

TRANSPARENCY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

June 21, 2010

Attendance: John Reidhead Senator Niederhauser John Nixon Jonathan Ball Representative Sumsion Val Peterson Brent Cleverly (Stephen Fletcher) Scott Smith (absent) Ken Montague (absent) Randy Merrill (absent)

1. Welcome:

John Reidhead welcomed everyone to the meeting, and invited Brent Cleverly from DTS to sit on the Board for Stephen Fletcher who was not able to attend the meeting.

2. Review of March 16, 2010 Meeting Minutes:

Representative Sumsion made a motion to approve the minutes, it was seconded and passed unanimously.

3. May 15th 2010 deadline discussion:

(a) Status of 2010 entities meeting deadline.

Brenda Lee reported that around 42% of the entities made the May 15th deadline. There has been a steady increase since that date and are now at 78%, over 100 of 130 entities have files on the website. They are continuing to work with the entities that are not on the website and many are close.

(b) Issues with 2010 entities data on website.

A handout of the 2010 Implementation Summary was given. The details are on the handout of which schools have complied and which have not.

Darrell Swensen said that the remaining entities should have files on the website in three weeks.

Senator Niederhauser questioned whether there would be the same level of completeness with school districts that there is with the state. He said they may require in legislation that as part of their independent audit, to have the auditors give an opinion whether their information is complete that they are moving to the website.

John Reidhead said that the State Auditors Office has a State Compliance Manual that the auditors follow. This may be something that could be discussed with them. It may be something that could be added to the manual for them to do a transparency check. John will take this to the Auditor's Office and he will report back to the Board what they said.

There was a discussion on yearend issues and non-budgeted funds and how they are included on the website.

Senator Niederhauser supports having the auditors check the entities' data for the Transparency website. And he hopes we are headed to substantial compliance from all the agencies.

(c) Employee Compensation data due by Oct. 1, 2010.

Brenda Lee stated that they will be working on getting all 130 entities Employee Compensation data on the Website within the next few months.

Senator Niederhauser thanked everyone who helped get the data on the website. He would like to see some segment reporting.

Senator Niederhauser said the Board needs to make sure the information is as complete as possible and then over the years take steps to create more accountability and transparency.

Representative Sumsion discussed tracking Alpine School District so that they could analyze their expenses.

Jonathan Ball said the website is a huge productivity enhancement in his daily work life. He has used the site numerous times.

Brenda Lee reminded everyone that they will have large workload adding the Employee Compensation data. She is concerned that this will delay adding the revenues and expenses of the new entities.

There was a discussion about going forward with Employee Compensation and adding the Cities, Counties and Towns, and how soon to start working with them.

Senator Niederhauser wants to focus on getting the 2010 payroll on the website and then move to putting the new 2011 entities revenue and expense data on the site.

Jonathan Ball has been working on a routine follow-up on SB-18. About 45% more has been spent than was estimated and appropriated in the fiscal note. He said as more entities come online it may have to reevaluate the funding commitment.

Brenda reiterated that there was not any funding for a position in FY11.

Senator Niederhauser stated as transparency and financial reporting for the state is refined, he would like to do away with some of the reporting.

There was a discussion about a compatible format and how it would make the workload easier.

Brenda Lee stated that the Salt Lake Tribune asked for the payroll data from the state and they gave the Transparency file from the website.

4. Update on Website Status
 - (a) Usage Statistics.

Michael Rice from Utah Interactive reported on the usage statistics website.

- (b) Website Inquiries.

John suggested having a press release about the new entities that have been added.

Jonathan Ball made a motion that the Transparency Advisory Board draft and release a press release. He thinks July 1st, would be a good time to do it.

There was a substitute motion to have John Reidhead, and John Nixon draft a press release. There were no objections to move forward with the press release.

Jonathan Ball said that they talked about Transparent Utah at CSG, which is a national government conference.

Brenda said there have not been any emails since the last Board meeting. Sutherland Institute requested State of Utah Board costs. They were given information from the website.

5. Other Issues.

Representative Sumsion said on the main search of the website he could not find a next button. Michael Rice said that is a browser specific issue and it is fixed and will show up soon.

6. Public Comments. None

7. Board Member Status

(a) Appreciation for member with terms ending.

John thanked Vice President Val Peterson representing Higher Ed., Scott Smith from Charter Schools, Randy Merrill from School Districts and Ken Montague from the Transit Districts, for their work on the Board this past year.

(b) Status update of new member appointments.

Cherilyn Bradford from the Governor's office will help with the names of new annual Board members.

Jonathan Ball questioned whether the Board members were appointed for a two year term.

John Reidhead will check with the Governor's office to find out if the Board Members were a two year appointment.

Senator Niederhauser would like the press release done now.

Senator Niederhauser stated that he and Brenda entertained delegates from Argentina and gave a presentation of the Transparency Website.

They have had interest about the website from China, Russia and Slovakia as well as Argentina.

8. Discuss Next Board Meeting.

When the new Board members are in place a meeting will be scheduled.

Val Peterson made a motion to adjourn; it was seconded and passed unanimously.