

MINUTES
SENATE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

DATE: Friday, January 20, 2012

TIME: 8:00 A.M.

PLACE: Room WW55

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman McKenzie, Senators Davis, Hill, McGee, Winder, Lodge, Malepeai, and Stennett

ABSENT/ EXCUSED: Vice Chairman Fulcher

NOTE: The sign-in sheet, testimonies, and other related materials will be retained with the minutes in the committee's office until the end of the session and will then be located on file with the minutes in the Legislative Services Library.

Chairman McKenzie called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. with a quorum present and welcomed **Senator Davis** to present **RS20977**.

RS20977 **A SENATE RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING, HONORING, AND COMMENDING JEANNINE WOOD AND RUSTI HORTON** for their years of service to the Legislature of the State of Idaho.

Senator Davis explained that this RS for a Senate Resolution is at the request of the Pro Tem to express the desire of the Senate to honor Jeannine Wood and Rusti Horton in contemplation that on Tuesday morning it will go straight to the 10th Order of Business for the Senate's consideration. It will not come back to the Committee.

MOTION: **Senator McGee** moved, seconded by **Senator Stennett**, to print **RS20977**.

VOTE: The motion carried by voice vote.

Chairman McKenzie announced that the last two rule dockets will be presented by **Paul Kjellander** from the Public Utilities Commission (PUC).

31-1101-1101 **SAFETY AND ACCIDENT REPORTING RULES FOR UTILITIES REGULATED BY THE IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION** to incorporate various national safety codes as applicable to the electric, telephone, and natural gas utilities.

Paul Kjellander, President, PUC, explained that both sets of rules in front of the Committee are updates from the national level and both are being adopted by reference. **Rule 31-1101-1101** changes relate to the Safety Accident and Reporting Rules which are updated on the national level every three years. Idaho Power submitted the only comment and it was in support of the changes. Rule 101 adopts changes to the 2007 National Electric Safety Code to clarify changes to electric grounding practices. Rule 201 focuses on Federal Pipeline Safety Regulations to include the use of current technologies and data collection for natural gas pipelines. Rule 202 increases the International Fuel Gas Code as it relates to operations near flood hazards. Rule 203 also addresses flood hazards regarding placement of mechanical equipment. That reflects the changes in these reporting rules.

MOTION: **Senator Lodge** moved, seconded by **Senator Malepeai**, to adopt **31-1101-1101**.

VOTE: The motion carried by voice vote.

31-7103-1101 **RAILROAD SAFETY AND ACCIDENT REPORTING RULES** to adopt the 2011 edition of the Code of Federal Regulations.

Mr. Kjellander commented with "tongue in cheek" that saccharin has been removed from the hazardous substances list for transport.

MOTION: **Senator McGee** moved, seconded by **Senator Winder**, to adopt **31-7103-1101**.

VOTE: The motion carried by voice vote.

Chairman McKenzie announced that **Nancy Merrill** from The Department of Parks and Recreation is going to explain the Passport Program.

PRESENTATION: **Nancy Merrill**, Director, Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation (Department), said that the Passport Program is a way to make the Department more self sufficient. **Director Merrill** introduced Dave Ricks, Deputy Director and Jennifer Biazek, Communication Manager.

Over the past few years, the Department has had a significant reduction in its budget and looked for dedicated funding sources to allow the Department to be self sustaining. The result has been the Idaho State Parks Passport. Today's objective is to provide information and increases understanding about the program. More than 4.5 million people visit Idaho parks annually. **Director Merrill** explained that this agency is an agency reinvented. She outlined the strategy behind the program and how it would move them towards a long-term, sustainable solution. The program is constitutionally viable. It opens up a broader user base resulting in increased revenues. The program acts in conjunction with the vehicle registration process although it is not a part of that process. An RS is being presented in the House at the end of January and the hope is to have it printed into a bill. The presentation, white paper, and full description of the Passport Program are attached as a part of these minutes.

Chairman McKenzie asked if there were any questions from the Committee.

Senator Stennett asked if a person does not choose to participate in the Passport Program, can they still follow the current pay at the gate procedure? **Director Merrill** answered that the \$5.00 can still be paid at the gate if someone does not pay the \$10.00 for the Passport. The \$40.00 passport will still be available to out-of-staters. There will be a transition time to incorporate the Passport Program into the system for those that have already registered their vehicles.

Senator Lodge said that her question regarded those vehicles that were already registered. Some of those are registered over a two year period of time. How will that be addressed? **Director Merrill** replied that they are working closely with the County Assessors, the county Department of Vehicles and the Transportation Department. A Committee is looking at the details to develop a plan so that all parts of the program will come together in a seamless fashion and will be up and running by 2013.

Senator Malepeai asked if a vehicle is registered and a pass is purchased, will the pass be only for that vehicle? **Director Merrill** affirmed that it would only be for that vehicle. There will be a corresponding number on a sticker that is similar to the registration sticker and applied to the license plate or the windshield. If a person has more than one vehicle, then a pass would have to be purchased for each vehicle.

Chairman McKenzie thanked Director Merrill for the presentation and information in preparation for this issue that will come before the Committee at a later date. The Chairman appreciated that the Department is looking at ways to take care of the parks with the loss of general funds.

Chairman McKenzie introduced a presentation from Janet Gallimore, Director, Idaho Historical Society regarding records retention and the efficiency of that function.

PRESENTATION: **Janet Gallimore**, Executive Director, Idaho State Historic Society (ISHS) and Bill Burns, Administrator of Purchasing, Department of Administration, are appearing before the Committee in conjunction with the Idaho Association of Counties (IAC) and the Association of Idaho Cities (AIC) to provide a detailed report that outlines the background and rationale for a 2012 proposal of a merger of the operations and functions of the State Records Center (SRC) and the Idaho State Archives (ISA) under the direction of the ISHS. The outcome of this action will enhance constituent access to and the preservation of essential records of fiscal, administrative, legal, vital, and long-term value. Idaho has had a history of records management since the territorial era and as early as 1883 when an appeal was made for shelving and cabinetry for storage. In 2009, advisory members from IAC, AIC and the State Historic Records Advisory Board joined the Idaho State Archives and Department of Administration for discussions on state records issues. Working together, the group realized that new solutions and thinking were needed to not only address current needs, but to plan for the future of records management in the state. The full presentation, script, and archival information is attached as part of the minutes. In closing, Director Gallimore invited the Committee for a tour of the facility. The Director offered to answer any questions the Committee might have or refer them to any one of the number of experts in the audience.

Senator Davis commented that there is a significant amount of "buy in" for this program. Would you highlight those? **Director Gallimore** responded that, over the past two years, the goal has been to have an inclusive approach to this project. Along with the ISHS and Administration staff, letters were sent to all 80 agencies proposing this program and asking for their feedback and concerns. The concerns were more about budget than the idea of merging. All those questions were addressed and responded to. **Senator Davis** asked if cities and counties are required by law, to maintain records and if so, for how long? **Director Gallimore** answered that each jurisdiction has its own retention schedules for general and permanent records. Permanent records are defined in statute. **Senator Davis** inquired about smaller entities with limited resources—how will they benefit from this program? **Director Gallimore** stated that they already provide a great benefit to entities, both small and large, who hold their records with them already. Having storage in a centralized location was very popular to the cities and counties. The clerks liked having central storage, secure access, and a trained archivist; services that are currently provided.

Senator Lodge asked if there is a guide available to properly take oral history and if so, what format is the best at this time? **Director Gallimore** confirmed that there is a guide for oral history. There are specific professional protocols. She could have a staff member send the format by e-mail. Currently they handle about 2700 oral histories ranging from elected officials to businesses to people of historic import in the state. **Senator Lodge** requested an e-mail of the format.

Senator Stennett inquired about the time frame and cost of putting this program together. **Director Gallimore** responded that they would like to have this completed in three years. The ISHS staff has already been working on a transitional plan to merge the two departments. Phase III would incorporate a request for the necessary funding.

Chairman McKenzie called for further questions. Being none, he thanked Director Gallimore for appearing before the Committee.

ADJOURNMENT: **Chairman McKenzie** concluded the business for the day. There will not be a meeting on Monday, January 23rd. Being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:50 a.m.

Senator McKenzie
Chairman

Twyla Melton
Secretary