

## **MINUTES OF UTC PUBLIC POLICY FORUM MEETING**

Feb. 1, 2013—3:30-5:30 p.m.

Utah Technology Council – Conference Room

Terry Bagley and Chet Linton, Co-Chairs

Those in attendance were: Co-Chair Terry Bagley of Centershift, Richard Nelson of UTC, Marilyn Davies of University of Utah College of Engineering, Stan Lockhart of IM Flash Technologies, Tom Lund of Tanner LLC, Spencer Jenkins, Assistant Commissioner for Public Affairs for the Utah System of Higher Education, Vern Rice of Workman Nydegger, Dave Glod of Mountain America Credit Union, Susan Preator of Imagine Learning, Helen Hu of Westminster College, Ernie Carey of UVU, Ted McAleer of USTAR, Evelyn Call of UNSPAM, Jeff Rogers and Kimmy Bramble of Paul Rogers and Associates, Dave Buhler, Commissioner of Higher Education, Norm McClare, Joyce Peters and John Minor of Hill Air Force and Tim Lottis of Salt Lake County.

Terry Bagley conducted the meeting.

### **2013 STEM Initiative—Higher Education**

Commissioner Dave Buhler presented to the Forum on the Higher Education portion of the STEM Initiative being proposed this legislative session. In order to meet the needs of our state's economic growth and workforce demands it is believed that 66% of Utah adults must obtain a degree or certificate by 2020. This initiative is a critical component to meeting that goal. Currently the industry is facing a large lack of skilled workforce, specifically regarding STEM. Therefore, the primary focus of Higher Education's priorities this year is focused on increasing STEM education and output of STEM degree earners. All of Utah's presidents of the higher education institutions unanimously support this STEM initiative as one of their top legislative priorities this session. To reflect the designation of this being one of their highest priorities each president also committed to match dollar for dollar any monies the state appropriates and allocates toward the STEM initiative. The funding request for this initiative is \$20 million. Matched at a 1:1 ratio by the institutions, the initiative has a total of \$40 million toward STEM education. In order to match the funding, each institution must re-allocate existing funds into STEM. Further breaking down how the funding will be spent: \$30 million will go toward growth in the number of STEM degrees awarded and to increase each institution's ability to serve more students in STEM programs; \$10 million will go toward increasing student completion by helping with scholarship support for STEM students, specifically only students who enter and complete targeted programs in STEM or health profession degrees.

MOTION: Ted McAleer made a motion to Support Higher Education's STEM Initiative. Richard Nelson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Relocation of Prison for High-Tech Development**

Richard Nelson provided a brief outline and discussion on the potential relocation of the State Prison to open that prime location for development. There is a high likelihood given the location and other factors that this would possibly become a high tech campus. Ultimately, as the forum members were uncertain on what the true economic impact would be, it was determined that a presentation on the economic analysis would be necessary prior to any UTC action.

ACTION ITEM: Need to see the Economic Analysis prior to UTC involvement.

## **BILL WATCHLIST**

### **SJR5- State School Board of Education (Sen. Stuart Reid)**

The Governor and Senate approved that the Governor has the power to appoint the State Superintendent and has the power to terminate after consultation with the State School Board.

MOTION: Richard Nelson made a motion for High Priority Support, David Glod seconded the motion which passed unanimously (with Susan Preator abstaining).

### **K-12 STEM INITIATIVE**

To support \$30 million for the STEM research project. Members such as Vern Rice expressed, "That in his many years of involvement with the UTC Public Policy Forum there was never a time when the UTC was not supportive of STEM, and if UTC doesn't support it this initiative, UTC's silence will be defying."

MOTION: Stan made a motion for High Priority Support; it was seconded by Susan Preator.

A substitute motion was made by Terry for Support only; it was seconded by Dave Glod.

The substitute motion was defeated: 2 yes votes, remainder of Forum voted no.

Original motion for High Priority Support was passed with unanimous support with the exception of one NO vote.

ACTION ITEM: E-mail out bill watch list to members for feedback.