

Minutes of the Meeting of the Utah Privatization Policy Board
Thursday September 18, 2008 2:00 p.m.
Room 3150, State Office Building
Salt Lake City, Utah

Attendees

Senator Brent Goodfellow, Representative Fred Hunsaker, Jim Kesler, Tanya Henrie, Steve White, Steven Dickson, Nancy Orton

Excused

Ted Boyer, Steve Wrigley, Robin Riggs

Absent

Senator Chris Buttars, Gretta Spendlove, Mayor Randy Simmons

Visitors

Lincoln Shurtz – ULCT, Royce Van Tassell – Utah Taxpayers Association, Mark Eldridge – Independent Waste Handler, Robert Sainsbury – Independent Waste Handler, Ralph Warner – Independent Waste Handler

Welcome and Introductions

Senator Brent Goodfellow, Chair, conducted the meeting.

Approval of Minutes:

Fred Hunsaker made a motion to approve the May 19, 2008 and July 15, 2008 minutes. Steve White seconded his motion and they were unanimously approved.

Utah Independent Waste Handlers and Recyclers

Senator Goodfellow passed around a Position Statement from the Utah Independent Waste Handlers & Recyclers from Representative Craig Frank.

Ralph Warner from C & R Dumpster Service expressed his concerns with the competition in the commercial large dumpster waste hauling services. The competition is coming from the counties and some of the cities. The cost to the consumer is below their cost to operate. Salt Lake County will provide a 20 yard bin at the rate of about \$110.00 to \$115.00. The private sector cannot deliver and dumpster and pick it up for that. The concern is that this is spreading with cities and counties throughout the Wasatch Front. He had a discussion with Salt Lake County about it but their director is new to the program and she was really not able to answer his questions whether or not they were doing it below the counties cost. The cost to go to the dump is \$22.00 and to go to the transfer station in Salt Lake County it's \$24.00 per ton. The cost to run a truck with a driver is \$50.00 to \$60.00 per hour. In their discussion with the county their argument was that they use the snow plow drivers to drop off the dumpsters during the summer so they will have something to do. The minimum a driver makes working for the city or county is \$27.00 per hour plus benefits. If you put that cost around \$38.00 or \$40.00 and hour for labor and you have even a 20 minute trip out and back, out and back, then you have the cost of fuel and the cost of the vehicle it is not cheaper for a public employee to do the work than it is for the private sector.

The private sector's fees are established by what the market will bear. Utah Independent Waste Handlers & Recyclers feel that the government has to be subsidizing large container pickup. The private sector has to get a business license in every city and county they operate in.

Senator Goodfellow asked what they felt a solution to the problem would be. The answer was that they would like a level playing field. They would like it if the cost of these containers would cover the cost to the taxpayers so it is not being subsidized. Senator Goodfellow mentioned that we actually have legislation now that states that cities and counties cannot get into the commercial waste business. What the Utah Independent Waste Handlers would like to see is legislation or something that says cities and counties cannot get into construction and demolition. Senator Goodfellow felt it would be best not to do legislation but send letters to the cities and counties bringing this issue to their attention.

October Meeting

The next meeting will be held on October 16, 2008 at 9:00 p.m. in the Purchasing & General Services Conference Room