

Committee Meeting Executive Summaries

December 2, 2013

For each meeting of a standing or select committee, the Legislative Service Office provides an executive summary at the beginning of the summary of proceedings (minutes) of the meeting. The summary is intended to allow legislators and members of the public to quickly see what was discussed, actions taken and when the Committee will meet again. Pursuant to Management Council policy, these summaries will be e-mailed to all legislators unless LSO receives a specific request from a legislator to cease the mailing. The complete summary of proceedings (once approved by the chair) and other information for all Committee meetings is available at <http://legisweb.state.wy.us/interim.htm>.

If at any time you wish not to receive these executive summaries by e-mail, send Criss Carlson a message at criss.carlson@wyoleg.gov requesting to be removed from the list. Thank you.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FACILITIES – 5/9/2013

The Committee met on May 9, 2013, in Cheyenne and received updates on several ongoing facilities projects including the status of the Level I and II study of the Capitol, the Governors' Portrait Project, the Artwork Donation Program, the leadership office artwork reproduction project and the Capitol information plan. The Committee also received information about gavel to gavel coverage of legislative sessions by Wyoming PBS.

SELECT FEDERAL NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – 6/14/2013

The Select Committee on Federal Natural Resource Management met for a day in Riverton. Topics before the Committee included efforts of the Wyoming Congressional Delegation on federal natural resource management issues, the National Blueways System, Wyoming Basins Rapid Ecoregional Assessments, the Lander and Bighorn Basin RMP Revisions and associated EIS, update on Regional Haze regulations, Cameco Uranium operations in Wyoming, BLM Hydraulic Fracturing Proposed Rule, the Moneta Divide Project, the Shoshone national Forest Management Plan Amendment and an update on the Seedskafee Land Transfer Environmental Assessment.

The Committee voted to comment on: An extension of the public hearing date on Wyoming's Regional Haze State Implementation Plan (June 24); National Blueways System Application Process (July 2); and BLM Hydraulic Fracturing rule (August 23).

MANAGEMENT AUDIT COMMITTEE – 6/24/2013

No Executive Summary provided.

MANAGEMENT COUNCIL – 7/12/2013

The Council met to discuss a number of topics including Administrative Rule Reviews and Process, Interim Committee issues, and the appointment of an investigative committee. In addition, the Council received updates on state revenues and sequestration, sage grouse core areas and the Capitol renovation.

JOINT EDUCATION INTERIM COMMITTEE – 7/15-16/2013

The Joint Education Committee met to receive information from various education agencies and interest groups. Topics discussed included the education of Wyoming's Native American population, alternative learning environments, early childhood education, the Hathaway Scholarship program, data and technology. The Select Committee on Tribal Relations joined the Joint Education Committee for the discussion related to education opportunities for Wyoming Native American population.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON TRIBAL RELATIONS – 7/15-16-2013

The Committee received testimony on issues concerning the Wind River Indian Reservation, including issues relating to education, utilities and infrastructure, law enforcement, health care, juvenile justice, solid waste and the Tribal Liaisons.

JOINT JUDICIARY COMMITTEE – 7/18-19/2013

The Committee received information and considered legislation on a 24/7 Sobriety Program, the definition of serious bodily injury, post-conviction relief, game warden duties, state park ranger benefits, court reporting, jury pool selection, University of Wyoming matching endowment funds, liability to trespassers, prison reform, probation supervision, criminal history records, apprehension of probation violators, home incarceration, work release, involuntary commitments, juvenile justice and creation of the offenses of unlawful entry, domestic battery and domestic assault.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON HEALTH BENEFIT EXCHANGES – 7/23/2013

The Committee met to receive education on the status of the federally-facilitated health benefit marketplace in Wyoming. The Committee received public testimony. The Committee reviewed a draft federal grant proposal prepared by the Department of Insurance and received information regarding the Affordable Care Act's impact on two Wyoming health insurance pools.

JOINT CORPORATIONS, ELECTIONS & POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS COMMITTEE – 8/5-6/2013

The Committee met in Sheridan and discussed local government legal publication requirements, utility ratemaking, telecommunications, misclassification of building industry employees, roofing contractors, funeral director and coroner statutes, insurance code, campaign finance and business fraud prevention.

SELECT INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE – 8/7/2013

The Committee met to elect a chairman, adopt rules for its investigative and discuss the organization, process and procedure of the Select Investigative Committee.

SELECT WATER COMMITTEE – 8/22-23/2013

The Select Water Committee met jointly with the Wyoming Water Development Commission to continue the 2013 approved interim work. On August 22, 2013, the Committee went on a tour in the Baggs area. Stops included the Little Snake River, High Savery Dan, weather modification generator and monitoring stations and a proposed dam site at West Fork Battle Creek. At the meeting on August 23, 2013, the Committee heard extensive information on the proposed water development projects, including project updates and any necessary amendments thereto.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL FACILITIES – 8/23/2013

The Select Committee on School Facilities met to receive information related to construction of K-12 public education facilities. The Governor's Office presented information related to the search for a director of the School Facilities Department. The Department and the School Facilities Commission presented information related to the preliminary 2014-2015 budget request.

JOINT TRAVEL, RECREATION, WILDLIFE AND CULTURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 8/26-27/2013

The Committee met in Teton Village to hear testimony and consider legislation regarding trails funding, State Parks and Cultural Resources Department funding and the membership of the Cultural Trust Fund Board. The Committee also heard testimony regarding funding and budget cuts for the Game and Fish Department, Teton Raptor Center issues and residency requirements for full-time students. The Committee received reports on tourism in the State and issues regarding the use of conservation easements.

AIR TRANSPORTATION LIAISON COMMITTEE – 8/28/2013

The Committee met for one day in Jackson Hole. The Committee heard testimony on air service in Wyoming, including testimony from the Department of Transportation and Forecast, Inc., Great Lakes Aviation, Skywest Airlines and the Wyoming Airport Operators Association. The Committee directed staff to draft a letter requesting an increase in the appropriation to the air service enhancement account.

SELECT FEDERAL NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – 9/5-6/2013

The Select Committee on Federal Natural Resource Management met for two days. Topics before the Committee included the Red Desert National Conservation Area proposal, Buffalo, Lander and Bighorn Basin Resource Management Plan Revisions, Bureau of Land Management hydraulic fracturing proposed rule, wild horse management, a rare element resource project, coal leasing timeframes on federal lands, locatable minerals memorandum of understanding between the Department of Environmental Quality and the BLM, permitting of electrical power generation, regional haze regulations, other Environmental Protection Agency rules, and forest health, including forest fires.

The Committee voted to send correspondence and seek additional information on a number of issues. The Committee moved its meeting tentatively scheduled for October to November 20 in Cheyenne.

COMMITTEE ON STATEWIDE EDUCATION ACCOUNTABILITY – 9/10-11/2013

The Select Committee on Statewide Education Accountability met to receive information from the Wyoming State Board of Education, the Wyoming Department of Education, and the National Center for Improvement of Educational Assessment on the Statewide Accountability System, including administration and implementation activities related to Phase I and II. In addition, the Committee received information related to Statewide Student Assessment System, multiple measures of assessment for graduation eligibility and district and community outreach activities.

JOINT REVENUE COMMITTEE – 9/12-13/2013

The Committee met for two days in Buffalo. The Committee directed staff to draft bills on the county property tax appeal process and the sales tax exemption for benevolent, secret and charitable organizations for consideration at its next meeting. The Committee also heard testimony on the state sales tax on beer and the streamlined sales tax agreement.

JOINT MINERALS, BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – 9/26-27/2013

The Joint Minerals, Business and Economic Development Interim Committee met for two days in Cheyenne. The Committee heard testimony concerning abandoned and orphaned wells, flaring and groundwater baseline monitoring. The Department of Environmental Quality spoke to the Committee about the Atomic Energy Act Agreement State Feasibility Study, regional haze and landfill remediation and closure/transfer programs. The Wyoming Business Council spoke to the Committee about several programs, including the Wyoming Energy Conservations Improvement Program, the Natural Gas Fueling Infrastructure Challenge Loan Program, Wyoming Rail Plan, the Community Facilities Program and the Wyoming Main Street Program. The School of Energy Resources and the University of Wyoming provided an update regarding its

activities. Rocky Mountain Power, Source Gas and Ur-Energy spoke to the Committee about the various activities of the companies in the energy production and research fields.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL FACILITIES – 10/7/2013

The Select Committee on School Facilities met to receive information related to construction of K-12 public education facilities. The School Facilities Department and the School Facilities Commission presented information related to the preliminary 2015-2016 budget request. The Commission presented information in response to several requests for additional information from the August 23, 2013, Select Committee meeting.

MANAGEMENT COUNCIL – 10/16/2013

The Council met to consider a budgetary request for the hiring of special counsel to assist in the investigation of the Department of Education and Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction.

JOINT TRAVEL, RECREATION, WILDLIFE AND CULTURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 10/21-22/2013

The Committee met in Diamondville to hear testimony and consider legislation regarding trails funding and State Parks and Cultural Resources Department funding. The Committee also heard testimony and considered legislation regarding funding and budget cuts for the Game and Fish Department. The Committee received reports on predator/prey relations, endangered species updates, aquatic invasive species program updates and preference points.

COMMITTEE ON STATEWIDE EDUCATION ACCOUNTABILITY – 10/22-23/2013

The Select Committee on Statewide Education Accountability met to receive information from the Wyoming State Board of Education, the Wyoming Department of Education, and the National Center for Improvement of Educational Assessment on the Statewide Accountability System, including activities related to the administration and implementation of Phase I and II. In addition, the Committee received information related to Statewide Student Assessment System, multiple measures of assessment for graduation eligibility and district and community outreach activities.

JOINT EDUCATION INTERIM COMMITTEE – 10/24-25/2013

The Joint Education Committee met to receive information from various educational agencies and interest groups. Topics discussed included the Consensus Revenue Estimating Group revenue projections, various school finance and education reports, school safety and security, statewide data and technology, early childhood programs and draft legislation. The Committee heard testimony from the Wyoming State Board of Education, the Department of Education, the Department of Workforce Services – Research and Planning, the Department of Family Services, the Department of Enterprise and Technology, the Governor's Office and various consultants.

JOINT APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE – 10/28/2013

The Joint Appropriations Committee met for one day in Casper for two purposes – the first being determination of its recommendation of a K-12 external cost adjustment, and the second being discussion of several proposed Committee draft bills.

JOINT CORPORATIONS, ELECTIONS & POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS COMMITTEE – 10/30-31/2013

The Committee met in Cheyenne and discussed local government legal publication requirements, telecommunications, funeral director and coroner statutes, insurance code, special elections, Department of Electrical Safety and Fire Prevention, notarial fees and business fraud prevention.

TASK FORCE ON TRANSFER OF PUBLIC LANDS – 10/31/2013

The Task Force met for one day in Casper. The Task Force heard testimony on the legal and political considerations related to the transfer of public lands. The Task Force also heard testimony on geologic resources in Wyoming and the differences between development of those resources on federal and private land. The Task Force received information on the difference in costs to manage state land and federal land. The Task Force voted to recommend legislation creating a select committee to further study the transfer of public land to the State.