



MINUTES

NATURAL RESOURCES, AGRICULTURE, AND ENVIRONMENT INTERIM COMMITTEE

LEGISLATURE

Wednesday, June 18, 2025 | 1:15 p.m. | 110 Senate Building

Members Present:

Sen. Keven J. Stratton, Chair
Rep. Carl R. Albrecht, Chair
Sen. Nate Blouin
Sen. David P. Hinkins
Sen. Derrin R. Owens
Sen. Scott D. Sandall
Rep. Gay Lynn Bennion
Rep. Bridger Bolinder
Rep. Walt Brooks
Rep. Scott H. Chew
Rep. Michael L. Kohler
Rep. Logan J. Monson
Rep. Doug Owens

Rep. Thomas W. Peterson
Rep. Rex P. Shipp
Rep. Casey Snider
Rep. R. Neil Walter
Rep. Christine F. Watkins

Members Absent:

Speaker Mike Schultz

Staff Present:

Charley Hart, Policy Analyst
Julie Humberstone, Managing Policy Analyst
Patricia Owen, Senior Associate General Counsel
Ryan C. Williams, Associate General Counsel
Kaelie Mortensen, Administrative Assistant

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

Chair Stratton called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.

1. Committee Business

MOTION: Rep. Owens moved to approve the minutes of the May 21, 2025, meeting. The motion passed with a vote of 13 - 0 - 6.

Yeas - 13

Rep. C. Albrecht
Rep. G. Bennion
Rep. B. Bolinder
Rep. W. Brooks
Rep. S. Chew
Rep. L. Monson
Sen. D. Owens
Rep. D. Owens
Rep. T. Peterson
Rep. R. Shipp
Sen. K. Stratton
Rep. R. Walter
Rep. C. Watkins

Nays - 0

Absent - 6

Sen. N. Blouin
Sen. D. Hinkins
Rep. M. Kohler
Sen. S. Sandall
Rep. M. Schultz
Rep. C. Snider

2. Sunset Review: Lead Acid Battery Disposal

2 - Sunset Review: Lead Acid Battery Disposal

Patricia Owen, Senior Associate General Counsel, OLRGC, gave a brief introduction to Title 19, Chapter 6, Part 6, which governs lead acid battery disposal.

MOTION: Rep. Peterson moved to open a committee bill file to remove the sunset provision of the Lead Acid Battery Disposal Program.

Discussion to the motion.

Rep. Peterson's motion to open a committee bill file to remove the sunset provision of the Lead Acid Battery Disposal Program passed with a vote of 14 - 1 - 4.

Yeas - 14

Rep. C. Albrecht
Rep. G. Bennion
Rep. B. Bolinder
Rep. W. Brooks
Rep. S. Chew
Rep. L. Monson
Sen. D. Owens
Rep. D. Owens
Rep. T. Peterson
Rep. R. Shipp
Rep. C. Snider
Sen. K. Stratton
Rep. R. Walter
Rep. C. Watkins

Nays - 1

Sen. D. Hinkins

Absent - 4

Sen. N. Blouin
Rep. M. Kohler
Sen. S. Sandall
Rep. M. Schultz

3. Tropic Reservoir

[3 - The Impacts of Restricted Storage at Tropic Reservoir \(Garfield County\)](#)

Charley Hart, policy analyst, OLRGC, gave a brief introduction of the Tropic Reservoir issue as heard in the Legislative Water Development Committee on June 17, 2025.

[3 - The Impacts of Restricted Storage at Tropic Reservoir \(Garfield County\)](#)

David Dodds, Director, Garfield Public Works gave a presentation on issues related to the Tropic Reservoir in Garfield County.

[3 - Tropic Reservoir and Otter Creek Water Storage Update \(Utah Division of Water Rights\)](#)

Teresa Wilhelmsen, State Engineer, Division of Water Rights, gave a presentation on Tropic Reservoir and Otter Creek water storage.

[3 - Tropic Reservoir Agreement](#)

Warren Peterson, Commissioner, Legislative Water Development Commission, provided comments on the issue.

The committee asked questions of Teresa Wilhelmsen.

Rep. Walter provided comments on the history of Tropic Reservoir.

The committee discussed the issue further.

Chair Stratton directed that Chair Albrecht's comments made in the Legislative Water Development Commission meeting be referenced in the meeting minutes. His comments can be found in the records of the June 17, 2025, Legislative Water Development Commission meeting.

4. Wildlife Management Areas & Licenses

Rep. Snider gave a brief introduction to the issue of wildlife management areas and licenses.

[6 - Hunting/Fishing License Requirement to Enter WMAs \(Division of Wildlife Resources\)](#)

Riley Peck, Director, Division of Wildlife Resources, and Mike Canning, Deputy Director, Division of Wildlife Resources, gave a presentation on new requirements for entering wildlife management areas.

The committee asked questions of Riley Peck and Mike Canning.

Mark Allen, resident, Utah County, provided comments on the issue.

5. Department of Natural Resources Updates

[4 - Department of Natural Resources Updates \(Utah Department of Natural Resources\)](#)

Emy Lesofski, Director, Office of Energy Development gave a presentation on the tri-state energy compact between Utah, Idaho, and Wyoming.

Redge Johnson, Director, Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office, gave a presentation on Class D Roads.

4 - State Parks' Fees Report

[4 - State Parks' Fees \(Department of Natural Resources\)](#)

Tyson Plastow, Internal Audit Director, Department of Natural Resources gave a presentation on State Parks' Fees.

Scott Strong, Director, Division of State Parks, provided some clarification to the committee.

The committee asked questions of Tyson Plastow and Scott Strong.

6. State Park Accessibility

[5 - State Park Accessibility Amendments \(OLRGC\)](#)

Representative Douglas Welton and Scott Strong, Director, Division of State Parks, gave a presentation on issues related to accessibility in state parks.

The committee asked questions of Rep. Welton and Scott Strong.

MOTION: Rep. Watkins moved to approve as a committee bill 2026 General Session draft legislation, "State Park Accessibility Amendments."

The committee took time to read the draft legislation and discuss.

Ryan Williams, Associate General Counsel, Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel, responded to questions from the committee.

Rep. Watkins' motion to approve as a committee bill 2026 General Session draft legislation, "State Park Accessibility Amendments" passed with a vote of 13 - 0 - 6.

Yeas - 13

Rep. G. Bennion
Sen. N. Blouin
Rep. S. Chew
Sen. D. Hinkins
Rep. M. Kohler
Rep. L. Monson
Sen. D. Owens
Rep. D. Owens
Rep. T. Peterson
Rep. R. Shipp
Sen. K. Stratton
Rep. R. Walter
Rep. C. Watkins

Nays - 0

Absent - 6

Rep. C. Albrecht
Rep. B. Bolinder
Rep. W. Brooks
Sen. S. Sandall
Rep. M. Schultz
Rep. C. Snider

MOTION: Rep. Owens moved to adjourn. The motion passed with a vote of 13 - 0 - 6.

Yeas - 13

Rep. G. Bennion
Sen. N. Blouin
Rep. S. Chew
Sen. D. Hinkins
Rep. M. Kohler
Rep. L. Monson
Sen. D. Owens
Rep. D. Owens
Rep. T. Peterson
Rep. R. Shipp
Sen. K. Stratton
Rep. R. Walter
Rep. C. Watkins

Nays - 0

Absent - 6

Rep. C. Albrecht
Rep. B. Bolinder
Rep. W. Brooks
Sen. S. Sandall
Rep. M. Schultz
Rep. C. Snider

Chair Stratton adjourned the meeting.