

Trust Advisory Committee
Minutes
January 13, 2020

Members in attendance: Cade Douglas, Jay Blain, Mary Wohlforth, Liz Mumford, Carolyn White, Steve Davis, Shawn McLeod, Susan Edwards, Tyler Slack

Excused: Nancy Kennedy

USBE Staff in attendance: Scott Jones, Ben Rasmussen, Paula Plant, Karen Rupp, Natalie Gordon

Others: Dawn Davies (Utah PTA), Jessie Stuart (LTPAO)

Cade Douglas welcomed the committee.

Carolyn White made a motion to approve the minutes of November 18, 2019. The motion was seconded by Jay Blain. The committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes of November 18, 2019.

The next meeting will be held Monday, March 16th at the Utah State Board of Education offices at noon.

Jessie Stuart made a brief presentation for the Land Trusts Protection and Advocacy Office. Director Justin Atwater presented the office annual report to the Utah State Board of Education on January 8th. The office desires quarterly reporting to the Board. The SITLA Nominating Committee will begin meeting soon to replace Lonnie Bullard, whose term will expire this summer. The LTPAO annual report is being printed and includes a specific update for each beneficiary including an asset summary, fund balance and income statement.

Natalie Gordon reported that Nancy Kennedy has spoken with USBE Chair Huntsman on the TAC request for a board position in opposition to combining the School LAND Trust program and the Teacher and Student Success Act funds. Chair Huntsman thought that the executive committee of the Board had replied. Nancy will follow-up with Chair Huntsman.

Cade Douglas stated the importance of School LAND Trust program funds continuing to focus on the greatest academic needs, and that it is required for School Community Councils to consult with the principal on TSSA plans. Some local school boards are requiring council approval of TSSA plans, including Canyons and Sevier. Paula Plant reported on a recent audit of USBE that recommended increased plan consolidation.

The committee discussed revised rule R277-477 that was previously recommended by TAC, amended in the USBE Finance Committee, referred back to the Finance Committee by the State Board of Education, and was back before TAC for discussion

and recommendation. In addition to appropriate expenditures, the changes currently include allowing LEAs to approve a small amount of negative carryover, and a requirement for local boards to review final reports. The committee did not feel it necessary to further define “small advance” in the negative carryover discussion, but instead wanted to leave specifics up to individual local school boards. The committee also discussed a timeframe for local boards to review final reports. The reports are required to be completed by each school before October 20th.

Jay Blain made a motion to recommend the proposed changes in R277-477 to the Utah State Board of Education with no clarification of a small advance, and final report reviews required to be completed by January 31 annually. The motion was approved unanimously.

Lark Reynolds will work to get a statement of support from UASBO leadership prior to the USBE Committee Meeting where the rule will be discussed.

The committee discussed upcoming legislation that may impact school community councils.

Paula Plant reported on the process of USBE IT reprogramming SchoolLANDTrust.org. The focus group meeting was valuable, and the overwhelming message was to simplify the process.

The meeting adjourned at 2:00