



# MINUTES

## HIGHER EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

LEGISLATURE

Tuesday, August 20, 2024 | 8:30 a.m. | 110 Senate Building

### Members Present:

Sen. Keith Grover, Senate Chair  
Rep. Karen M. Peterson, House Chair  
Rep. R. Neil Walter, House Vice Chair  
Sen. David P. Hinkins  
Sen. Karen Kwan  
Sen. Michael K. McKell  
Sen. Kathleen A. Riebe  
Sen. Chris H. Wilson  
Rep. Walt Brooks  
Rep. Brett Garner  
Rep. Jon Hawkins  
Rep. Michael J. Petersen  
Rep. Mark A. Strong

Rep. Douglas R. Welton  
Rep. Mark A. Wheatley  
Rep. Stephen L. Whyte  
Rep. Ryan D. Wilcox

### Members Absent:

Sen. Ann Millner  
Sen. Jerry W. Stevenson  
Sen. Evan J. Vickers

### Staff Present:

Joseph Ryan Fitzgerald, Finance Officer  
Ben Leishman, Finance Manager  
Lorna Wells, Committee Secretary

Note: A copy of related materials and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at [www.le.utah.gov](http://www.le.utah.gov).

### 1. 8:30 AM Call to Order

Chair K. Peterson called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m.

### 2. 8:30 AM Approval of Minutes ? June 18, 2024

**MOTION:** Rep. Brooks moved to approve the minutes of the June 18, 2024 meeting. The motion passed with a vote of 9 - 0 - 11.

#### Yeas - 9

Rep. W. Brooks  
Rep. B. Garner  
Sen. D. Hinkins  
Sen. M. McKell  
Rep. M. Petersen  
Rep. K. Peterson  
Rep. D. Welton  
Rep. M. Wheatley  
Sen. C. Wilson

#### Nays - 0

#### Absent - 11

Sen. K. Grover  
Rep. J. Hawkins  
Sen. K. Kwan  
Sen. A. Millner  
Sen. K. Riebe  
Sen. J. Stevenson  
Rep. M. Strong  
Sen. E. Vickers  
Rep. R. Walter  
Rep. S. Whyte  
Rep. R. Wilcox

### 3. 8:35 AM Institutional Performance Funding Expenditures

Geoff Landward, Commissioner, Utah System of Higher Education, explained that USHE would be covering many of the agenda items.

Nate Talley, Deputy Commissioner, gave an overview of the performance funding expenditures.

#### [3a-Institutional Expenditures of 2024 GS New Performance Funding](#)

### 4. 8:45 AM Higher Education Request for Appropriation Process

Joseph Fitzgerald gave an overview of the process of the requests for appropriation.

[4a-Higher Education Request for Appropriation Process](#)

[4b-Requested RFAs](#)

[4c-Funded RFAs](#)

Sen. Wilson asked for clarification about which RFA's were included in the report. Joseph Fitzgerald responded and continued the presentation.

Sen. Kwan asked for clarification regarding where the RFA's originated and asked about prioritization. Joseph Fitzgerald responded.

Sen. Riebe mentioned that this data may give a skewed vision about institutions.

**5. 9:05 AM UBHE 2025 Budget Guidance Report**

Geoff Landward gave the USHE perspective regarding budget guidance.

[5a-FY25-26 USHE Budget Guidance](#)

Sen. Riebe expressed her support for the proposed process.

Sen. Wilson mentioned that a similar process has been utilized in the IGG committee and is supportive of this approach.

Sen. Kwan expressed her support for this change and the importance of requests from the technical colleges and the fairness it would bring. She mentioned that this could be expanded when bill requests involve budget requests.

Chair K. Peterson mentioned the importance of the process. She asked for budget information regarding declining enrollments.

Geoff Landward responded to these comments.

Rep. Brooks mentioned that this approach might create bureaucracy for certain budgetary requests.

Nate Talley continued the presentation regarding capital budget guidance.

**6. 9:20 AM Accountable Budget Process Meeting 2**

Joseph Fitzgerald discussed the accountable budget process and some possible recommendations for the October meeting.

[6a-Higher Education ABP, August 2024](#)

[6b-Required Reports Recommendations](#)

Chair K. Peterson gave some clarification regarding this issue and an open bill file.

Sen. Riebe asked if eliminating any of these reports would impact their funding.

Chair K. Peterson responded to this question.

Joseph Fitzgerald discussed scholarship administrative funds.

Sen. Kwan asked for clarification regarding these administrative costs and how they are being paid for. Joseph Fitzgerald responded and continued the presentation.

Sen. Kwan expressed concern about tying graduation to scholarship funding.

Sen. Riebe mentioned the importance of micro-credentials and asked about scholarships for successful micro-credentials.

Chair K. Peterson is supportive of tracking performance of students who receive scholarships, but expressed concern about using graduation rate as the metric.

Joseph Fitzgerald responded to the comments and continued the presentation.

Rep. Walter assumed the chair.

Sen. Riebe mentioned that the USHE Board are not classified of state employees; but the Utah State Board of Education is. She asked for clarification about this. Joseph Fitzgerald responded and continued the presentation.

Rep. K. Peterson resumed the chair.

Rep. Walter asked for clarification if this is a recommendation or if further discussion is needed. Joseph Fitzgerald responded.

Geoff Landward responded to the presentation and to the comments.

Rep. Walter made comments about the shared services arrangement and barriers. Geoff Landward responded.

Sen. Kwan asked about other unique barriers in higher education institutions that might not be present in other state agencies. Comm. Landward responded.

Rep. Walter assumed the chair.

Joseph Fitzgerald concluded the presentation and requested that committee members let him know if there are any questions before the October meeting.

## **7. 9:55 AM Fee Setting Process Follow Up Report**

Comm. Landward reviewed the Institutional General Fees at USHE institutions.

### [7a. FY25 USHE Fee Review](#)

#### 7a. FY 2025 USHE Fee Review

Chair Walter asked about the impact of the fees for electronic access to books. Geoff Landward responded.

Rep. Strong asked for clarification regarding some of the specific activity support fees. Nate Talley responded.

Geoff Landward continued the presentation.

Sen. Kwan asked if they were seeking student feedback. Geoff Landward replied.

**8. 10:10 AM Shared Services Report**

Nate Talley gave a status update of shared services.

**8a-Shared Services Status Update**

Jerry Henley Assistant Commissioner for Innovation, Commercialization and Economic Development, discussed commercialization in system shared services.

**8b-USHE Shared Services - Commercialization**

Gabrielle Tellez, Director of Innovation and Commercialization, the Point, gave some specific examples about commercialization.

Jerry Henley gave some concluding remarks about the commercialization processes taking place.

Rep. K. Peterson resumed the chair.

Rep. Whyte asked which colleges are working on projects with them. Gabby Tellez and Jerry Henley replied.

**9. 10:30 AM Workforce Outcomes Report**

Geoff Landward introduced the Workforce Outcomes Report.

Carrie Mayne, Chief Economist, gave an overview of the new dashboard regarding workforce outcomes.

**9a-Program Workforce Outcomes**

Chair K. Peterson gave some concluding remarks about this presentation.

Chair K. Peterson recognized Gregory Peterson, the new president of SLCC in attendance.

**10. 10:40 AM Investment Portfolio and Cash Position**

Nate Talley gave an overview of the USHE Annual Investment Report.

**10a-FY23 USHE Annual Investment Report****10b. Memo - Cover Memo Annual Money Management Report****10c. Attachment 1 - Investment Report**

Sen. Wilson asked about guidelines and best practices for these investments. Nate Talley responded.

Rep. M. Petersen asked for clarifications with institutions who did not have positive investment results. Nate Talley responded.

**MOTION:** Rep. Walter moved to adjourn. The motion passed with a vote of 17 - 0 - 3.



Yeas - 17

Rep. W. Brooks  
Rep. B. Garner  
Sen. K. Grover  
Rep. J. Hawkins  
Sen. D. Hinkins  
Sen. K. Kwan  
Sen. M. McKell  
Rep. M. Petersen  
Rep. K. Peterson  
Sen. K. Riebe  
Rep. M. Strong  
Rep. R. Walter  
Rep. D. Welton  
Rep. M. Wheatley  
Rep. S. Whyte  
Rep. R. Wilcox  
Sen. C. Wilson

Nays - 0

Absent - 3

Sen. A. Millner  
Sen. J. Stevenson  
Sen. E. Vickers

Chair Peterson adjourned the meeting at 10:56 a.m.