

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF UTAH  
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE SERVICES COMMISSION  
HELD THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2026  
GARFIELD COUNTY COURTHOUSE**

**Commissioners present:**

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

**Commissioner's absent:**

Tara Thue  
Christopher Conabee

**Staff present:**

Department Commissioner, Ericka Evans  
Deputy Director of Finance and Administration,  
Todd Darrington  
Managing Director of Operations, Jeremy  
Sommerlath  
Compliance Administrator, Craig Warr  
Alcohol Education Director, Doug Murakami  
(virtual)

**Also present:**

Assistant Attorney General, Samuel McHenry

Note: A copy of related material and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at [www.abs.utah.gov](http://www.abs.utah.gov)

Chair Stephen Handy called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Executive Assistant Melissa Suarez led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**WELCOME FROM GARFIELD COUNTY COMMISSIONER LELAND POLLOCK**

Garfield County Commissioner Leland Pollock welcomed the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Services and its Commissioners to the county. He gave a brief overview of Garfield County and noted its heavy reliance on tourism.

Chair Stephen Handy thanked Commissioner Leland Pollock for hosting the department. He noted that the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Services Commission will visit a Panguitch package agency after the meeting. He also emphasized the department's commitment to providing available services and products safely to the millions of tourists visiting Utah.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Chair Stephen Handy introduced the commissioners and staff who assist with the commission meetings. He noted that due to a change from the governor's office, Ericka Evans will now be referred to as department commissioner. He excused Commissioners Tara Thue and Christopher Conabee, and thanked Commissioner Falyn Owens for her assistance with the commission meeting tour. The Chair then made the following announcements.

- a. Proposed Future Meeting Schedule: *(subject to change)*
  - Thursday, June 25, 2026 - MASOB
  - Thursday, July 30, 2026 - MASOB
  
- b. Holiday Closure:

Liquor stores and the DABS administrative office and warehouse will be closed:

  - Monday, June 15, 2026 *(Juneteenth National Freedom Day)*
  - Friday, July 03, 2026 *(Independence Day)*
  - Friday, July 24, 2026 *(Pioneer Day)*
  
- c. Public Comments:
  - Those present, please complete the form located at the front entrance to the room.
  - Those participating virtually, please email your name, city, topic, and affiliation (if applicable) to [hotline@utah.gov](mailto:hotline@utah.gov) by 5:00 pm on Wednesday, May 27, 2026.
  - Comments will be addressed at the end of the meeting.

## **PARENTS EMPOWERED UPDATE:**

Alcohol Education Director Doug Murakami presented an update on the Parents Empowered campaign. He highlighted Garfield County's community involvement and recognized individuals who help prevent underage drinking.

## **FINANCIAL UPDATE:**

Deputy Director of Finance and Administration Todd Darrington provided a financial update for period 10 of fiscal year 2026 through April. He noted that overall revenues were up 10% from the previous year, while period 10 expenses increased because of a bond. He also added the department is on track to return \$78 million to the general fund, and customers contributed \$1.6 million to the Pamela Atkinson homeless fund during fiscal year 2026.

## **OPERATIONS UPDATE:**

Department Commissioner Ericka Evans thanked Garfield County for welcoming the department to their area. She explained the reason for the tour started 5 years ago was to better understand different parts of the state. She also expressed her appreciation for the people the department serves, as well as

the international tourists who visit Garfield County. Lastly, she provided an update on the third-party inventory count for the warehouse, state stores, and Type 2 and 3 package agencies, noting this inventory count is a best practice for managing the state's investments and will take place in June 2026 for the end of the fiscal year.

**ADMINISTRATIVE RULE:**

- (1) Administrative Code, R82-4-101, Electronic Proof of Age Verification
- (2) Administrative Code, R82-2-308, Type 2 and 3 Package Agencies

**Item 1:** Department Commissioner Ericka Evans presented the Administrative Rule. She explained that Administrative Code, R82-4-101, Electronic Proof of Age Verification, completed the public comment period without receiving comments. She stated revisions to Administrative Code R82-4-101 were necessary because of legislative changes from the 2026 legislative general session.

**MOTION:** Vice Chair Tarazon moved to grant final approval for Administrative Code R82-4-101, Electronic Proof of Age Verification, with an effective date of June 5, 2026. Commissioner Owens second the motion. Chair Stephen Handy asked for a vote. The motion passed 4 - 0 - 2.

<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Vice Chair Tarazon		Tara Thue
Falyn Owens		Christopher Conabee
Jacquelyn Orton		
Julliette Tennert		

**Item 2:** Department Commissioner Ericka Evans presented proposed updates to Administrative Code, R82-2-308, Type 2 and 3 Package Agencies. She noted these changes are designed to better support Type 2 and 3 package agencies, and thanked the operators for their helpful feedback.

Deputy Director of Finance and Administration Todd Darrington outlined Type 2 and 3 package agencies 2 compensation changes taking effect July 1, 2026. He explained the new model bases pay on the value and quantity of bottles sold. He also noted that the state is shifting to a consignment model, owning the product until it sells, which will help package agency operators better manage their cash flow and cover overhead expenses.

**MOTION:** Vice Chair Tarazon moved to file item 2, Administrative Code, R82-2-308, Type 2 and 3 Package Agencies, for publication with the Office of Administrative Rules. Commissioner Owens seconded the motion. Chair Stephen Handy asked for a vote. The motion passed 4 - 0 - 2.

<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Vice Chair Tarazon		Tara Thue
Falyn Owens		Christopher Conabee
Jacquelyn Orton		
Julliette Tennert		

**DISCUSSION:** Chair Stephen Handy stated the Commission is listening to package agencies to help implement the best policy model. He expressed hope that recent legislative changes will have positive reports in the coming months.

**VIOLATIONS:**

\*Referral Sources – State Bureau of Investigation (SBI)

[The following Consent Calendar items include uncontested letters of admonishment (written warnings) and settlement agreements that have been agreed to and accepted by the licensees. They are considered as a block with one vote unless one of the commissioners requests that any item be removed for individual discussion.]

a. Consent Calendar

- |      |   |      |       |
|------|---|------|-------|
| (1)  | SLC Pub, Salt Lake City   | *SBI | (BAR) |
| (2)  | Bruges Waffles & Frites, Salt Lake City and Vincent Zemruski<br>(employee)    | *SBI | (RL)  |
| (3)  | Spitfire Smokehouse BBQ + TAPS, Moab  | *SBI | (BAR) |
| (4)  | Blu Pig, Moab and Roberto Marin Jara (employee)                               | *SBI | (RF)  |
| (5)  | Still Steaks, Mexican Hat and Shay Fernandez (employee)                       | *SBI | (RF)  |
| (6)  | Canyon Smokehouse, Bluff and Evangeline Mustache<br>(employee)                | *SBI | (RL)  |
| (7)  | Twin Rocks Cafe, Bluff and Shay Marie Trent (employee)                        | *SBI | (RL)  |
| (8)  | Real Taqueria, Holladay   | *SBI | (RF)  |
| (9)  | Oroza Izakaya Japanese Bar & Tapas, Salt Lake City<br>Leah Corsino (employee) | *SBI | (RF)  |
| (10) | Salsa Leedos, Riverton and Scott Kurtz (employee)                             | *SBI | (RF)  |
| (11) | Down Under Club, West Bountiful   | *SBI | (BAR) |
| (12) | Burgers & Barley, Riverton  | *SBI | (RB)  |
| (13) | Kin Sen, Holladay   | *SBI | (RF)  |
| (14) | North Italia, Riverton and Esther Hilton (employee)                           | *SBI | (RF)  |

Assistant Attorney General Samuel McHenry gave an overview of the items on the consent calendar noting they are complete and ready for action by the commission.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Owens moved to approve the settlement agreements for a. violations consent calendar items 1 through 14. Commissioner Tennert seconded the motion. Chair Stephen Handy asked for a vote and noted that Commissioner Orton was excused from the motion. The motion passed 4 - 0 - 3.

**Yea**

Vice Chair Tarazon  
Falyn Owens  
Julliette Tennert  
Chair Stephen Handy

**Nay**

**Absent**

Tara Thue  
Christopher Conabee  
Jacquelyn Orton

b. Order to Show Cause

- (1) LAGO D'ORO, L.L.C., Salt Lake City (RF)

Assistant Attorney General Samuel McHenry presented item b. Order to Show Cause, item 1 LAGO D'ORO, LLC a restaurant full-service license in Salt Lake City. He noted they do not hold the minimum qualifications to hold a license.

Chair Stephen Handy asked if there was anyone in-person or online representing LAGO D'ORO, LLC with no response.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Tennert moved to suspend the restaurant full-service license for LAGO D'ORO, LLC, starting in 24 business hours until the August commission meeting. Vice Chair Tarazon seconded the motion. Chair Stephen Handy asked for a vote. The motion passed 4 - 0 - 2.

**Yea**

Vice Chair Tarazon  
Falyn Owens  
Jacquelyn Orton  
Julliette Tennert

**Nay**

**Absent**

Tara Thue  
Christopher Conabee

**DISCUSSION:** The commissioners discussed the amount of customer sales tax owed to the tax commission and the suspension end date for the licensee.

**LICENSEE RECOGNITIONS:**

- a. Passed Utah Public Safety, SBI Covert Underage Buyer (CUB) Inspections

Department Commissioner Ericka Evans reported since the April commission meeting, 217 licensees passed the Public Safety SBI Underage Buyer inspections. She congratulated those who passed and thanked them for following the alcohol safety laws.

**MAY 2026 LICENSE RENEWAL REMINDER:**

- a. Renewal Period May 1 to May 31, 2026  
- Bar Establishment (BAR)

Compliance Administrator Craig Warr reminded those in attendance and online that the renewal period for the Bar Establishment license ends May 31, 2026.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

- a. Approval of the Minutes  
(1) April 30, 2026 Commission Meeting
  
- b. Off-Premise Beer Retailer State License  
*License Changes of Ownership:*
  - (1) 7-Eleven Store #12945K, Salt Lake City (*purchase agreement April 20, 2026*)
  - (2) 7-Eleven Store #29175E, Millcreek (*conditional purchase agreement March 14, 2026*)

- (3) Korner Mart #11, St George *(conditional) (purchase agreement March 2, 2026)*
- (4) Midland Market, Roy *(conditional) (purchase agreement April 8, 2026)*
- (5) Singh Fuel 1177, Ogden *(conditional) (purchase agreement April 30, 2026)*
- (6) Singh Fuel 1015, Ogden *(conditional) (purchase agreement April 30, 2026)*
- (7) Walgreens #06988, West Jordan *(purchase agreement February 25, 2026)*
- (8) Walgreens #09237, Salt Lake City *(purchase agreement February 26, 2026)*
- (9) Walgreens #09464, Sandy *(purchase agreement February 26, 2026)*
- (10) Walgreens #01776, Pleasant Grove *(purchase agreement February 26, 2026)*
- (11) Walgreens #19999, Murray *(purchase agreement February 26, 2026)*
- (12) Walgreens #19168, Park City *(purchase agreement February 26, 2026)*
- (13) Walgreens #18974, Salt Lake City *(purchase agreement February 26, 2026)*
- (14) Walgreens #19032, South Salt Lake *(purchase agreement February 26, 2026)*
- (15) Walgreens #17008, Holladay *(purchase agreement February 26, 2026)*
- (16) Walgreens #15623, Kearns *(purchase agreement February 26, 2026)*
- (17) Walgreens #15289, Millcreek *(purchase agreement February 26, 2026)*
- (18) Walgreens #15013, South Ogden *(purchase agreement February 26, 2026)*
- (19) Walgreens #13011, Payson *(purchase agreement February 26, 2026)*
- (20) Walgreens #12480, Vernal *(purchase agreement February 26, 2026)*
- (21) Walgreens #12452, Woods Cross *(purchase agreement February 26, 2026)*
- (22) Walgreens #12294, Draper *(purchase agreement February 26, 2026)*
- (23) Walgreens #11674, St George *(purchase agreement February 26, 2026)*
- (24) Walgreens #11734, Provo *(purchase agreement February 26, 2026)*
- (25) Walgreens #11673, Hurricane *(purchase agreement February 26, 2026)*
- (26) Walgreens #11524, Herriman *(purchase agreement February 26, 2026)*
- (27) Walgreens #11523, Heber *(purchase agreement February 26, 2026)*
- (28) Walgreens #11337, Cedar City *(purchase agreement February 26, 2026)*
- (29) Walgreens #11150, Orem *(purchase agreement February 26, 2026)*
- (30) Walgreens #10820, North Ogden *(purchase agreement February 26, 2026)*
- (31) Walgreens #10731, Cottonwood Heights *(purchase agreement February 26, 2026)*
- (32) Walgreens #10552, Logan *(purchase agreement February 26, 2026)*
- (33) Walgreens #10415, Tooele *(purchase agreement February 26, 2026)*
- (34) Walgreens #10104, Saratoga Springs *(purchase agreement February 26, 2026)*

- (35) Walgreens #09974, Springville (*purchase agreement February 26, 2026*)
- (36) Walgreens #09681, Lehi (*purchase agreement February 26, 2026*)
- (37) Walgreens #09238, Salt Lake City (*purchase agreement February 26, 2026*)
- (38) Walgreens #09192, Orem (*purchase agreement February 26, 2026*)
- (39) Walgreens #09111, Millcreek (*purchase agreement February 26, 2026*)
- (40) Walgreens #07982, Kaysville (*purchase agreement February 26, 2026*)
- (41) Walgreens #07052, St George (*purchase agreement February 26, 2026*)
- (42) Walgreens #07007, Riverton (*purchase agreement February 26, 2026*)
- (43) Walgreens #06669, South Jordan (*purchase agreement February 26, 2026*)
- (44) Walgreens #06282, Kearns (*purchase agreement February 26, 2026*)
- (45) Walgreens #06281, Draper (*purchase agreement February 26, 2026*)
- (46) Walgreens #06183, Bountiful (*purchase agreement February 26, 2026*)
- (47) Walgreens #05737, Salt Lake City (*purchase agreement February 26, 2026*)
- (48) Walgreens #02529, Syracuse (*purchase agreement February 26, 2026*)
- (49) Walgreens #02527, South Ogden (*purchase agreement February 26, 2026*)
- (50) Walgreens #02519, Clinton (*purchase agreement February 26, 2026*)
- (51) Walgreens #09239, Midvale (*purchase agreement February 26, 2026*)

*New Applicants:*

- (1) Extra Mile #4261, Sandy (*conditional*)
- (2) Fairfield Inn & Suites Virgin Zion National Park, Virgin Town
- (3) HiMart, Cottonwood Heights
- (4) Guanajuato Market, Kearns
- (5) Last Chance Store 14, Riverton (*conditional*)
- (6) Star Mini Mart, Sandy
- (7) Target Store T-2932, Logan (*conditional*)
- (8) Trader Joe's, Herriman (*conditional*)

c. Manufacturing

*License Change of Ownership:*

- (1) RoHa Brewing Project, Salt Lake City (*brewery*) (*purchase agreement January 6, 2026*)

d. Package Agency

*New Applicant:*

- (1) RoHa Brewing Project, Salt Lake City (*Type 5*)

e. Hotel

*New Applicants:*

- (1) Amangiri Resort & Camp Sarika by Armangiri, Canyon Point

*(will surrender two restaurant full-service licenses, on-premise banquet license, and bar license)*

f. On-Premise Banquet

*License Changes of Ownership:*

- (1) TopGolf, Midvale *(purchase agreement January 1, 2026)*
- (2) TopGolf, Vineyard *(purchase agreement January 1, 2026)*

g. Special Use Permit

*New Applicant:*

- (1) Innovative Labs, Springville *(industrial or manufacturing)*

h. Restaurant Limited-Service

*New Applicant:*

- (1) Hidden Peak Provisions, Midway *(conditional)*

i. On-Premise Beer Retailer - Beer Recreational

*New Applicants:*

- (1) Red Ledges Club LLC, Heber City
- (2) Pin High Cafe - Mountain Dell, Salt Lake City *(conditional) (violation history)*

j. Restaurant Full-Service

*Extended Closure:*

- (1) Kona Grill, Riverton *(requesting until June 25, 2026)*

*License Changes of Ownership:*

- (1) TopGolf, Midvale *(purchase agreement January 1, 2026)*
- (2) TopGolf, Vineyard *(purchase agreement January 1, 2026)*
- (3) Salt & Olive, Salt Lake City *(conditional) (purchase agreement February 24, 2026)*
- (4) Urban Spice, Salt Lake City *(conditional) (purchase agreement February 9, 2026)*

*New Applicants:*

- (1) Coral Cliffs Entertainment Center, Hurricane *(conditional)*
- (2) Culinary Dropout, Salt Lake City *(conditional)*
- (3) Puerto Vallarta Restaurant, Cedar City *(conditional)*

Compliance Administrator Craig Warr gave an overview of the items on the consent agenda. He noted the items are complete and ready for commission action.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Orton moved to approve items A-J on the consent agenda. Vice Chair Tarazon second the motion. Chair Stephen Handy asked for a vote. The motion passed 4 - 0 - 2.

**Yea**

Vice Chair Tarazon  
Falyn Owens  
Jacquelyn Orton  
Julliette Tennert

**Nay**

**Absent**

Tara Thue  
Christopher Conabee

**LICENSE APPLICATIONS CONSIDERATION ITEMS:**

a. **Bar Establishment:**

Change of Location:

- (1) Tap Room, Salt Lake City (*moving from 2021 S Windsor St. Salt Lake City, to 2148 S 900 E Unit D, Salt Lake City*)

Compliance Administrator Craig Warr presented the change of location for Tap Room in Salt Lake City.

**MOTION:** Vice Chair Tarazon moved to approve the change of location request for Tap Room in Salt Lake City. Commissioner Owens seconded the motion. Chair Stephen Handy asked for a vote. The motion passed 4 - 0 - 2.

**Yea**

Vice Chair Tarazon  
Falyn Owens  
Jacquelyn Orton  
Julliette Tennert

**Nay**

**Absent**

Tara Thue  
Christopher Conabee

License Change of Ownership:

- (1) RoHa Brewing Project, Salt Lake City (*purchase agreement December 29, 2025*)

Compliance Administrator Craig Warr gave an overview of the change of ownership application for RoHa Brewing Project in Salt Lake City.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Owens moved to approve the change of ownership application for RoHa Brewing Project in Salt Lake City. Commissioner Orton seconded the motion. Chair Stephen Handy asked for a vote. The motion passed 4 - 0 - 2.

**Yea**

Vice Chair Tarazon  
Falyn Owens  
Jacquelyn Orton  
Julliette Tennert

**Nay**

**Absent**

Tara Thue  
Christopher Conabee

*New Applicants:*

- (1) Tannin Bar, Park City (*conditional*)
- (2) The Crooked Cue Sports Bar and Grill, Ogden (*conditional*)

(3) The Colony Club, Park City (*equity bar license*) (*conditional*)

Compliance Administrator Craig Warr gave an overview of the new applicants. He noted that there are 28 full-year and 1 winter seasonal bar establishment licenses available by quota.

**MOTION:** Vice Chair Tarazon moved to approve a conditional bar establishment license for Tannin Bar in Park City, The Crooked Cue Sports Bar and Grill in Ogden, and The Colony Club in Park City. Commissioner Tennert seconded the motion. Chair Stephen Handy asked for a vote. The motion passed 4 - 0 - 2.

**Yea**

Vice Chair Tarazon  
Falyn Owens  
Jacquelyn Orton  
Julliette Tennert

**Nay**

**Absent**

Tara Thue  
Christopher Conabee

**COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS AND PUBLIC:**

Vice Chair Tarazon expressed gratitude for the annual opportunity to visit different parts of the state and thanked Commissioner Owens for hosting. Chair Stephen Handy also thanked Commissioner Owens for the accommodations in Garfield County

**ADJOURN:**

**MOTION:** Vice Chair Tarazon moved to adjourn the May commission meeting. Commissioner Orton seconded the motion. Chair Stephen Handy called for a vote. The motion passed 4 - 0 - 2.

**Yea**

Vice Chair Tarazon  
Falyn Owens  
Jacquelyn Orton  
Julliette Tennert

**Nay**

**Absent**

Tara Thue  
Christopher Conabee

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:54 am.

After the meeting, the commission visited a local Panguitch type 2 package agency, Boots & Booze Liquor.