MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF UTAH
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE SERVICES COMMISSION
HELD THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2026
MULTI-AGENCY STATE OFFICE BUILDING
195 NORTH 1950 WEST, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

Commissioners present:
Chair, Stephen Handy
Christopher Conabee
Juliette Tennert
Falyn Owens

Commissioners virtual:
Vice Chair, Jennifer Tarazon

Commissioners absent:
Tara Thue

Staff present:
Department Commissioner, Ericka Evans
Deputy Commissioner, Matt Mackay
Chief Compliance Officer, Adam Duncan
Alcohol Education Director, Doug Murakami
Finance Manager, Tammy Bolte
Compliance Administrator, Craig Warr

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

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Program Manager Jeff Colvin led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Chair Stephen Handy introduced the commissioners and staff members that assist with the commission meeting. He noted that Commissioner Tara Thue was excused and made the following announcements.

a. Proposed Future Meeting Schedule: *(subject to change)*
   - Thursday, October 29, 2026 - MASOB
   - Thursday, November 19, 2026 - MASOB

b. Holiday Closure:
   State liquor store and the DABS administrative office and warehouse will be closed:
   - Monday, October 12, 2026 *(Columbus Day)*
   - Wednesday, November 11, 2026 *(Veterans' 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 by 5:00 pm on Wednesday, September 23, 2026.
- Comments will be addressed at the end of the meeting.

PARENTS EMPOWERED UPDATE:

Alcohol Education Director Doug Murakami provided a first-quarter FY2027 update on the Parents Empower campaign strategies. He introduced Bonneville Communications (Boncom) as the campaign's new advertising agency, highlighted new social media enhancements and ongoing collaboration with 13 local prevention groups to assess their needs.

Chair Handy noted that, per legislative direction, revenue from state alcohol sales funds the Parent Empowered campaign to prevent underage drinking.

FINANCIAL UPDATE:

Finance Manager Tammy Bolte delivered the FY2027 Period 2 financial summary. She presented that retail sales for State Stores were down 5% compared to the same period in FY2026. She provided total returns of $3.75 million for school lunch and $635,000 for Public Safety. Ms. Bolte closed her presentation by remarking that customers generated $151,000 for the Pamela Atkinson Homeless Fund in August.

DEPARTMENT APPOINTMENT:

a. Deputy Commissioner

Department Commissioner Ericka Evans presented the department appointment for Matt Mackay as Deputy Commissioner, Finance and Administration. She shared a brief description of his background history, noting that he joined the department from the University of Utah.

MOTION: Commissioner Owens moved to approve the department appointment Deputy Commissioner for Matt Mackay. Commissioner Conabee seconded the motion. Chair Stephen Handy called for a vote. The motion passed unanimously 4 - 0 - 1.

Yea	**Nay**	**Absent**
Jennifer Tarazon, Vice Chair		Tara Thue
Falyn Owens		
Christopher Conabee		
Juliette Tennert		

OPERATIONS UPDATE:

Department Commissioner Ericka Evans provided an operations update to the commission, she highlighted legislative changes to proximity requirements for restaurants and hotels near parks and playgrounds. She noted that two restaurant applicants for consideration on the consent agenda have secured local consent for proximity. She then shared that store construction in Summit and Washington counties is scheduled for completion in late 2027 and announced that Compliance Specialist Joseph Ferrari will receive the Governor's Award for Excellence for peer leadership and dedicated support on special projects.

VIOLATIONS:

*Referral Sources – State Bureau of Investigation (SBI), West Valley Police Department (WPD), Unified Police Department (UPD)

[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)	Extra Mile #152, West Valley City and Hayvn Dynes	*WPD	(OP)
(2)	Sakura Hibachi Steakhouse & Sushi, Salt Lake City	*SBI	(RF)
(3)	Caffe Molise, Salt Lake City and Maxwell Kee	*SBI	(RF)
(4)	Wolfdog Brewing, Sandy	*SBI	(BAR)
(5)	Mirror Lake Diner, Kamas	*SBI	(RL)
(6)	Los Tapatios Mexican Restaurant, St George	*SBI	(RF)
(7)	Oscar’s Cafe, Springdale	*SBI	(RL)
(8)	Dave & Buster’s, Salt Lake City	*SBI	(RF)
(9)	Feellove Coffee, Springdale and Tristin Mower	*SBI	(RF)
(10)	Handosake, Salt Lake City and Ahilem Mora Dominguez	*SBI	(RF)
(11)	Bout Time Pub & Grub, Ogden	*SBI	(LB)
(12)	Courtyard Salt Lake City, Salt Lake City and Jose Chavez Senechal	*SBI	(RF)
(13)	7-Eleven Eleven #21858D, Millcreek	*UPD	(OP)
(14)	Texas Roadhouse, St. George	*SBI	(RF)
(15)	Matilda, Park City	*SBI	(SE)

Assistant Attorney General Samuel McHenry gave an overview of items #1 to #15 on the consent calendar noting they are complete and ready for action by the commission and answered Commissioner Conabee’s questions about selling alcohol at a reduced price.

MOTION: Commissioner Conabee moved to approve the settlement agreements for items #1 to #15 on the consent calendar. Commissioner Tennert seconded the motion. Chair Handy called for a vote. The motion passed unanimously 4 - 0 - 1.

Yea	**Nay**	**Absent**
Jennifer Tarazon, Vice Chair		Tara Thue
Falyn Owens		

Christopher Conabee
Juliette Tennert

LICENSEE RECOGNITIONS:

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

Department Commissioner Evans reported that since the August commission meeting 139 licensees passed the State Bureau of Investigation CUB safety inspections. She congratulated the licensees who passed and noted that there were many in Southern Utah. She thanked them for following alcohol laws safely.

SEPTEMBER 2026 LICENSE RENEWAL REMINDER:

a. Renewal Period September 1 to September 30, 2026
- Airport Lounge *(AL)*
- On-Premise Banquet *(BC)*
- Hospitality Amenity *(HA)*
- Hotel *(HL)*
- Resort *(RS)*
- Reception Center *(RC)*
- Restaurant Full-Service *(RF)*
- Restaurant Limited-Service *(RL)*
- Licensed as a Restaurant *(LR)*

Compliance Administrator, Craig Warr reminded those in attendance that the renewal period for the above licenses ends September 30, 2026.

CONSENT AGENDA:

a. Approval of the Minutes
(1) August 27, 2026 Commission Meeting

b. Off-Premise Beer Retailer State License
License Changes of Ownership:
(1) 7 Day Stop #2, Garland *(purchase agreement August 31, 2026)*
(2) Ichiban One, Castle Dale *(purchase agreement August 28, 2026)*
New Applicants:
(1) Lin's Supermarkets, Inc., Enoch
(2) Mercado El Pacifico, Inc., Heber City *(conditional)*
(3) Pantry Box, Salt Lake City *(conditional)*
(4) Rancho Markets, American Fork
(5) Ridley's Family Market, Nephi

c. Special Use Permit:

License Change of Location:

(1) Nutrix International, LLC, South Jordan *(industrial or manufacturing) (moving from 810 N 200 W, Salt Lake City to 10075 S Jordan Gateway, South Jordan)*

New Applicants:

(1) Wholesome Goods, LLC, Centerville *(industrial or manufacturing)*
(2) Volu-Sol, Tooele *(industrial or manufacturing)*
(3) Nicer, Salt Lake City *(industrial or manufacturing)*

d. Package Agency

New Applicant:

(1) Hopkins Brewing Company, Salt Lake City *(type 5)*

e. On-Premise Banquet

New Applicant:

(1) Anthera Restaurant, Springdale *(conditional)*

f. Local Industry Representative

New Applicant:

(1) Martignetti Companies Control State, West Valley City

g. Hotel Sub-License

New Applicant:

(1) The Stelle, Park City *(bar establishment license)*

h. Restaurant Limited-Service

New Applicants:

(1) BGR Burgers Grilled Right, Salt Lake City *(conditional)*
(2) Virgin Goods Cafe LLC, Virgin *(conditional)* (Updated Proximity Requirement)
(3) The Pickle Pad, St George *(conditional)*
(4) Sol and Sabor, Murray
(5) Via Veneto Pizzarium, Salt Lake City (Updated Proximity Requirement)
(6) Koyote Park City, Park City *(conditional)*
(7) Yi Sushi Bistro, Midvale
(8) The Kitchen Table, St George *(conditional)*

i. Restaurant Full-Service

New Applicants:

(1) Adobe Alcove LLC, Leeds *(conditional)*
(2) Santo Forno, St George *(conditional)*
(3) Henry Baker, Salt Lake City *(conditional)*
(4) Guayoyo Cafe, West Jordan *(conditional)*
(5) Giff's Barbecue, Kanab *(conditional)* (*will surrender their restaurant limited-service license upon approval)*

(6) Stolen Claim Cafe & Saloon, Kamas *(conditional)*

Chief Compliance Officer Adam Duncan gave an overview of the items on the consent agenda. He noted the items are complete and ready for action by the commission.

Commissioner Conabee clarified that local jurisdictions not the Department of Alcolohic Beverge Services have granted the proximity variances, carrying out the legislative direction noted by Department Commissioner Evans.

MOTION: Commissioner Owens moved to approve items a-i on the consent agenda. Commissioner Conabee seconded the motion. Chair Handy called for a vote. The motion passed unanimously 4 - 0 - 1.

Yea	**Nay**	**Absent**
Jennifer Tarazon, Vice Chair		Tara Thue
Falyn Owens		
Christopher Conabee		
Juliette Tennert		

LICENSE APPLICATION CONSIDERATION ITEM:

a. Bar Establishment
New Applicant:
(1) Nicklaus Turnhouse, Park City *(equity bar license) (conditional) (will surrender their beer recreational license upon approval)*

Compliance Administor Craig Warr presented the license application consideration item for item a. Bar Establishment new applicant Nicklaus Turnhouse in Park City. He noted that the applicant was no longer conditional and will surrender their Beer Recreational license upon approval.

MOTION: Commissioner Conabee moved to approve a bar establishment license for Nicklaus Turnhouse in Park City. Commissioner Owens seconded the motion. Chair Handy called for a vote. The motion passed unanimously 4 - 0 - 1.

Yea	**Nay**	**Absent**
Jennifer Tarazon, Vice Chair		Tara Thue
Falyn Owens		
Christopher Conabee		
Juliette Tennert		

COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS AND PUBLIC:

Commissioner Tennert expressed her appreciation for the efficient manner the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Services team has been providing the commissioner with the knowledge they need for the commission meetings.

ADJOURN:

MOTION: Commissioner Owens moved to close the September 24, 2026 commission meeting. Chair Handy called for a vote the motion passed unanimously.

Yea	**Nay**	**Absent**
Jennifer Tarazon, Vice Chair		Tara Thue
Falyn Owens		
Christopher Conabee		
Juliette Tennert		

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:26 am.