

**SOUTHERN UTAH PLANNING AUTHORITIES
COUNCIL (SUPAC)**

Minutes of a meeting held November 4, 1997

****denotes action items**

The Southwest Utah Planning Authorities Council (SUPAC) met on Tuesday, November 4, 1997, at 1:00 p.m. at the SUU campus in Cedar City, Utah. Those in attendance are listed on the rosters attached as Appendix A to these minutes.

1. The council was welcomed by Scott Truman.
2. The minutes of the meeting of September 2, 1997, were reviewed by the council. One amendment was made concerning a date first appearing in item five and throughout the document: to change October to September. Jeannine Holt made a motion to approve those minutes as amended. Rick Mayfield seconded the motion; the vote was unanimous.
3. Brad Barber reported on the planning calendar. Items are as follows: 11/6/97 State Parks Board meeting, Orem; 11/10/97 Iron County Commission, Iron County Courthouse; 11/10/97 Kane County Commission, Kane County Courthouse; Nov. 1-5 1997, GSE-NM Science Symposium, SUU Hunter Conference Center.

Brad passed out a questionnaire to help keep the planning calendar updated, improve it and make it more useful. Michael Crane is the new staff member helping out with this effort.

Don Falvey reported on the Zion National Park planning process, specifically concerning the shuttle system.

4. Tom Cardon and Reed Harris reported on the Iron County HCP for Utah Whitetail Prairie Dog. Overall, the progress has been going well. There are still a few concerns being addressed with DWR, BLM, Forest Service, etc. including how to manage the cemeteries, golf courses, etc.

They do have a mitigating committee together to discuss these concerns and make plans. In this plan, Iron County is going to hire two technicians (funding to come from general fund) to evaluate property for owners or potential owners who have the prairie dogs on their land. The dogs will be moved with no expense to the individual with one exception. The window of opportunity to transplant the

prairie dogs is from the middle of June to first part of September. If an individual wants to build outside of this window, a \$1,000/acre fee will be assessed. This plan is still being developed.

5. Reed Harris updated the committee on the Condor release. Four additional birds were brought in to the Vermillion Cliffs area on the 9th of October: one from Boise, Idaho; one from Los Angeles, CA; and two from San Diego, CA. These birds are scheduled for release on the 23rd of November and a ceremony to recognize the anniversary of the first release is being considered.

There is now a total of 15 birds, two having been killed from original release, one hit a power line and another was killed by a golden eagle. They haven't begun any nesting because they are still too young.

The possibility of a statewide 10J rule was discussed. Reed stated that the current 10J area is sufficient for the time being.

6. Commissioner Peterson was in attendance to other meetings in Moab — Randy Parker gave the agricultural report. Agriculture drives retail sales, fuel, chemicals, food manufacturing, etc. This industry is growing with food processing at the lead. A macro look at agriculture shows in 1995, \$59 billion in food was exported; 1996 was \$56 billion. The growth in recent years has come from the value added areas.

Marketing: The American consumer is affluent: 48% of meals are eaten outside of the home. The meals that are eaten at home are becoming more convenient. The organically grown market has grown as well. Utah is well known for its alfalfa. What the consumer wants today will change tomorrow. One of the things Utah businesses can do is to ask themselves, "What will fundamentally change this business?" A few businesses that have benefitted from this are Norbest with turkeys, USU with their quick grilled steak, and McFarland's Food out of Riverton.

The challenge now is how to maintain a production base. Utah has been "sold" as a crossroads. We can produce here and ship to the coast at a very minimal cost. Companies are now locating here, but we're losing our production base.

With marketing, the sky is the limit. Randy shared the following products with the committee: shoes for dogs, "Tender Nibbles" is food for horses, ostrich jerkey, "Hot Licks" is a sucker with a bug inside, "Larvettes" the original worm snack, etc.

7. Gordon Topham and Chris Blake reported on Snow Canyon RMP (Resource Management Planning). Several items were identified from the public:
 1. Communities want the values to remain the same;
 2. They are aware of the

very little day-use accommodation in the state park which has high day use; 3. They want a strong input opportunity — not to be told what to do. An executive summary was distributed to SUPAC members emphasizing three points: A) Providing interpretation and education to the community and park visitors; B) Serving the recreational interests of visitors; and C) Sustaining ecosystem health and assuring the conservation of resources.

This plan was announced on the 23 October 1997 and is open for public comment until 22 November 1997. By the middle of January, the planning team hopes to have all comments in, the plans solidified and receive approval from the Board at that time.

The one issue they are having some problems with is the speed limit in the upper end of the canyon along the two-way state highway. Because of the steep road the traffic going down exceeds the speed limit and hikers and bikers are unsafe. The *draft* plan to resolve this would be to change the traffic to one-way.

8. Wes Curtis, recently appointed Director of the Governor's Rural Partnership Office and member of the Governor's Senior Staff, summarized to the Board Governor Leavitt's remarks from the 1997 Rural Summit, the progress on 21st Century Communities and his responsibilities as Director of the Rural Office.

Gov. Leavitt commented at the Summit that rural Utah communities have what people want now and are going to want in the future; namely safety, security, sense of community with a mix of successful business. Two initiatives were announced concerning rural communities and what they can do to position themselves to participate in the global economy/society.

1. Governor's Rural Partnership Office. Wes was appointed as director and explained that this office will deal exclusively with rural issues. A need of input from rural Utah was perceived in the Governor's office and state government's inner circles. This Rural Office will assist all rural entities of the state to correlate resources and all move forward in a more powerful and effective way.
2. 21st Century Communities — This program will assist communities to prepare and adapt to upcoming change. The standards and criteria will be established by a rural board to intensify planning and implementation of these plans. This board will be formed in the near future, comprising of rural Utahns with diverse backgrounds and skills. It will be a consolidation and coordination of planning efforts and a focusing of resources.

9. Dennis Goreham gave the report on the SUPAC area mapping project, mainly focusing on Kane and Garfield Counties. Dennis distributed a *Memorandum of Understanding for*

Utah Digital Spatial Data Sharing and Integration Project which has been signed on the 15th of October, 1997 by various agencies. This agreement constitutes an expansion of existing agreements: the Canyon Country partnership, Data-Sharing Agreement between BLM of Utah and the State of Utah, and MOC for SUPAC.

In Kane County there are 38 quarter quads remaining. The typical cost for a quarter quad is \$1,050. The cost to finish Kane county would be \$39,900. In the past through joint funding agreements with the USGS, they will pay exactly half of this cost. The Farm Service Agency has been paying about a fourth of the remaining private lands. This leaves only \$10,000 to be funded from state or local governments.

Garfield County has 69 quarter quads remaining, total cost \$72, 450. Depending on shares from USGS, FSA and other federal/state/local agencies, the cost is spread to the point of feasibility.

Iron County has most of the county left to do. The Forest Service has talked about helping with the east part of the county. This could cut down on the funding from the state/local governments.

10. Brad Barber and Hugh Thompson discussed the Wild and Scenic River MOU. At this point the agreement is completed and ready to be signed.
11. Other Business: The next Board meeting has been slated for Tuesday, January 6, 1997 in St. George at the Holiday Inn. Agenda and action items discussed for this next meeting were as follows:
 - Wild and Scenic River MOU presentation
 - Don Falvey — transportation in Zion National Park
 - Diane Neilson — Grand Canyon Visibility Study
 - Jeannine Holt — Status of the American Heritage Rivers Program

** The Board requested that Jeannine Holt investigates the status of the American Heritage Rivers Program and return with a report.
12. Motion to adjourn was made by Mary Ott.

Members in attendance:

John Willie	Washington Co.
Jeannine Holt	Senator Hatch
Tom Cardon	Iron Co. Commission
Reed Harris	US Fish & Wildlife
Chris Blake	Wash. Co. Mayors
Rick Mayfield	DCED
John Williams	Five County AOG
Don Falvey	Zion National Park
Marty Ott	NPS
Dennis Goreham	Utah AGRC
Randy Parker	Utah Dept. Agriculture & Food
Gordon Topham	Utah Parks & Rec.
Bill Mader	Washington Co.
Bruce Richeson	Senator Bennett
Ted Stewart	Utah DNR
Brad Barber	Utah GOPB
Louise Liston	Garfield County
Alan Gardner	Washington Co.
David Terry	Utah Trust Lands
Wes Curtis	Governor's Rural Partnership Office
Brent Bradford	Utah DEQ
Hugh Thompson	USFS
Bill Lamb	BLM
Courtland Nelson	State Parks
Deen Reeder	Utah Travel Council
Scott Truman	SUPAC Vice Chair