

MINUTES OF THE UTAH LEAGUE OF CITIES & TOWNS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Utah Local Governments Trust, 55 US-89
North Salt Lake, UT 84054
Monday, August 20, 2018
10:00 AM

CONDUCTING: ULCT Board of Directors President, Beth Holbrook, Bountiful

EXECUTIVE BOARD PRESENT

Council Member Beth Holbrook, President, Bountiful
Mayor Jon Pike, 1st Vice President, St. George
Mayor Steve Hiatt, Immediate Past President, Kaysville

BOARD OF DIRECTORS PRESENT

Mike Caldwell, Ogden
Don Christensen, West Valley City
Bob Stevensen (Electronic)
Andy Beerman, Park City
Richard Barnett, Richfield
Mike Mendenhall, Spanish Fork
Dean Baker, Naples
Damon Cann, North Logan

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS PRESENT

Leigh Ann Warnock, UMCA Past President

ULCT STAFF PRESENT

Cameron Diehl, Executive Director
Nick Jarvis, Chief Operating Officer
Susan Wood, Director of Communications and Training

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

ULCT President, Beth Holbrook, called the meeting to order and welcomed all to the meeting.

REVIEW & APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board reviewed the minutes of the June 18, 2018 ULCT Board of Directors meeting.

Mike Caldwell moved the approve the minutes of the June 18, 2018 ULCT Board of Directors meeting. The motion was seconded by Jon Pike. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE

No disclosure of potential conflict of interest was presented.

ULCT BOARD & COMMISSION REPORTS & ULCT BOARD UPDATE

Mayor Pike reported the Committee for Joint Highways met while in St. George but he was unable to attend due to all the other meetings. Cameron stated it is a committee that has lost its value and needs to be reformed or ended. Others on the committee feel it needs enhancement. UDOT has expressed the opinion it should be changed or ended. The League is working on a better way to have communication with UDOT.

ULCT BOARD & COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS

Much interest has been shown for the Private Activities Board; there are ten applicants so far.

Motor Vehicle Franchise Advisory Board – Cameron will confirm with the Board whether they want him to officially represent the League as invited.

REVIEW & APPROVAL OF CHECK REGISTERS

Nick Jarvis reviewed the June End-of-Fiscal-Year reports. Another late fee was accrued in July. He is working with Kari Nakamura to figure out what is going on there as they thought it was set up for auto payments.

Andy Beerman moved to approve the check registers as presented. The motion was seconded by Mike Mendenhall. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.

Cam reported the Board would not see a check for Y2 Analytics at this point. It will show up as a \$20,000 expenditure as part of communication strategy.

DECLARATION OF SURPLUS EQUIPMENT

Nick reported declaring surplus is a first now that they are operating correctly. New computers were purchased for some of the staff and they expressed an interest in buying their old computers for personal use. IT completed an independent assessment. If the Declaration of Surplus Equipment is not approved, the computers will be wiped and donated.

Damon Cann moved to further review the value of the computers for possible future approval. The motion was seconded by Any Beerman. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.

ULCT INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS

Several individuals who contract with the League (i.e. Kari Nakamura, Dave Church, and Roger Tew) make sure provide a Conflict of Interest Disclosure ensuring transparency with the Board. For example, Roger has a few clients who are sponsors of the League.

ULCT CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS

A change was made to the ULCT Bylaws to add the phrase, “or the immediate past president of the board” to the Nominations Committee section. The change clarifies that as long as an individual is a board member, they may be there.

Mike Caldwell moved to approve the addition of language to the ULCT Bylaws. The motion was seconded by Damon Cann. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.

UPDATE ON STATE LEGISLATIVE ITEMS & INITIATIVES

Cameron wished to publicly applaud Mark Stratford and Shawn Guzman who represent the League on these issues.

Water Constitutional Amendment: A small group is proposing major potential policy changes that would attack underlying authority. Legislative focus is on Salt Lake City and providing water outside the City, but it would have long-ranging impacts on cities across the state.

Proposed constitutional amendment: currently cities are not authorized to sell water works or water rights; however, they can supply water outside boundaries. This is a discrepancy. The Constitution should be clarified to say that cities are still forbidden to sell water or rights outside the city but can sell supply outside the system. The works are not the rights. The change will be presented in resolution form at the September business meeting. Today, tentative approval is needed for this direction.

Jon Pike moved to approve the direction on the amendment and to direct staff to continue and prepare for the general membership at the conference in September. The motion was seconded by Mike Caldwell. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.

Our Schools Now: The majority of Utahans oppose a gas tax to increase funding for schools. November’s ballot will include a non-binding question on whether the State’s gas tax should be increased; the gas tax would replace state revenue. Would cities be willing to pass individual resolutions? Some want to tie the gas tax to local land use. The League is definitely against that. He proposed the League support Schools Now and present the transportation link as a resolution to take to the September business meeting.

Jon Pike moved to support Schools Now and have Staff present a resolution at the September business meeting. The motion was seconded by Mike Caldwell. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.

Medical Marijuana: Cameron met with Drug Safe Utah. The issue is not about pot, but about pre-emption. Cam reviewed Proposition Number 2 with the Board and stated it would establish a state-controlled process. There is nothing in there about cities. The actual initiative does not require medical marijuana to be Dr. prescribed. There seems to be a false premise that marijuana can cure everything. From a land use perspective, cities may not enact a zoning ordinance that prohibits dispensary. Cameron reviewed various language choices that have been disputed and what those arguments are.

From a political perspective, polling numbers are strong but don't reflect the language that is actually in the initiative. No organizations are now making proactive statements on land use regarding this proposition. Cam stated he worries about being hypocritical if we don't say anything and then go ahead and get into battles regarding land use components in other areas. He asked the Board how aggressive they want to be and if they want a resolution? Other leagues have had success working with the Legislature to make changes.

Beth commented it makes sense for the League to be involved, but in a way that minimizes potential blowback. A determination must be made as to whether to focus on marijuana itself, or the ways it impacts cities? It is difficult to stay focused on just that part of it without getting stuck. We opposed any preemptions of traditional local authority. That's land use and licensing. The resolution could be narrowly tailored with reference to law enforcement concerns. She asked to take the following questions into consideration:

1. Which is more appropriate, a statement or a resolution?
2. Do we give the Police Chiefs Association our blessing to speak out as an organization on law enforcement concerns?
3. Should the League join the Drug Safety Coalition?

Beth expressed her concern that messaging would be hijacked, but at the same time it is a land use issue that the League is involved in and must remain consistent.

Board members felt the need to fight for land use and give the Chiefs Association the go-ahead. General Preemption, Sales Tax Revenue and licensing preemption are issues worth fighting for. If they hijack, The League can counter it.

Mayor Pike suggested the resolution lay out the League's key issues. There are others, but this is the focus, other groups can focus on the others.

Cam laid out the priorities from a Staff perspective:

1. Put together a resolution identifying the League's key issues to take to membership.
2. Notify the Police Chiefs Association that the League supports them speaking out.
3. The Drug Safe Utah Coalition should continue engaging without an official position.

Mike Caldwell moved Staff continue to work on those three things while keeping the Board updated. The motion was seconded by Richard Barnett. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS PLAN & RESEARCH

Y2 analytics reported they are in the middle of a research project for the League and the Housing Gap Coalition. This is a three-phase research project. 1) They talk to developers and tell them what they are missing from their plans, 2) Regional communication plan to talk about the way Utah is growing, and 3) local recommendations by region so that if locals decide to increase density, they have talking points.

He reviewed the work that is being done with focus groups, surveys and articles. They want all to be aware things are going to get uncomfortable. Unlikely terms like multi-family housing will be used. The goal is to come back with solutions and talking points with regional variation. Y2's research provides the League a tool to address growth issues.

Mike Caldwell moved to support Y2 Analytics' communications plan and research. The motion was seconded by Andy Beerman. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.

ADJOURN

Jon Pike moved the Board Meeting adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mike Caldwell. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.

The next Board meeting will be held in September at the Annual Conference.