



# DRAFT MINUTES

## SENATE EDUCATION CONFIRMATION COMMITTEE

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](http://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 - 0

Absent - 1

Sen. C. Wilson

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