



DRAFT MINUTES

SENATE EDUCATION CONFIRMATION COMMITTEE

LEGISLATURE

Friday, August 8, 2025 | 2:00 p.m. | 120 Senate Building

Members Present:

Sen. Ann Millner, Chair
Sen. Heidi Balderree
Sen. Luz Escamilla
Sen. John D. Johnson
Sen. Michael K. McKell

Sen. Kathleen A. Riebe

Sen. Chris H. Wilson

Staff Present:

Finn Andrew Rose, Policy Analyst
Amy Hawkes, Administrative Assistant

Note: A copy of related materials and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at www.le.utah.gov.

Chair Millner called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

1. Committee Business

MOTION: Sen. Johnson moved to approve the minutes of the May 7, 2025, meeting. The motion passed with a vote of 4 - 0 - 3.

Yeas - 4

Sen. J. Johnson
Sen. A. Millner
Sen. K. Riebe
Sen. C. Wilson

Nays - 0

Absent - 3

Sen. H. Balderree
Sen. L. Escamilla
Sen. M. McKell

2. Review the Proposed Appointment of Brad Wilson as a member of the Weber State University Board of Trustees

Brad Wilson introduced himself, discussed his background and qualifications, and responded to questions from the committee.

MOTION: Sen. Balderree moved to favorably recommend to the full Senate the appointment of Brad Wilson as a member of the Weber State University Board of Trustees. The motion passed with a vote of 6 - 0 - 1.

Yeas - 6

Sen. H. Balderree
Sen. J. Johnson
Sen. M. McKell
Sen. A. Millner
Sen. K. Riebe
Sen. C. Wilson

Nays - 0

Absent - 1

Sen. L. Escamilla

3. Review the Proposed Appointment of Ally Isom as a member of the Weber State University Board of Trustees

Ally Isom introduced herself, discussed her background and qualifications, and responded to questions from the committee.

MOTION: Sen. Balderree moved to favorably recommend to the full Senate the appointment of Ally Isom as a member of the Weber State University Board of Trustees. The motion passed with a vote of 7 - 0 - 0.

Yeas - 7Nays - 0Absent - 0

Sen. H. Balderree
Sen. L. Escamilla
Sen. J. Johnson
Sen. M. McKell
Sen. A. Millner
Sen. K. Riebe
Sen. C. Wilson

4. Review the Proposed Appointment of Arthur Newell as a member of the Salt Lake Community College Board of Trustees

Arthur Newell introduced himself, discussed his background and qualifications, and responded to questions from the committee.

MOTION: Sen. Balderree moved to favorably recommend to the full Senate the appointment of Arthur Newell as a member of the Salt Lake Community College Board of Trustees. The motion passed with a vote of 7 - 0 - 0.

Yeas - 7Nays - 0Absent - 0

Sen. H. Balderree
Sen. L. Escamilla
Sen. J. Johnson
Sen. M. McKell
Sen. A. Millner
Sen. K. Riebe
Sen. C. Wilson

5. Review the Proposed Appointment of Don C. Stirling as a member of the Salt Lake Community College Board of Trustees

Don Stirling introduced himself, discussed his background and qualifications, and responded to questions from the committee.

MOTION: Sen. Balderree moved to favorably recommend to the full Senate the appointment of Don Stirling as a member of the Salt Lake Community College Board of Trustees. The motion passed with a vote of 7 - 0 - 0.

Yeas - 7Nays - 0Absent - 0

Sen. H. Balderree
Sen. L. Escamilla
Sen. J. Johnson
Sen. M. McKell
Sen. A. Millner
Sen. K. Riebe
Sen. C. Wilson

6. Review the Proposed Appointment of Caytee Wankier as a member of the Southern Utah University Board of Trustees

Caytee Wankier introduced herself, discussed her background and qualifications, and responded to questions from the committee.

Mindy Benson, President, Southern Utah University, provided public comment in favor of the nomination.

MOTION: Sen. Balderree moved to favorably recommend to the full Senate the appointment of Caytee Wankier as a member of the Southern Utah University Board of Trustees. The motion passed with a vote of 6 - 0 - 1.

Yeas - 6

Sen. H. Balderree
Sen. L. Escamilla
Sen. J. Johnson
Sen. M. McKell
Sen. A. Millner
Sen. K. Riebe

Nays - 0

Absent - 1

Sen. C. Wilson

7. Review the Proposed Appointment of Darin Bird as a member of the Southern Utah University Board of Trustees

Darin Bird introduced himself, discussed his background and qualifications, and responded to questions from the committee.

Mindy Benson, President, Southern Utah University, provided public comment in favor of the nomination.

MOTION: Sen. Balderree moved to favorably recommend to the full Senate the appointment of Darin Bird as a member of the Southern Utah University Board of Trustees. The motion passed with a vote of 6 - 0 - 1.

Yeas - 6

Sen. H. Balderree
Sen. L. Escamilla
Sen. J. Johnson
Sen. M. McKell
Sen. A. Millner
Sen. K. Riebe

Nays - 0

Absent - 1

Sen. C. Wilson

8. Review the Proposed Appointment of Steve Miller as a member of the University of Utah Board of Trustees

Steve Miller introduced himself, discussed his background and qualifications, and responded to questions from the committee.

MOTION: Sen. Balderree moved to favorably recommend to the full Senate the appointment of Steve Miller as a member of the University of Utah Board of Trustees. The motion passed with a vote of 6 - 0 - 1.

Yeas - 6

Sen. H. Balderree
Sen. L. Escamilla
Sen. J. Johnson
Sen. M. McKell
Sen. A. Millner
Sen. K. Riebe

Nays - 0

Absent - 1

Sen. C. Wilson

9. Adjourn

MOTION: Sen. Balderree moved to adjourn. The motion passed with a vote of 6 - 0 - 1.

Yeas - 6

Sen. H. Balderree
Sen. L. Escamilla
Sen. J. Johnson
Sen. M. McKell
Sen. A. Millner
Sen. K. Riebe

Nays - 0Absent - 1
Sen. C. Wilson

Chair Millner adjourned the meeting at 3:16 p.m.