

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE UTAH
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE SERVICES COMMISSION
HELD THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2026
1625 SOUTH 900 WEST, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84104

[Commissioners may participate virtually]

Commissioner's Participating Virtually:

Chair Stephen Handy
Vice Chair Jennifer Tarazon
Jacquelyn Orton
Juliette Tennert
Falyn Owens

Commissioner's Absent:

Tara Thue
Christopher Conabee

Staff Participating Virtually:

Brian Swan, Deputy Director, Legal &
Regulator Affairs
Craig Warr, Compliance Division
Administrator
Michelle Schmitt, Communications Director
Melissa Suarez, Executive Assistant
Jeff Colvin, PA & Manufacturing Program
Manager
Rob Hansen, Training Program Manager

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

Chair Handy called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

Chair Handy introduced the commissioners and staff members that assist the commission. He welcomed the opportunity to meet for a special meeting, and excused Ericka Evans, Executive Director.

Special Use Permit:

- a. Unified Public Health Laboratories, Taylorsville City (Scientific)
- b. Nelson Laboratories, LLC, Taylorsville City (Scientific)

Craig Warr, Compliance Division Administrator, gave an overview of the scientific, special use permit items listed on the agenda. He noted the items were complete and ready for action by the commission.

Brian Swan, Deputy Director, Legal & Regulatory Affairs, provided procedural guidance to the action item, special use permit.

MOTION: Commissioner Tarazon moved to approve the Special Use Permits application consideration for items a. Unified Public Health Laboratories, and b. Nelson Laboratories, LLC

on the agenda. Commissioner Tennert seconded the motion. Chair Handy asked for a vote. The motion passed with a vote of 5 - 0 - 2.

Yea - 5

Chair Handy
Commissioner Orton
Commissioner Tennert
Commissioner Owens
Vice Chair Tarazon

Nays - 0

Absent - 2

Commissioner Conabee
Commissioner Thue

Reception Center:

- a. Luna Event Venue, Orem (*conditional*)

Craig Warr, Compliance Division Administrator, gave an overview of the reception center application, and that there are 3 reception center licenses available under quota. He noted the conditional license applicant meets the statutory requirements and is ready for action by the commission.

Craig Warr answered questions about the premises inspection photos, noting that a final inspection is required for the conditional applicant.

Osbaldo Ortega, with the Luna Event Venue, addressed Commissioner Tennert's inquiry regarding the frequency of license use. Osbaldo Ortega estimated that 20-25% of Luna Event Venue's total business, weddings, quinceaneras, and corporate events, would be required to use the reception center license for alcohol use.

Motion: Commissioner Tennert moved to approve a conditional reception center license for a. Luna Event Venue in Orem.

Discussion: Commissioner Tennert highlighted the scarcity of available reception center licenses, emphasizing that data regarding license usage frequency is essential for the commission's consideration.

Rob Hansen, Training Program Manager answered questions from Commissioner Orton of what conditional items are required before the applicant, Luna Event Venue is issued a active license.

Second: Commissioner Owens seconded the motion. Chair Handy asked for a vote. The motion passed with a vote 5 - 0 - 2.

Yea - 5

Chair Handy
Commissioner Orton

Nays - 0

Absent - 2

Commissioner Conabee
Commissioner Thue

Commissioner Tennert
Commissioner Owens
Vice Chair Tarazon

PUBLIC COMMENT FROM COMMISSIONERS AND PUBLIC.

ADJOURN.

MOTION: Commissioner Tarazon moved to adjourn the special commission meeting. Commissioner Owens seconded the motion. Chair Handy asked for a vote. The motion passed with a vote of 5 - 0 - 2.

Yea - 5

Chair Handy

Commissioner Orton

Vice Chair Tarazon

Commissioner Owens

Commissioner Tennert

Nays - 0

Absent - 2

Commissioner Conabee

Commissioner Thue

There being no further business, Chair Handy adjourned the meeting at 10:18 a.m.