noted that the common figure for most storage facilities stream flows, snow packs, etc., seems to be 67%.

Mayor Roberts reminded Council members that conservation continues to play an important role in helping residents cope with the current drought conditions. He also noted that there needs to be a long term look at how agriculture water is handled. He expressed his appreciation to Ed Blaney for his assistance each year with the Water Committee meeting.

Mr. Blaney added that he felt conservation will become a way of life if the needs created by additional growth are to be met. He stated that those attending the meeting felt that representatives of the wholesale water districts should be brought more closely into the Regional Council's planning processes given the relationship of water supply and transportation. He also noted that "All the cheap water is gone." Paying for infrastructure, treatment, etc., will mean rate increases for customers no matter how well they do at conserving water on an individual basis.

### **Regional Growth Committee (RGC) Report**

***ACTION to adopt Resolution on Long Range Plan Update Financing:*** Mayor Connors reported that the Wasatch Front Regional Council (WFRC) established a Long Range Plan Finance Committee to develop a funding strategy to support the financial assumptions of the Long Range Plan. He stated that this committee has met for the past four months, and has members from the Regional Council and the Mountainland Association of Governments (MAG), as well as

representatives from UDOT and UTA who have attended the meetings in a support role. He noted that the Committee has begun discussions of how much new money is needed to implement the recommendations of the Long Range Plan and will work with the Legislature's Transportation Planning Task Force during the coming year to address these funding issues. Among the issues that the Committee has discussed are:

- the fact that this should be a joint effort by WFRC and MAG with one Plan and one request for funding
- that the focus of the request should be on one total dollar amount for additional funding needed for transportation improvements over the next thirty years (for both highways and transit, rather than for each separately)
- the need to educate the public on the region's transportation needs

Mayor Connors stated that at the May 3, 2004, Finance Committee meeting, a draft Resolution was proposed encouraging the Legislature's Transportation Planning Task Force to consider both highway and transit funding needs in addressing how to solve the region's transportation problems. A copy of the draft Resolution, drafted by the WFRC staff and reviewed by the Finance Committee and the Regional Growth Committee was included in Council members' packets.

Mayor Connors reported that a couple of minor changes to the Resolution had been recommended since the RGC meeting. He distributed copies of the revised Resolution that was prepared and includes non-motorized transportation facilities. He reviewed the changes with Council members.

Mayor Connors moved that the Regional Council adopt the proposed Resolution with the changes indicated in the handout. The motion was seconded by Mayor Oates.

In answer to a question by Mayor Evans, Mayor Connors stated that the Resolution does not address specific transportation projects, but focuses on funding the LRP as a whole that the WFRC adopted.

Mr. Hattery noted that Mayor Dolan chairs the Finance Committee which is trying to coordinate efforts relating to a whole range of transportation modes that includes roads, transit and non-motorized travel.

Mayor Roberts stated that he felt Tooele County should be included in the Resolution, as they are rapidly approaching an urbanized population.

Mayor Connors amended his motion to include Tooele County to the second to last paragraph. Mayor Oates agreed to second the amended motion.

Lincoln Shurtz asked whether the resolution intended to ask the legislature to maintain the 1/16 cent sales tax going to the Class B & C fund as well as highway user revenues. Mayor Connors indicated it was not specific to any source but was intended to include all sources of Class B & C funds.

Mayor Connors amended his motion again to state that "all sources of the Class B and C Road

Fund” should be maintained. Mayor Oates agreed to second the amended motion.

With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

***Proposal for Collaboration Partnering with Envision Utah Relative to the Regional Transportation Plan’s “Visioning” Process:*** Mayor Connors reported that the WFRC and Envision Utah have conducted discussions and developed a proposal for a “visioning” process for the Regional Transportation Plan. He asked Mr. Chappell to discuss the options and alternatives that are being proposed for the partnering process.

Mr. Chappell noted that the list of “Goals for the Next Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) that was adopted by the Council in April, includes the goal to “Develop a ‘Vision’ of what our region could look like by 2030.” This “vision” is a necessary early step for completion of the next RTP. In this region, Envision Utah has experience with the visioning process. Therefore, WFRC and MAG have collaborated with Envision Utah to draft a scope of work entitled, “A Proposal of the ‘New’ Transportation Planning Process” that was included in the Council members’ packets. He stated that this proposal will depend on the execution of an agreement between Envision Utah and the WFRC and a successful fund raising effort on the part of both Envision Utah and the WFRC. The RGC will control the “visioning” process and will be expanded, if needed, and will review work already completed before proceeding, so that the committee won’t be starting over.

Mayor Connors stated that the RGC is looking for the most cost efficient way to complete the “visioning” process. He asked Council members to express their concerns and give input. He noted that the RGC has approved this process “in concept”.

Mayor Connors moved for the Wasatch Front to endorse (in concept) the continuation of collaborative efforts between Envision Utah and the Wasatch Front Regional Council for the “visioning” process of the Regional Transportation Plan. The motion was seconded by Mayor Seghini.

Council members discussed the down sides to having a private agency involved in a partnership. Mr. Chappell stated that the staff is working to make sure their involvement is legal and that they act as enablers to the technical process without advancing their own agenda. Mayor Connors stated that the Steering Committee for this process will be the RGC and elected officials will remain in control of the process. He stated that if a change to the RGC structure is recommended, the WFRC would have to approve the change.

In answer to a question on funding concerns, Mr. Chappell responded that the Council currently has collected \$300,000, Envision Utah is providing \$200,000, for a total budget of \$500,000.

Council members discussed the visioning concept and the timeline for the visioning concept to be negotiated and brought back to the Council for a final vote.

Mr. Robert Grow indicated that Envision Utah is excited to participate and cooperate in the process.

Mr. Ramjouw’ stated that the RGC hopes to finalize the funding plan and amend the task list by July, 2004.

In answer to a question on the relationship with Envision Utah, Mr. Chappell stated that (policy wise) it will be a partnership between WFRC, MAG, and EU, not a consultant contractual relationship. He stated that the fiscal relationship is still being worked on. He assured Council members that the RGC will be in control of

the process and that local planners will be involved.

Mayor Connors noted that the RGC is very sensitive to the communication process. He stated that RGC recommendations will not supercede local authority.

Commissioner Page stated that Envision Utah has a lot of information and the RGC has a lot of information. She felt that a cooperative effort between the two agencies would be a benefit.

With no further discussion, the motion to continue to pursue collaborative efforts between Envision Utah and the WFRC for the “visioning” process of the Regional Transportation Plan passed unanimously.

***Governor’s Office of Planning and Budget’s (GOPB) 2004 baseline Economic and Demographic Projections to the year 2035:*** Mayor Connors reported that the Governor’s Office of Planning and Budget (GOPB) is currently in the process of producing the 2004 Baseline of its long-term economic and demographic projections series. He stated that as part of the process, GOPB is soliciting participation from state and local government entities with an interest in these projections. He introduced Mr. Robert Spendlove from GOPB who was in attendance to provide an overview of the 2004 Baseline.

Mr. Spendlove informed Council members of 1) Historical Context, 2) 2004 Baseline Overview, 3) REMI Model Overview, and 4) Summary Results using a PowerPoint presentation.

The following briefly describes the PowerPoint presentation:

#### ***Historical Data***

- Utah is in the Center of the Fastest Growing Area of the Country
- Utah Ranked as the Fourth Fastest Growing State During the 1900s
- Utah’s Fastest Growing Counties between 1990 and 2000 (40.0% Increase or Greater) included Tooele, Juab, Sanpete, Summit, Wasatch, Iron, and Washington Counties.
- The State averaged 29.6% growth (per county)
- Utah Has the Largest Households in the Nation (3.13)

#### ***2004 Baseline Overview***

- The 2004 Baseline was the first since 2002, was produced with REMI Model, and was included in a 2005 Economic Report to the Governor.
- Long-Run Assumptions noted that 1) net in-migration contributed 22% of population increase from 1948-2004, and 2) long term employment growth was sufficient to generate the same relative component contributions for 2005-2035.
- The short-run forecasts indicate that State level population and employment for 2004 through 2006 is controlled to the results of the state’s short term models.

#### ***REMI Overview***

- REMI’s objective includes both economic theory and policy application.
- Key REMI Model features include: 1) Structural model that captures all inter-industry linkages, 2) is calibrated and estimated using national and regional data, 3) is dynamic

- and predicts when results will occur, 4) economic cause & effect relationships explain results, and 5) is the leading policy analysis model in the U.S.
- REMI uses alternative simulation forecast and control forecast.
  - The State of Utah Projections Process includes an Economic Base Model and a Cohort Component Model which provide Integrated Economic and Demographic projections.
  - The REMI Model structure includes 1) population & labor supply, 2) wages, prices, & profits, 3) labor & capital demand, 4) market shares, and 5) output.

Mr. Spendlove briefly reported on the preliminary results of the 2004 Baseline study. He noted that if Council members needed additional information, he could be contacted at the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget, State Capitol Complex, East Office Building, Suite #210, Salt Lake City, UT 84114. His e-mail address is: [rspendlove@utah.gov](mailto:rspendlove@utah.gov). His phone number is 801-538-1027 and the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget's web site is: [www.governor.utah.gov](http://www.governor.utah.gov).

### **Trans Com Committee Report**

***TIP Amendment:*** Commissioner Cragun reported that the Council will be unable to approve a new TIP this year because of conformity requirements. He reminded Council members that they would be able to amend the TIP to include exempt projects, as necessary.

Commissioner Cragun reported that the State Transportation Commission met this morning to recommend a new draft Statewide Transportation Improvement Program with some changes that will affect the Wasatch Front Region. He stated that UDOT would like to make this new STIP with the changes available for public review in the middle of June. He noted that a Trans Com meeting has been scheduled for June 10 to consider the proposed amendments to the Wasatch Front TIP. He suggested that the proposed amendments to the TIP be made available for public review after Trans Com has reviewed them and given their approval. He stated that way the Council could coordinate our review and comment period with UDOT's, although they could not present the amendments to the Council before starting the comment period. He noted that the staff wanted the Regional Council to be aware of the amendments and make sure they are comfortable with allowing a public review after Trans Com has reviewed them and given their approval.

Council members had no objection to presenting the amendments for public review after Trans Com has reviewed them and given their approval.

### **Executive Director's Report**

Mr. Chappell noted that LaNiece Dustman has completed the two year Natural Hazard Plan, which has also been approved by FEMA. He noted that for a jurisdiction to receive any benefits from FEMA in the event of an emergency, they have to endorse and be a part of this Plan. He also noted that endorsement of the Plan is non-binding. Ms. Dustman will be sending letters to all jurisdictions along with an Executive Summary and a CD of the Plan, asking them to quickly adopt this Plan. The signed and returned letters will then become a part of the record.

***Recognitions:*** Mr. Chappell reported that the Wasatch Front Regional Council is being recognized



next week with two awards as follows:

1. Envision Utah - Quality Community award  
This award will be presented on June 3, 2004 at 7:30 a.m. in Memory Grove. Although the guest list is limited, all Council members are invited.
2. American Society for Public Administration award.  
This award is a comprehensive regional planning award, which will be presented on June 4, 2004 at 12:00 noon.

***Memorandum of Understanding with MAG:*** Mr. Chappell reported that the staffs at WFRC and MAG are following the direction to work together regarding Travel and Land Use Modeling.

***Other:*** Mr. Chappell discussed a series of studies that are being completed, including the following:

1. The League of Cities and Towns is looking at funding sources for cities.
2. Envision Utah is looking at the benefits of transit.
3. The WFRC, MAG, and UTA are looking at a ceiling on funding sources for final funding recommendations.
4. The Salt Lake Chamber of Commerce, under the direction of Lane Beattie, is working to develop support for transportation plans.

Mr. Chappell stated that hopefully, the end result will be support for the Regional Transportation Plan, which the Wasatch Front Regional Council members all approved.

#### **Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

#### **Other Business**

Commissioner Burton noted that the June, 2004 Council meeting will not be held. He stated that the next Council meeting will be held on the 5<sup>th</sup> Thursday, July 29, 2004 at 3:00 p.m. in the Council offices at 295 North Jimmy Doolittle Road, Salt Lake City, Utah.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.