

## **MINUTES**

### **Wasatch Front Regional Council Meeting of January 26, 2006**

Mayor Nordfelt, Chairman, called the meeting of the Wasatch Front Regional Council to order at 3:02 p.m. in the Regional Council offices at 295 North Jimmy Doolittle Road, Salt Lake City, Utah.

#### **Members Present**

Byron Anderson	Mayor, Grantsville
Ken Bischoff	Commissioner, Weber County
Camille Cain	Commissioner, Weber County, Rep. of UAC
Peter Corroon	Mayor, Salt Lake County
J. Lynn Crane	Mayor, Herriman
Craig L. Dearden	Commissioner, Weber County
Tom Dolan	Mayor, Sandy
Daniel B. Hancock	Councilman, Morgan County
Joe L. Johnson	Mayor, Bountiful
Dannie R. McConkie	Commissioner, Davis County
Kent Money	Mayor, South Jordan
Dennis Nordfelt	Mayor, West Valley City
Fred Panucci	Mayor, Syracuse
John Petroff, Jr.	Mayor, West Point
JoAnn B. Seghini	Mayor, Midvale

#### **Members Not Present**

Ross C. Anderson	Mayor, Salt Lake City
Bruce Burrows	Mayor, Riverdale
George Garwood, Jr.	Mayor, South Ogden / ULCT
Matthew Godfrey	Mayor, Ogden
Robert Grow	Representative, Envision Utah
Michael H. Jensen	Councilman, Salt Lake County

#### **Alternate Members Present**

Claudia Anderson	Mayor, Bluffdale
Robert Gray	Mayor, South Salt Lake
Alan Hansen	Commissioner, Davis County
David B. Newton	Mayor, West Jordan
Neka Roundy	Mayor, Kaysville

**Alternate Members Present (continued)**

Darrell H. Smith	Mayor, Draper
Russ Wall	Mayor, Taylorsville

**Previous Council Members Present**

Janice Auger	Past Mayor, Taylorsville
Dave Connors	Past Mayor, Farmington
Jerry E. Larrabee	Past Mayor, Woods Cross
Fred Oates	Past Mayor, Harrisville
Jerry Stevenson	Past Mayor, Layton

**Other Elected Officials Present**

Gordon Thomas	Cottonwood Heights
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**Press Present**

Shad West	Standard-Examiner
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**Others Present**

Justin Allen	Congressman Bishop's Office
Loveit Baumgardner	WFRC Staff
Roger Borgenicht	Future Moves
Melanie Bower	Office of Senator Hatch
Annette Call	Office of Congressman Chris Cannon
Steve Call	FHWA Utah Division
Chuck Chappell	WFRC Staff
Dana Dolsen	Utah Division of Wildlife Resources
Sharon Gray	WFRC Staff
Ned Hacker	WFRC Staff
Doug Hattery	WFRC Staff
Sam Klemm	WFRC Staff
Kent Parry	Woods Cross City
Jared Perry	Office of Senator Bennett
Todd Stevenson	Fruit Heights City
Suzie Swim	WFRC Staff
Mary Taylor	Office of Senator Hatch
Walter Waidelich	FHWA Utah Division

Mayor Ross Anderson, Mayor Bruce Burrows, Mayor Matthew Godfrey, and Councilman Michael Jensen were excused from the meeting.

Mr. Chappell recognized the new Utah Division Administrator for the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Walter (Butch) Waidelich, who was in attendance. He thanked him for attending the meeting and added that Utah has good representation with him at FHWA. He noted that he had worked with him at FHWA and that he had been a great guy to work with.

### **Consent Agenda**

***ACTION on the minutes of the WFRC meeting of November 17, 2005:*** Mayor Dolan moved to approve the minutes of the WFRC meeting of November 17, 2005. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McConkie and passed unanimously.

***ACTION on the financial statement and check register for October and November 2005:*** Commissioner Bischoff moved to approve the financial statements and check registers for October and November 2005. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hancock and passed unanimously.

### **Honor Members Leaving Office**

***Appreciation for service to WFRC:*** Mayor Nordfelt recognized the following past Council members who were in attendance and presented them with a plaque thanking them for their service as members and alternate members of the Council.

Janice Auger, past Mayor of Taylorsville  
Dave Connors, past Mayor, of Farmington  
Jerry E. Larrabee, past Mayor of Woods Cross  
Fred Oates, past Mayor of Harrisville  
Jerry Stevenson, past Mayor of Layton

Jerry Stevenson noted that he currently has the opportunity to meet with many elected officials with his new responsibility as Chairman of Envision Utah.

### **Elections - Chair, Vice-Chair**

Mayor Nordfelt noted that the members of the Nominating Committee included Mayor Byron Anderson, Councilman Hancock, Commissioner Dearden, Commissioner McConkie, and Mayor Dolan. He asked Commissioner Dearden, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, to report on the Committee's recommendation and chair the vote

Commissioner Dearden noted that the Nominating Committee had met and unanimously recommends that Mayor Dennis Nordfelt be nominated as Chairman and Mayor John Petroff, Jr. be nominated as Vice-Chairman for the calendar year 2006.

Commissioner Dearden moved that Mayor Dennis Nordfelt be nominated as Chairman and Mayor John Petroff, Jr. be nominated as Vice-Chairman for the calendar year 2006. The motion was seconded by Mayor Dolan.

Commissioner Dearden opened the floor for additional nominations for Chairman and Vice-Chairman. With no additional nominations, Commissioner McConkie moved that nominations cease. The motion was seconded by Mayor Seghini and passed unanimously.

Mayor Dolan then moved that Mayor Nordfelt be nominated as Chairman and Mayor Petroff as Vice-Chairman in one motion. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McConkie and passed unanimously.

### Chairman's Report

**Appointments:** Mayor Nordfelt reported that each year, the Regional Council needs to make appointments to its policy advisory committees. He stated that the Regional Council needs to appoint one of its members from each of the five counties in the region to Trans Com and to the Regional Growth Committee and to name the Chair and Vice Chair for each. He stated that the Regional Council also needs to appoint a Budget Committee, and representatives to the Joint Policy Advisory Committee (JPAC). Copies of a list showing the current appointment status to WFRC Committees were included in Council members' packets. Mayor Nordfelt recommended the following appointments to the WFRC Committees. (Note: The following chart includes COG appointments made after January 26, 2006.)

Trans Com	WFRC Appointments	COG Appointments
Salt Lake County	Mayor Dennis Nordfelt (member) Mayor Tom Dolan (alternate)	Councilman Michael Jensen (member) Mayor Kelvyn Cullimore, Jr. (alternate) Mayor Darrell Smith (member) Mayor J. Lynn Crane (member) Mayor David B. Newton (alternate) Councilman Carlton Christensen (alternate)
Davis County	Commissioner Dannie McConkie (member), <b>VICE CHAIR</b> Fred Panucci (alternate)	Mayor Steve Curtis (member) Mayor Mitch Adams (alternate)
Weber County	Commissioner Ken Bischoff (member), <b>CHAIR</b> Mayor Matthew Godfrey (alternate)	Mayor Michael Wright (member) Mayor Gary Harrop (alternate)
Morgan County	Councilman Daniel B. Hancock (member)	
Tooele County	Mayor Byron Anderson (member)	

RGC	WFRC Appointments	COG Appointments
Salt Lake County	Mayor Peter Corroon (member), <b>CHAIR</b> Mayor Kent Money (alternate)	Mayor JoAnn Seghini (member) Mayor Robert Gray (alternate) Mayor Daniel Snarr (member) Mayor Dennis Webb (member) Mayor Ross C. Anderson (alternate) Mayor Claudia Anderson (alternate)
Davis County	Mayor Joe Johnson (member), <b>VICE CHAIR</b> Mayor John Petroff (alternate)	Commissioner Carol Page (member) Mayor Joseph E. Gertge (alternate)

RGC	WFRC Appointments	COG Appointments
Weber County	Commissioner Craig L. Dearden (member)	Commissioner Camille Cain (member) Mayor Richard Hendrix (alternate)
Morgan County	Councilman Daniel B. Hancock (member)	VACANT (alternate)
Tooele County	Mayor Byron Anderson (member)	

JPAC WFRC Appointments
Mayor J. Lynn Crane Mayor Tom Dolan Mayor Darrell H. Smith Mayor Matthew Godfrey Councilman Carlton Christensen Mayor John Petroff, Jr. Mayor Dennis Nordfelt Commissioner Dannie R. McConkie Commissioner Craig L. Dearden

Budget Committee	WFRC Appointments
Council Officers	Mayor Dennis Nordfelt, Chairman Mayor John Petroff, Vice-Chairman
Salt Lake County	Councilman Michael H. Jensen, CHAIR
Davis County	Commissioner Dannie R. McConkie
Weber County	Commissioner Ken Bischoff
Morgan County	Councilman Daniel B. Hancock
Tooele County	Mayor Byron Anderson

Mayor Seghini moved that the Regional Council approve the committee appointments as presented by Mayor Nordfelt. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dearden and passed unanimously.

**Budget Committee Report**

**ACTION - Amend Personnel Policy:** Mayor Nordfelt asked Councilman Hancock to report for Councilman Jensen, who was out of town.

Councilman Hancock reported that the Budget Committee met prior to the Council meeting and reviewed the Wasatch Front Regional Council staff's proposal for a change to the Health Care

Leave section of the Personnel Policy which would allow employees to use accumulated sick leave to care for parents and adult children in cases of incapacitating medical condition, injury or illness. He stated that the use of health care leave in these circumstances would be subject to Executive Director review and approval. Copies of the draft Health Care Leave policy change were included in Council members' packets as follows:

#### Health Care Leave

Health care leave shall **may** be used when employee, employee's spouse, employee's ~~minor~~ child **or employee's parent** is incapacitated by medical condition, sickness or injury; for medical, dental or optical diagnosis or treatment; for necessary care as approved by the Executive Director; to avoid exposure to a contagious disease when the attendance at duty jeopardizes the health of others, as approved by the Executive Director; well-care health screenings or examinations; and fitness related activity by the employee as approved by the Executive Director. False or fraudulent use of health care leave shall be cause for disciplinary action.

Councilman Hancock moved that the Wasatch Front Regional Council approve the staff's proposal for a change to the Health Care Leave section of the Personnel Policy, as listed above. The motion was seconded by Mayor Anderson.

Commissioner Dearden stated that he felt it would be appropriate to add a sentence, that any requests by the Executive Director be reviewed by the Chairman of the WFRC. He added that the Executive Director would approve all leave requests except his own.

Councilman Hancock modified his motion to include the addition for the Chairman to review any requests by the Executive Director. Mayor Anderson agreed to the modification of the motion, which then passed unanimously.

**Council Voting Procedure:** Council members briefly discussed the procedure for voting at Council meetings. Some Council members felt that members and alternates voting should be acknowledged up front and that voting needs to be formalized. Mayor Seghini suggested that voting procedures be discussed at the individual COGs. Mayor Panucci suggested that any alternate members that are needed for voting should report to Chairman at the first of the Council meeting. Mayor Nordfelt agreed that any alternate members voting should report to him at the beginning of each Council meeting.

#### **Regional Growth Committee**

**Information - Schedule for Regional Transportation Plan (RTP):** Mayor Corroon reported on the new schedule for the RTP, which has been extended to May, 2007. He noted that upon re-evaluation of the work required, the decision was made that more time was needed to do the work in a quality manner. He also noted that in addition, it was decided that the new requirements of SAFETEA-LU (federal re-authorization for transportation) would be adhered to for the update, which would also require more work and extra time. Adhering to the new requirements

of SAFETEA-LU will put the Plan on a 4-year update schedule instead of three years, as was the case with TEA-21. Copies of the combined MPO/UDOT Generalized RTP Time Schedule were included in Council members' packets.

**Information - Implementation strategies for Growth Principles:** Mayor Corroon reported that after the Growth Principles were adopted by the Regional Council in October, 2005, the staffs of the WFRC and Envision Utah have embarked on a program to meet with the City Councils and other officials of all of the various local governments in the region. He noted that the purpose of the meetings is to inform to City Councils of the results of the visioning process (development and adoption of growth principles and the vision), and to obtain their input on whether or not they could support the results of the visioning process as they relate to their individual communities. He stated that, for the most part, positive results have been received during the meetings with the communities.

Mr. Ramjoue stated that copies of the Growth Principles will be provided to anyone requesting them. He stated that they are also posted on the Council's web page at [www.wfrc.org](http://www.wfrc.org).

Mayor Corroon encouraged Council members to consider adopting a resolution supporting the Growth Principles in their local governments. He felt that the resolution could be incorporated into their planning process.

Mayor Nordfelt noted that the Growth Principles are only words unless they are adopted and used as city councils and county governments. He noted that West Valley City is using them as a guide to update their general plan.

Mr. David Connors, past Mayor of Farmington and Chairman of the Regional Growth Committee, recommended that the Wasatch Front Regional Council prepare a standard resolution for cities and counties to sign.

Mayor Corroon requested that the WFRC staff forward a sample resolution to all cities and counties in the region.

**Corridor Preservation:** Mayor Corroon reported that since the passage of Senate Bill 8, which established the Local Corridor Preservation Funding program, the WFRC has been working with UDOT, Salt Lake County, the Davis County COG, and other jurisdictions in an effort to provide information about the provisions of the program and the tasks required to implement it. He reminded Council members that the revenue generated by a vehicle registration fee of up to \$10 would be used to purchase right-of-way for future highways.

Mr. Ramjoue' added that the WFRC staff feels obtaining right-of-way for future highways is important. He noted that the WFRC staff has developed some right-of-way cost estimates for each county in the region, as well as project (property acquisition) evaluation criteria for possible use by the County Council's of Governments in the region. He hoped that all local governments would consider implementing this program to advance the cause of future projects.

Council members discussed some of the problems of implementing this program, and the need to "tweak" the legislation. Mayor Panucci asked the WFRC staff to present a timeline to the COGs.

## **Executive Director's Report**

**Information - Legislature:** Mr. Chappell asked Mr. Sam Klemm to present an update on current legislation.

Mr. Klemm distributed copies of a handout titled **Legislative Update**, dated January 26, 2006. He explained the following legislation.

- House Bill 112—Sponsored by Representative Becky Lockhart, this bill, which is still in the House Rules Committee, would require the Governor to prepare a budget showing the annual commitment of \$280 million of general fund revenue to highways. This number is the approximate amount of sales tax derived from automobile related sales.
- Transportation Amendments—This un-numbered bill sponsored by Representative Brad Dee would ensure Regional Council access to state sources of employment data which are the basis of the travel model used to predict demand. This, in turn, becomes the foundation of the Regional Transportation Plan. The bill has yet to be introduced.
- House Bill 109—Sponsored by Representative Merlynn Newbold, this bill would remove the sales tax from unprepared food resulting in a tax cut of approximately \$166 million. Unfortunately, it would also reduce revenues to UTA by 10% or about \$12 million. The transit authority is already being forced to reduce service because of high fuel costs. This loss would clearly exacerbate a serious problem and jeopardize UTA's ability to obtain full funding grant agreements from the federal government for commuter rail and TRAX.

Negotiations are ongoing on ways to keep UTA financially whole in any tax cut. The bill has passed the Tax and Revenue Committee in the House and is being held from floor action pending further negotiations with the Senate. Governor Huntsman has expressed support for the concept.

- Sales and Use Tax Amendments—In a yet to be numbered bill, Representative Wayne Harper has proposed a sweeping overhaul of sales tax to create a uniform statewide rate and thereby make Utah eligible to collect sales tax on internet sales. Unfortunately, as presently structured, the bill would harm UTA in that approximately half of UTA's sales tax revenue would be substituted for a direct appropriation from the Legislature. This would be considered a less than secure funding source by the Federal Transit Administration and would make obtaining full funding grant agreements very difficult.
- Senate Bill 170—Sponsored by Senator Al Mansell, this bill would shift the 'burden of proof' from the developers to the cities. The bill will have its first hearing this Friday at 2:00 p.m. before the Senate Government Operations and Political Subdivisions Committee.



The developers could basically do what they want unless the cities could show that they or the area would be damaged in an economic or public safety sense. Aesthetics would no longer be a consideration. This bill would be very damaging to cities in that growth would be uncontrolled and essentially unplanned. The growth principles that we so painstakingly crafted would become irrelevant.

- Appropriations for the Weber County 1-15 Project. The Regional Council has endorsed a proposal for a one-time appropriation of \$51 million to complete the I-15 project in Weber County. Presently, UDOT has enough money to widen I-15 from 31<sup>st</sup> Street to 12<sup>th</sup> Street. The additional funds would be used to complete the widening to 27<sup>th</sup> North and finish a minor reconstruction of the interchange at 27<sup>th</sup> North. The Regional Council has circulated a letter in support of the project to all area legislators.

Council members briefly discussed the bills presented.

Mr. Chappell reminded Council members that he felt the best and most effective lobbyists were the locally elected Mayors and Commissioners. He encouraged them to contact their State Legislators.

**Schedule orientation appointments:** Mr. Chappell stated that orientation appointments will be scheduled for new Council members. He also noted that on February 23, 2006, at 2:00 p.m. (1 hour prior to the Council meeting), an orientation will be held for any Council member wishing to attend. He added that anyone wanting to schedule a personal orientation meeting should call him at 518-9472 to set up appointment.

**Report on the Utah Commercial Real Estate Symposium:** Mr. Chappell briefly reported on the Utah Commercial Real Estate Symposium he attended earlier in the day. He noted that information on the Wasatch Front Regional Council and their transportation needs were included in the 2006 Utah Commercial Real Estate Symposium magazine.

**2006 Regional Council Proposed Schedule:** Mr. Chappell reported that the WFRC staff has prepared a proposed schedule of Council meetings and agenda items for 2006, copies of which were included in Council members' packets. He stated that proposed Council meetings will be held in January, February, March, April, May, August, October, and December 2006. A Leadership Retreat on Strategic Goals will be held in June 2006. He noted that the proposed schedule is posted on the Council's web page @ [www.wfrc.org](http://www.wfrc.org).

### **Utah's Wildlife Conservation Strategy**

Mayor Nordfelt introduced Mr. Dana E. Dolsen from the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, who was in attendance to present information on the Division's Wildlife Action Plan.

Mr. Dolsen reported that the Division of Wildlife Resources has recently completed the Utah Wildlife Conservation Strategy. He noted that this comprehensive wildlife conservation strategy provides a 10-year management framework to help guide decisions relative to wildlife on both

private and public lands. The strategy addresses uses to sustain viable regional and local economies, habitats adjacent to Utah's cities and towns, species of concern, essential wildlife management practices to ensure the continued health and abundance of the various species, and shared, or collaborative processes for accomplishing the goals of the strategy. Copies of the **Overview of the Strategy** were included in Council members' packets.

Mr. Dolsen distributed additional copies of **Utah's Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation strategy / Wildlife Action Plan (OVERVIEW OF THE STRATEGY)** to those in attendance. He also distributed copies of a brochure titled **Saving Utah's Wildlife & Landscapes - An Invitation to Join Utah's Wildlife Partnership**.

Mr. Dolsen presented a PowerPoint presentation titled **Comprehensive Wildlife Action Plans** which defined the state's plan for implementing conservation success. He noted that there are eight required elements for their written action plan, which include: 1) Wildlife distribution and abundance, 2) Habitat location and condition, 3) Problems and research needs, 4) Conservation actions and priorities, 5) Monitoring and evaluation, 6) Review and regular revisions to the Action Plan, 7) Coordination with other agencies, including planning efforts, and 8) Broad public participation. He stated that the action plans stress voluntary statewide and regional collaboration through partnerships at all levels.

Mr. Dolsen explained Utah's Wildlife Action Plan goals, as follows:

1. Protect watersheds that support a diversity of wildlife populations.
2. Maintain multiple uses on public lands. Protect the continued use of private lands by enhancing working farms, ranches and industries.
3. Ensure the continued use, development and conservation of water resources.
4. Meet the recreational needs of wildlife viewers, hunters, anglers and the general public.
5. Reduce the number of federally listed sensitive wildlife on the endangered species act.

Mr. Dolsen explained the threats to Utah's wildlife populations and landscapes if nothing was done. He noted that the Utah Strategy is forging relationships between land use and environmental interests that represent both public and private concerns. He asked Council members to get involved in Utah's Wildlife Partnerships and help conserve Utah's wildlife populations and protect their natural landscapes.

### **Public Comment**

No public comment

### **Other Business**

Next meeting - February 23, 2006

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