



# the COUNTY VOICE

Utah Association of Counties

WINTER 2011

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## Coming Soon

January 21, 2011  
UAC Board of Directors Meeting  
Murray

February 2-3, 2011  
Newly Elected Officials Training  
Salt Lake City

February 4, 2011  
County Legislature Day  
Salt Lake City

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## UAC Ready for Session, New Live Web Stream Available

Now that 2011 is well underway, it's time to kickoff the 2011 Utah Legislative Session, set to begin January 24 and conclude on March 10. As always, UAC will be on the Hill daily, representing county interests. UAC continues to work hard to involve all county officials in the Legislative process. This includes weekly meetings, a day dedicated to one-on-one engagement with legislators, daily web blog summaries, and weekly e-mail recaps.



One of the most important tools for county officials are the weekly legislative committee meetings, held primarily at the Capitol during the session. These meetings give UAC staff and county officials the opportunity to coordinate issues and strategies. All county officials able to attend in person or by video conference are given a voice and a vote.

UAC is pleased to announce that we will also be streaming these meetings across the Internet right to your PC. While this method does not allow for your vocal participation, it does give you the opportunity to listen in as the issues are discussed.

To participate in these weekly web streams, please visit our website at [www.uacnet.org](http://www.uacnet.org), where you will be given instructions on how it works.

**County Officials Day at the Legislature**  
This year's meeting will be February 4 in the State Office Building Auditorium. This is an

excellent opportunity to discuss county issues with your local legislators.

UAC recommends that all officials who can attend do so, as this helps Legislators understand that Utah's counties are united and strong—the better the turnout the stronger we appear. UAC also asks that officials extend a personal invitation to their local legislators as this helps ensure their attendance and, again, sends the message that county officials are aware, concerned and involved in the state legislative process.

Even if you have few or no major issues this year, next year you may and this will help lay the foundation for what needs to be done in the future.

**2011 CALENDAR**

*Please mark your calendars for the following key UAC events in 2011. Should there be a change, we will notify you as soon as possible.*

January 21, 2011  
UAC Board of Directors Meeting  
Murray

February 2-3, 2011  
Newly Elected Officials Training  
Salt Lake City

February 4, 2011  
County Officials Day at the Legislature  
Salt Lake City

March 5-9, 2011  
NACo Legislative Conference  
Washington DC

March 23-24, 2011  
Property Tax Administration in Utah  
Murray

April 13, 2011  
UAC Board of Directors Meeting  
Layton

April 13-15, 2011  
UAC Management Conference  
Layton

May 18-20, 2011  
Western Interstate Region (WIR)  
Wenatchee, WA

June 23, 2011  
UAC Board of Directors Meeting  
Moab

June 24, 2011  
Summer USACCC Conference  
Moab

July 15-19, 2011  
NACo Annual Conference  
Portland, OR

## UAC Convention Attendees Choose New Leadership, Recognize Outstanding Peers

Utah County Commissioner Larry Ellertson was elected president of the Utah Association of Counties (UAC) at the organization's 85th Annual Convention, November 12 in St. George. Replacing Millard County Commissioner Daron Smith, he will oversee the organization's Executive Committee and Board of Directors for one year.

Ellertson is now the 10th elected official from Utah County to head UAC in its 90 years of existence. Ammon Tuttle in 1932 was the first.

Also elected, joining Ellertson and Smith (now serving as past-president) on the UAC Executive Committee, are First Vice President and Utah County Treasurer Robert Kirk, Second Vice President and Carbon County Commissioner John Jones, and Secretary and Salt Lake County Assessor Lee Gardner.



*New UAC Executive Officers (LtoR) John Jones, 2nd Vice President; Larry Ellertson, President; Robert Kirk, 1st Vice President, and Daron Smith, Immediate Past President. Not present was Lee Gardner, Secretary. Sworn in by Kim Hafen, Washington County Clerk/Auditor (far right).*

The evening also recognized Uintah County Commissioner Mike McKee as the overall outstanding county official for 2010. McKee was chosen from a field of county officials representing each of the affiliate groups that make up the UAC membership. The process includes a selection committee that weighs the contributions and services made by each individual and a vote among peers that takes place during the Convention.

Along with McKee, who was selected by the Utah State Association of County Commissioners and Council Members as (USACCC) their official of the year, eight others were honored. They include:

- Assessor of the Year: Jim Ivie, Davis County
- Attorney of the Year: Dale Eyre, Sevier County
- Auditor of the Year: Mike Jensen, Tooele County
- Clerk of the Year: Norm Johnson, San Juan County
- Recorder of the Year: Debra Ames, Rich County
- Sheriff of the Year: Dave Edmunds, Summit County
- Surveyor of the Year: Ben Grimes, Carbon County
- Treasurer of the Year: Karolyn Wall Kelly, Wasatch County

## Legislature *continued from pg 1*

For more information about Legislature Day, see the article on page 4 of this newsletter or visit our website at [www.uacnet.org/calendar](http://www.uacnet.org/calendar).

### Weekly Legislative Committee Meetings

As is custom, UAC will hold a Legislative Committee meeting each Thursday at 9 a.m.. Primarily, these meetings will be held in the State Office Building in Salt Lake City; however, the first meeting (January 21) and the last meeting (March 23) will be at the UAC offices in Murray, at 5397 S. Vine Street.

Also, all weekly meetings will be broadcast to locations across the state. All county officials are invited to participate and are given a vote wherever and however they participate. Here is a complete schedule:

| Date/Time              | Location                                 |
|------------------------|--|
| January 21, 2:00 p.m.  | UAC Office<br>5397 S. Vine St.<br>Murray |
| January 27, 9:00 a.m.  | State Office Building<br>Room B 110      |
| February 3, 9:00 a.m.  | State Office Building<br>Room B 110      |
| February 10, 9:00 a.m. | State Office Building<br>Room B 110      |
| February 17, 9:00 a.m. | State Office Building<br>Room B 110      |
| February 24, 9:00 a.m. | State Office Building<br>Room B 110      |
| March 3, 9:00 a.m.     | State Office Building<br>Room B 110      |
| March 23, 9:00 a.m.    | UAC Office<br>5397 S. Vine St.<br>Murray |

### Broadcast of Legislative Meetings

UAC will broadcast all Legislative Committee meetings live in select locations across the state. Locations in Logan, Moab, Richfield, St. George and Vernal will be set up for video conferencing.

### Video Conference Participation

Logan  
Bear River Health Department  
655 East 1399 North, Logan

Moab  
Allen Memorial Hospital  
719 West 400 North, Moab

Richfield  
Central Utah Public Health Department  
70 Westview Dr., Richfield

St. George  
Southwest Utah Public Health Department  
168 North 100 East, St. George

Vernal  
TriCounty Health Department  
147 E. Main St., Vernal

### Legislative Updates on UAC Website

Once again the UAC Website ([www.uacnet.org](http://www.uacnet.org)) is the ideal place for county officials to keep up with issues as they take form at the Legislative Session.

Updated daily during the session, the Legislative Issues section of the website tracks every bill of interest to county government. This section provides details including UAC's position regarding the bill, any UAC bullet sheets on the bill, and a link to the Legislative Website for the bill.

An agenda and any material to review for each UAC Legislative Committee meeting will be posted on the Website by Wednesday morning. You'll find UAC Legislative Committee meeting information at both the Meetings section and the Calendar section of the Website.

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**9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
State Capitol Complex  
Auditorium**

**Schedule**

- 9:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast  
(Auditorium)
- 9:30 Overview of Key Legislation
- 10:45 Affiliate Breakouts
- 11:15 Meet Legislators (Rotunda)
- 11:45 Escort Legislators Back to  
Auditorium
- Noon Lunch With Legislators  
(Auditorium)
- 1:00 p.m. Adjourn

**PARKING**

As many of you know, parking around the Capitol Complex is limited. However, there are some spots (in lots and on streets) up on the east and north sides.

**HOTEL**

As UAC is also sponsoring the Newly Elected Officials Training, February 2-3 at the University Park Marriott, we have blocked a limited number of rooms at a rate of \$90/night for those who need to stay overnight. Simply call 800-228-9290 and ask for the Utah Association of Counties room block to get the special pricing.

Cost is \$80. Please register in advance. No-shows will be billed.  
Please mail or fax your registration back to UAC by January 28  
Fax: (801) 265-9485 • UAC • 5397 S. Vine Street • Murray, UT 84107



# UAC Meets with Governor Herbert to Find Solutions to Jail Reimbursement

On December 21 a group of UAC representatives met with Governor Gary Herbert to discuss his support for increased state funding for jail reimbursement in the up coming 2011 general legislative session. And also his support for a proposal to increase the beer tax to help fund jail reimbursement.

Representing UAC were Sheriff Frank Park, president of the Sheriffs Association, Jan Zogmaister, USACCC Executive Board, Reed Richards, staff to the Sheriffs Association and Brent Gardner, Executive Director of UAC.

As in his previous two budgets, the Governor has included full funding, approximately \$15 million, for jail reimbursement in the FY 2012 budget. The source of that funding would be the State's General Fund from ongoing revenues. This is a source legislative leaders have been unwilling to use, except for \$3 million in last year's budget, and would be unlikely to be use in the 2012 budget.

Knowing the difficulty of getting ongoing funding in the past, the Governor convened a meeting in May of 2010 to review other sources that might be used. A variety of interested parties were invited to the meeting including the Department of Corrections, State Court Administrators Office, District Court judges, legislators, UAC, and others. The Governor chaired the meeting and the participants were tasked to find an alternative source to fund jail reimbursement.

Eventually an increase in the beer tax was the alternative source of funding proposed. The rationale for the increase is based on the information obtained from the jails that about 85% of all State prisoners housed by counties have an alcohol addiction and about 40% were



intoxicated at the time their crimes were committed. The amount of the increase would be five cents on 12 ounce of beer and would include what is known as heavy beer.

Governor Herbert was unwilling to support the beer tax. He told the UAC delegation that his position concerning tax increases is non-support because of their impact on future economic growth. He said he would have to evaluate the bill if it passes and whether he would veto the bill as he did with the cigarette tax increase last session.

Towards the end of the meeting, the Governor offered two other alternatives. One was to seek leadership support to set aside a designated amount of general funds to pay for reimbursement as they have done with roads and other services. He also suggested that UAC ask the Legislature for authority to use county property taxes to fund reimbursement prisoners in a levy specifically identified for state prisoners. He argued that counties were unlikely to be

successful in obtaining additional General Fund appropriations or a beer tax increase.

The UAC representatives were extremely disappointed in the Governors suggestion to use county property tax revenues. It raised questions about the Governors actual support for solving the problem in light of his own past experience of dealing with the issue as a county commissioner.

Counties do not need new legislative authority to use property tax revenues to pay for state prisoners—they can do that now. The Governor's suggestion and the legislature continue to ignore the fact that these are not county prisoners they are the responsibility of the State. And State has to find a way to pay for those prisoners. Short of new State funding, counties will be forced to manage the county jails to reduce the space available for condition of probation prisoners and force those prisoners back to into the State prison.

# UBEES Seeks to Improve Energy Efficiency of County Facilities; Benchmarking Has Begun

Under the auspices of the state Utah Building Energy Efficiency Strategies program (UBEES), The Cadmus Group is charged with increasing the awareness and statewide adoption of energy efficiency technologies-notably the use of ENERGY STAR tools and resources to benchmark and improve existing buildings in Utah's private and public sectors.

Under the leadership of the Governor's office UBEES will play a lead role in meeting Utah's energy efficiency goals, including a 20% improvement in energy efficiency by 2015. Benchmarking is part of a larger process of energy management that gives building owners and managers a clear view of their building's energy use profile relative to similar buildings around the country and helps identify opportunities for greater

energy efficiency. The major activities of this project include:

- Marketing and outreach to building owners and energy/ facility managers in various segments of the private and public sectors.
- Training organizations and individuals in the use of ENERGY STAR's benchmarking tool, Portfolio Manager, through online and onsite training opportunities.
- Providing technical support to organizations during the benchmarking process.

"Many of us are taking steps to improve energy efficiency at home but may not realize that there are multiple opportunities to save where we work, shop, play, worship



and learn, as well," said Paul Parker, Associate at The Cadmus Group, Inc. "By making energy-efficient choices, we can reduce our energy use and save money while protecting the environment."

The potential savings from reduced greenhouse gas emissions and operating expenses are staggering. The EPA estimates that if the energy efficiency of commercial and industrial buildings in the U.S.

*see Energy page 7*



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## Energy *continued from page 6*

improved 10 percent, Americans would reduce greenhouse gas emissions equal to those from approximately 30 million vehicles while saving roughly \$20 billion. Cadmus is working closely with professional and industry associations to inform and educate their members about the project, the benefits of energy management and benchmarking, and the opportunities for training and technical support. The Cadmus team will outreach to association members through newsletters, email, websites and conference/meeting opportunities.

The Cadmus Group in Salt Lake City is working with organizations to collect the necessary building and energy data and enter into Portfolio Manager so the owners and facility managers can track their energy use and make efficiency improvements. Cadmus can provide this service and follow up training for a limited time at no

cost to the participating organizations through the state UBEEES program. Cadmus looks forward to working with the Utah Association of Counties and its members in helping Utah reach its energy efficiency

goals to reduce waste and energy costs. For more information about UBEEES and assistance in benchmarking county buildings contact, Paul Parker at 801-509-5308 or paul.parker@cadmusgroup.com



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# UTAH COUNTIES INSURANCE POOL

## ANNUAL MEETING of the MEMBERS

Members honored five outgoing Trustees for their service to the Pool at their Annual Meeting held at Thanksgiving Point on December 2, 2010. Ken Bischoff, Weber County Commissioner, served on the Board from 2003-2010 with two years as the Vice-President; Steve White, Utah County Commissioner, from 2006-2010; Gerald Hess, Davis County Deputy Attorney, from 2007-2010; Wayne Smith, Iron County Commissioner, from 2007-2010; and LaMar Guymon, Emery County Sheriff, from 2008-2010. The 2011 UCIP Board of Trustees will have five new members to be appointed by the second class counties and the Board of Trustees at their January 20 meeting.

### 2011 TRAINING SCHEDULE

New Officials Training  
February 2, 2011  
Provo

Personnel Workshop  
May 11-12, 2011  
St. George

Facilities Management Conference  
March 22-23, 2011  
Provo

Risk Management Conference  
August 16-18, 2011  
Cedar City

Planning & Zoning Conference  
April 26-27, 2011  
Provo

Meeting of the Members  
December 1, 2011  
Lehi

### TWENTY YEARS of SUCCESS

The Pool is owned and controlled by member counties. One of the principles the Pool was founded on twenty years ago, is to provide counties with stable costs for protection of assets to allow more efficient budgeting. The large fluctuations in rates and premiums in the traditional insurance market do not allow for counties to budget and plan long term. Along with stable rates, the Pool was formed to assure counties have a vehicle to finance their claims even in difficult market conditions. At the time the Pool was formed, many counties in Utah and across the nation were unable to buy insurance from traditional insurers. Member counties no longer need worry that they will become "uninsurable".

PO Box 95730, South Jordan, UT 84095-0730    801-565-8500    [www.ucip.utah.gov](http://www.ucip.utah.gov)

5397 S. Vine Street  
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*A Unifying Voice for County Government*

UTAH ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

