



DIVISION OF OUTDOOR RECREATION DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Meeting Minutes

*Minutes Of The Meeting Held on March 27, 2026, at 11:00 a.m.- 12:30 p.m.
Virtual*

HOST:

Utah Department of Natural Resources

Division of Outdoor Recreation

1594 West North Temple

Salt Lake City, Utah 84116

(Virtual meeting)

Google Meet Info:

<https://meet.google.com/iac-bjnw-xzq>

Or dial: (US) +1 609-796-2610

PIN: 684 426 497 #

More phone numbers:

<https://tel.meet/iac-bjnw-xzq?pin=6563712983422>

ATTENDEES:

Betsy Byrne, Evan Glenn, Jake Deslauriers, Jason Curry, Jordan Washburn, Lance Syrett, Lincoln Shurtz, Mike McCandless, Mike Sabin, Nicole Hanna, Noemi Molina, Patrick Morrison, Scott Strong, Tara Mckee, Tom Adams, Tracy Meier

AGENDA:

Introduction Welcome & Introductions: Jason Curry

Review of Committee Duties: Nicole Hanna

- Overview of Conflict of Interest Open
- Public Meetings Act Training

2026 Overview of all Grant Programs: Noemi Molina

- Review New Grant Policies/ Documents
 - Budget Narrative
 - Conflict of Interest
- Update on 2026 UORG Cycle Requests

Evaluations Review: Nomei Molina

- Review of the Evaluator Handbook

- Scoring Instructions in the Evaluator Portal
- Resource Review for Scoring Meeting Noemi Molina
- Closing: Jason Curry
 - Public Comment
 - Adjourn Meeting

MEETING MINUETS:

(0:00) Welcome and Meeting Purpose: Jason Curry called the meeting to order.

(0:42) Roll Call: Members and advisory representatives introduced themselves.

(5:21) Annual Board Training: Nicole Hanna provided the annual Conflict of Interest & Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA) training for boards and commissions.

(6:32) Conflict of Interest: Clarified the distinction between an **Actual Conflict** (personal benefit) and a **Perceived Conflict** (the appearance of impropriety).

- **Action:** Members were advised to be conservative and recuse themselves from votes if even a perceived conflict exists.

(8:10) Open Meetings and GRAMA: Reminder that all written records—including private text messages sent between members during a meeting—are subject to public record requests.

- **Action:** Members were urged to use state devices for official work and avoid texting during meetings.

(10:15) Noemi Molina moves to discuss the 2026 Grant Cycle Overview.

(10:23) Grant Categories: The program continues with five grants: Regional Asset Tier, Tier 1, Mini, RRI, and CPR. Funding amounts remain unchanged from the previous year.

(11:35) New Documentation Requirements: * Budget Narrative: A new required tool to help justify how applicants gathered their numbers.

- **Conflict of Interest Form:** Now mandatory for applicants to disclose potential conflicts upfront.
- **AI Disclosure:** A new "Yes/No" question asking if AI was used and if a human reviewed the final output.

(14:36) New Policy Implementation:

- **One App per Site:** To ensure equitable distribution, multiple applications for the same physical location are no longer allowed.

- **Program Alignment:** Applications submitted to the incorrect grant category are now automatically disqualified due to administrative bandwidth limits.

(15:48) Noemi Molina moves on to discuss Update on 2026 UORG Cycle Requests and Funding.

(15:57) Application Stats: * Request Total: Originally 157 apps (\$42 million); 125 apps (\$29 million) moved forward after disqualifications.

- **Allocation:** Roughly **\$15-\$17 million** is available for funding.

(17:46) Noemi Molina begins a walkthrough of the new evaluator handbook and program guide.

(18:09) Important Dates:

- **April 19th:** Evaluation submission deadline.
- **April 30th – May 1st:** Final scoring meetings at Bryce Canyon (Ruby's Inn).

(21:51) Workload Update: Patrick Moorison discusses that evaluators are assigned approximately 20–22 reviews this year (down from ~39 last year).

(23:34) Portal Navigation: Patrick Moorison reviewed the portal interface (UTDN.msite.com).

- **Technical Workaround:** Due to a Salesforce glitch, evaluators must enter a placeholder score (e.g., "1") in the final comment section to successfully submit.
- Evaluators can save drafts to compare scores across different applications before final submission.

(31:06) New Tools: Noemi mentioned that the scoring tracking sheet will be put on the interface by the end of the day. Also, a Pickleball Price List Estimate to help evaluators benchmark costs.

(32:37) CPR Strategy: Patrick discussed defining "CPR" (Community Park and Recreation) grants to focus on open space and community growth rather than just resurfacing existing courts.

(34:19) Logistics: Discussion regarding plans at Bryce. Ruby's Inn will provide a meeting room near the breakfast overflow area.

(39:27) Legislative Update: Patrick mentions that adaptive equipment will be officially considered "infrastructure" starting July 1, 2026, which will impact future grant cycles.

(39:49) Closing: Assignments are now live in the portal for immediate review. Jason Curry adjourns the meeting.