



LEGISLATURE

MINUTES

SENATE EDUCATION CONFIRMATION COMMITTEE

Wednesday, January 14, 2026 | 10:00 a.m. | 215 Senate Building

Members Present:

Sen. Ann Millner, Chair
Sen. Heidi Balderree
Sen. Luz Escamilla
Sen. Lincoln Fillmore
Sen. John D. Johnson

Sen. Michael K. McKell

Sen. Kathleen A. Riebe

Staff Present:

Micah Ann Wixom, Policy Analyst
Alyssa Castor, 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 10:06 a.m.

1. Committee Business

MOTION: Sen. Johnson moved to approve the minutes of the October 31, 2025, meeting. The motion passed with a vote of 5 - 0 - 2.

Yeas - 5

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

Nays - 0

Absent - 2

Sen. L. Fillmore
Sen. K. Riebe

2. Review the Proposed Appointment of Ginger Chinn for the Davis Technical College Board of Trustees

Ginger Chinn, Government and Legislative Affairs Manager, Northrop Grumman, introduced herself, discussed her background and qualifications, and responded to questions from the committee.

MOTION: Sen. Johnson moved to favorably recommend to the full Senate, the appointment of Ginger Chinn as a business representative member of the Davis Technical College Board of Trustees. The motion passed with a vote of 7 - 0 - 0.

Yeas - 7

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

Nays - 0

Absent - 0

3. Review the Proposed Appointment of Christena Huntsman Durham for the University of Utah Board of Trustees

Christena Huntsman Durham, Vice President, Huntsman Family Foundation, introduced herself, discussed her background and qualifications, and responded to questions from the committee.

MOTION: Sen. Riebe moved to favorably recommend to the full Senate, the appointment of Christena Huntsman Durham as a business representative member of the University of Utah Board of Trustees. The motion passed with a vote of 7 - 0 - 0.

Yeas - 7Nays - 0Absent - 0

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

4. Review the Proposed Appointment of Ben Allred for the Uintah Basin Technical College Board of Trustees

Ben Allred, entrepreneur, Uintah Basin, introduced himself, discussed his background and qualifications, and responded to questions from the committee.

MOTION: Sen. McKell moved to favorably recommend to the full Senate, the appointment of Ben Allred as a business representative member to the Uintah Technical 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. L. Fillmore
Sen. J. Johnson
Sen. M. McKell
Sen. A. Millner
Sen. K. Riebe

5. Adjourn

MOTION: Sen. Riebe moved to adjourn. The motion passed with a vote of 7 - 0 - 0.

Yeas - 7Nays - 0Absent - 0

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

Chair Millner adjourned the meeting at 10:42 a.m.