

## MINUTES OF PUBLIC POLICY FORUM

December 1, 2016 3:00 p.m.

Co-chair Gary Goodrich and Mark McBride

Held at the UTC Offices

Those in attendance: David Bywater of Vivint Solar, James Campbell of Rocky Mountain Power, Vance Checketts of Dell EMC, Teresa Schlegel of Packsize, Chase Winder of Qualtrics, Ray Child of Comcast, Steve Proper of Comcast, Jon Cox of Rocky Mountain Power, Erica Dahl of Vivint Solar, Dan Black of Vivint Solar, Helen Langan of Vivint Solar, Mark McBride of LANDESK, Johnny Hanna of Homie, Joe Pyrah of Walmart, Brock Lyle of Overstock.com, Inc., Michelle Scharf of Unspam Technologies, Greg Johnson of A-LIGN, Jack Walkenhorst of All West Communications, Ryan Evans of Utah Solar Energy Association, Richard Brown of University of Utah, College of Engineering, Marilyn Davies of University of Utah, College of Engineering, Scott DeGering, Stacy Deru of Opus Strategy Group, Susan Edwards of Canyons School District, Tami Goetz of STEM Action Center, Gary Goodrich of InvestTech, Ben Hart of Governor's Office of Economic Development, Ron Hilton of Proximal Systems Corporation, Helen Hu of Westminster College, Brent Lorimer of Workman Nydegger, Benjamin May of Policy Impact Communications, Breanna Perrone of Salt Lake Chamber, Roberta Reichgelt of Salt Lake Community College, Jeff Rogers of Paul Rogers & Associates, Jennifer Scott of Rep. Chaffetz, Abraham Teng of Utah Valley University, Angie Tymofichuk of LSI, Dave Woolstenhulme of UCAT, and Linda Zenger of Utah PTA, Richard Nelson, Jonathan Jackson and Mellissa Sandoval of UTC.

### Welcome and Brief Introductions – Richard Nelson

*The motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from September 22, 2016 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.*

### Facilitation of Meeting – Mark McBride

#### Discussion:

- **STEM Mentor Exchange** – Brent Peterson and Richard Nelson  
We need industry to sign up on the STEM website to make this work. STEM MX will provide industry volunteer tracking and connectivity to the classroom. Employers should encourage employees to sign up. We're planning to introduce to 30,000 teachers and tens of thousands from industry as soon as April 2017.  
ACTION: Asking for \$500K startup.
- **K-16 Computing Pathway** – Tami Goetz  
Industry initiative led with forty collaborating under the direction of UTC Trustee, Vance Checketts.  
UPDATE: Specifics will be given by one of the bill sponsors. \$1.2M
- **Homie Disruption** – Johnny Hanna  
Johnny has created a software program for agents/consumers to work together. Homie received a "Cease and Desist" notice from Utah Association of Realtors (UAR). It's similar to Uber, but for real estate. Homie has and can save home buyers approximately \$10K (per transaction in costs).
- **Engineering Initiative** – Marilyn Davies and Dave Brown  
We are looking to increase computing and engineering graduates. With \$5M in new ongoing funds, we would add another 400 engineers and computer scientists each year to the skilled workforce.

The Higher Ed pipelines is full of students who want to pursue high tech degrees, but we don't have capacity. Targeted investments through the Engineering Initiative have resulted in double the number of engineering degrees and triple the number of computer science. There is significant demand for jobs, especially in the tech industry. For example, for each computing graduate, it's estimated there are 20-50 current openings.

ACTION: Building the case for \$5M ongoing funds to add capacity and faculty.

- **HB 251 Non-compete Agreement** – Vance Checketts, Brent Lorimer  
Aware of the industry division, its proposed, Cicero will conduct a study, with 1,000 employers to identify key issues concerning non-compete agreements to better inform policymakers and industry leaders. Cicero will collect data on what employers/employees on this important industry issue. It is hoped this data-driven information will be used to help give deeper input to legislators. The SL Chamber, Abby Albrecht, said “data is key” and are planning to launch the survey in the next two weeks. The initial invite would come from Cicero. The survey completion will not be complete before the session and costs approximately \$100K. The legislature will fund half with a match by the business community.
- **Solar Industry v. Rocky Mountain Power Rate Increase** – James Campbell and Jon Cox – Rocky Mountain Power; David Bywater and Eric Dahl – Vivint Solar  
**RMP** proposed an increase to its solar panel rates. RMP wants consumer who have solar panels to pay a one-time \$60 fee for administrative costs as well as a \$15 monthly rate. RMP explains that the current rate structure is not sustainable and, according to a study of what rooftop solar customers are paying, will shift \$6.5 million in costs each year to other customers. RMP says they support renewable resources as long as an appropriate rate is in place that allows customers to use private generation without adversely affecting other residential customers  
**VS** explains that customers should have a choice on whether they want to stay with RMP or invest in solar. We want it to be fair for everybody, we think seeing a non-biased research report would be good, where not only are we looking at possible negatives to Rocky Mountain Power's business plan, but also the positive aspects of solar — not just for the consumer but for the environment. Even though Vivint Solar has about 4,000 employees nationwide, including in states such as California, New York, Massachusetts and 12 others, about half of Vivint's employees live in Utah. This increase would cause a major loss of jobs in Utah.  
ACTION: Since both companies are valued UTC members, a UTC task force was suggested to assist where possible. The following volunteered: Gary Goodrich, Vance Checketts, Teresa Schlegel, and Richard Nelson.

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Next Meeting January 27, 2017