

Governor's Office of Planning and Budget
116 State Capitol
Salt Lake City, UT 84114
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Utah Population Estimates Committee

Minutes

Tuesday, November 18, 2003

10:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

Committee Members

Present:

Neil Ashdown	Chair
Scott Festin	Wasatch Front Regional Council
Mark Knold	Utah Dept. of Workforce Services
Nate Millward	Utah Board of Regents
Patty Murphy	Utah State Office of Education
Barry Nangle	Utah Dept. of Health
Pam Perlich	University of Utah
Blake Smith	Questar Gas
Mike Toney	Utah State University
Tom Williams	Utah Tax Commission

Staff:

Sophia DiCaro	GOPB
Peter Donner	GOPB
Justin Farr	GOPB
Phil Jeffery	GOPB
Lance Rovig	GOPB
Robert Spendlove	GOPB
Paul Suzuki	GOPB
Clara Walters	GOPB

Absent:

Walt Busse	LDS Church
Shawn Elliott	Mountainland Assoc. of Govt.
Lee Martinez	Latino Survey & Research

Welcome and Introductions – Neil Ashdown, Committee Chair

I. Approve November 27, 2001 Minutes

Pam Perlich made a motion to approve the December 2, 2002 minutes. Mike Toney seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

II. Revised Outlier Estimation Techniques – Peter Donner

Mr. Donner described the new outlier estimation techniques that will be used by the Committee. By using a maximum to minimum outlier ratio it is possible to incorporate a more dynamic approach to determining whether a county estimate produced by one of the methods is an outlier. The new technique allows the Committee to define at what level outlier estimates will emerge.

The second outlier estimation technique involves defining a threshold, beyond which an estimate produced by one of the three methods is categorized as an outlier. Again, this is a dynamic approach, with the Committee retaining the ability to set this threshold level in order to define the level where outlier estimates will emerge.

Mr. Donner pointed out that neither of the new outlier estimation techniques allow the Committee to affect the estimates for specific counties. They are considered broad techniques that allow the Committee to define the level of variance from the mean before individual method estimates become outliers.

III. Consideration and Approval of 2003 State and County Estimates – Robert Spendlove

The Committee looked at the growth of school enrollments, LDS membership, and IRS tax exemptions for each county in the state. A handout of this information and a computer presentation of the data were provided by Mr. Spendlove. The Committee also reviewed employment growth, building permits, and utility connections in conjunction with the official methods.

- A. Emery County – Pam Perlich made a motion to use the simple average rather than the no outlier average because the estimates of the three methods were so close together. Barry Nangle seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 7 ayes and 3 nays.**
- B. Piute County – Pam Perlich made a motion to use the average of the LDS method and the IRS method rather than the simple average of all three methods. Nate Millward seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 9 ayes and 1 nay.**
- C. Sanpete County – Mark Knold made a motion to use only the school enrollment method rather than the simple average of all three methods. Barry Nangle seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 9 ayes and 1 nay.**

Mark Knold made a motion to accept all the county population estimates produced in the meeting as the official estimates of the Utah Population Estimates Committee. Patty Murphy seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned.