

STATE OF UTAH
SENATE JOURNAL
THIRD EXTRAORDINARY SESSION
of the
SIXTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

The Senate of the Sixty-sixth Legislature of the State of Utah met in the Senate Chamber at the State Capitol Complex and virtually in the Third Extraordinary Session at 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 18, 2025.

The Senate was called to order at 4:10 p.m. with President J. Stuart Adams presiding.

Prayer – Senator Evan Vickers

Pledge – Senator Heidi Balderree

Phalin Flowers, Secretary of the Senate, read the following communication:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, since the close of the 2025 General Session of the 66th Legislature of the State of Utah, certain matters have arisen which require immediate legislative attention; and

WHEREAS, Article VII, Section 6 of the Constitution of the State of Utah provides that the governor may, by proclamation, convene the Senate into Extraordinary Session; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Spencer J. Cox, Governor of the State of Utah, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and Laws of the State of Utah, do by this Proclamation call the Senate only of the 66th Legislature of the State of Utah into the Third Extraordinary Session at the Utah State Capitol in Salt Lake City, Utah, on the 18th day of June 2025, at 4:00 p.m., for the following purpose:

For the Senate to consent to appointments made by the Governor to positions within state government of the State of Utah since the close of the 2025 General Session of the Legislature of the State of Utah.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Utah. Done at the Utah State Capitol in Salt Lake City, Utah, this 17th day of June 2025.

Spencer J. Cox
Governor

Deidre M. Henderson
Lieutenant Governor

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Roll call – All Senators present except Senators McCay and Millner, excused

President Adams appointed Senator Sandall to notify the Governor’s representative that the Senate is convened in the Third Extraordinary Session.

Senator Sandall advised the Senate that the Governor’s representative has been notified of the convening of the Third Extraordinary Session.

On motion of Senator Wilson, the same rules, joint rules, and interim rules adopted by the 2025 Second Extraordinary Session were adopted as the rules for the Third Extraordinary Session of the Sixty–sixth Legislature.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE GOVERNOR

Mr. President: April 30, 2025
I am pleased to inform you that I have appointed Matthew Hansen as a Judge of the Second District Court, pursuant to Article VIII, Section 8 of the Utah Constitution and Utah Code Section 78A–10–101, et seq. Thank you for your timely consideration and confirmation of Mr. Hansen.

Spencer J. Cox
Governor

CONFIRMATION COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. President: June 10, 2025
The Senate Judicial Confirmation Committee met on June 10, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for Matthew Hansen to be confirmed to the position of Judge in the Utah Second District Court.

Todd Weiler, Chair

* * *

On motion of Senator Weiler, the Senate voted to consent to the appointment of Matthew Hansen on the following roll call vote:

Yeas, 26; Nays, 0; Absent, 3.

Voting in the affirmative were: Senators

Adams, S.	Balderree, H.	Blouin, N.	Brammer, B.
Cullimore, K.	Escamilla, L.	Fillmore, L.	Harper, W.
Hinkins, D.	Ipson, D.	Johnson, J.	Kwan, K.
McKell, M.	Musselman, C.	Owens, D.	Pitcher, S.
Plumb, J.	Riebe, K.	Sandall, S.	Stevenson, J.
Stratton, K.	Thatcher, D.	Vickers, E.	Weiler, T.
Wilson, C.	Winterton, R.		

Absent were: Senators

Grover, K.	McCay, D.	Millner, A.
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COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

On motion of Senator Wilson, Judge Matthew Hansen spoke in Committee of the Whole.

On motion of Senator Wilson, the Committee of the Whole was dissolved.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE GOVERNOR

Mr. President:

May 5, 2025

I am pleased to inform you that I have appointed Jordan Van Oostendorp as a Judge of the Eighth District Juvenile Court, pursuant to Article VIII, Section 8 of the Utah Constitution and Utah Code Section 78A–10–101, et seq. Thank you for your timely consideration and confirmation of Mr. Van Oostendorp.

Spencer J. Cox
Governor

CONFIRMATION COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. President:

June 10, 2025

The Senate Judicial Confirmation Committee met on June 10, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for Jordan Van Oostendorp to be confirmed to the position of Judge in the Utah Eighth District Juvenile Court.

Todd Weiler, Chair

* * *

On motion of Senator Weiler, the Senate voted to consent to the appointment of Jordan Van Oostendorp on the following roll call vote:

Yeas, 26; Nays, 0; Absent, 3.

Voting in the affirmative were: Senators

Adams, S.	Balderree, H.	Blouin, N.	Brammer, B.
Cullimore, K.	Escamilla, L.	Fillmore, L.	Harper, W.
Hinkins, D.	Ipson, D.	Johnson, J.	Kwan, K.
McKell, M.	Musselman, C.	Owens, D.	Pitcher, S.
Plumb, J.	Riebe, K.	Sandall, S.	Stevenson, J.
Stratton, K.	Thatcher, D.	Vickers, E.	Weiler, T.
Wilson, C.	Winterton, R.		

Absent were: Senators

Grover, K.	McCay, D.	Millner, A.
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COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

On motion of Senator Wilson, Judge Jordan Van Oostendorp spoke in Committee of the Whole.

On motion of Senator Wilson, the Committee of the Whole was dissolved.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE GOVERNOR

Mr. President: May 5, 2025
I am pleased to inform you that I have appointed Tony Graf as a Judge of the Fourth District Court, pursuant to Article VIII, Section 8 of the Utah Constitution and Utah Code Section 78A–10–101, et seq. Thank you for your timely consideration and confirmation of Mr. Graf.

Spencer J. Cox
Governor

CONFIRMATION COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. President: June 10, 2025
The Senate Judicial Confirmation Committee met on June 10, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for Tony Graf to be confirmed to the position of Judge in the Utah Fourth District Court.

Todd Weiler, Chair

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On motion of Senator Weiler, the Senate voted to consent to the appointment of Tony Graf on the following roll call vote:

Yeas, 26; Nays, 0; Absent, 3.

Voting in the affirmative were: Senators

Adams, S.	Balderree, H.	Blouin, N.	Brammer, B.
Cullimore, K.	Escamilla, L.	Fillmore, L.	Harper, W.
Hinkins, D.	Ipson, D.	Johnson, J.	Kwan, K.
McKell, M.	Musselman, C.	Owens, D.	Pitcher, S.
Plumb, J.	Riebe, K.	Sandall, S.	Stevenson, J.
Stratton, K.	Thatcher, D.	Vickers, E.	Weiler, T.
Wilson, C.	Winterton, R.		

Absent were: Senators

Grover, K.	McCay, D.	Millner, A.
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COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

On motion of Senator Wilson, Judge Tony Graf spoke in Committee of the Whole.

On motion of Senator Wilson, the Committee of the Whole was dissolved.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE GOVERNOR

Mr. President:

May 9, 2025

In accordance with Utah Code §§ 67-1-1 and 67-1-2, I propose and transmit the following appointment:

Governor’s Office of Economic Opportunity:

Jefferson Moss is appointed to replace Ryan Starks as the executive director of the Utah Governor’s Office of Economic Opportunity. See Utah Code 63N–1a–302.

Thank you for your timely consideration and confirmation of the above appointment.

Spencer J. Cox
Governor

CONFIRMATION COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. President: May 27, 2025
The Senate Economic Development and Workforce Services Confirmation Committee met on May 27, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for Jefferson Moss as the Executive Director of the Utah Governor’s Office of Economic Opportunity.

Ann Millner, Chair

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On motion of Senator Hinkins, the Senate voted to consent to the appointment of Jefferson Moss on the following roll call vote:

Yeas, 25; Nays, 1; Absent, 3.

Voting in the affirmative were: Senators

Adams, S.	Balderree, H.	Brammer, B.	Cullimore, K.
Escamilla, L.	Fillmore, L.	Harper, W.	Hinkins, D.
Ipson, D.	Johnson, J.	Kwan, K.	McKell, M.
Musselman, C.	Owens, D.	Pitcher, S.	Plumb, J.
Riebe, K.	Sandall, S.	Stevenson, J.	Stratton, K.
Thatcher, D.	Vickers, E.	Weiler, T.	Wilson, C.
Winterton, R.			

Voting in the negative was: Senator

Blouin, N.

Absent were: Senators

Grover, K.	McCay, D.	Millner, A.
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COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE GOVERNOR

Mr. President: May 19, 2025
In accordance with Utah Code §§ 67-1-1 and 67-1-2, I propose and transmit the following appointments:

Alcoholic Beverage Services Commission:

Falyn Owens is reappointed as a member of the Alcoholic Beverage Services Commission, a term to expire June 30, 2029. See Utah Code 32B–2–201.

Jennifer Tarazon is reappointed as a member of the Alcoholic Beverage Services Commission, a term to expire June 30, 2029. See Utah Code 32B–2–201.

Board of Tourism and Development:

Harold Simpson is appointed to replace Jared Berrett as a member representing San Juan, Piute, Wayne, Garfield, and Kane counties, for the Board of Tourism Development, a term to expire June 30, 2029. See Utah Code 63N-7-201(4)(b)(v).

Jessica Merrill is appointed to replace Kym Buttschardt as a member representing Davis, Weber, Box Elder, Cache and Rich counties, for the Board of Tourism Development, a term to expire June 30, 2029. See Utah Code 63N-7-201(4)(b)(ii).

Jennifer Wesselhoff is reappointed as a member representing Utah, Summit, Juab, and Wasatch counties, for the Board of Tourism Development, a term to expire June 30, 2029. See Utah Code 63N-7-201(4)(b)(iii).

Lesha Coltharp is reappointed as a member representing Carbon, Emery, Grand, Duchesne, Daggett, and Uintah counties, for the Board of Tourism Development, a term to expire June 30, 2029. See Utah Code 63N-7-201(4)(b)(iv).

Nathan Rafferty is reappointed as a member of ownership or executive management of the ski industry, for the Board of Tourism Development, a term to expire June 30, 2029. See Utah Code 63N-7-201(4)(c)(iii).

Victor Iverson is reappointed as a member representing the Utah Association of Counties for the Board of Tourism Development, a term to expire June 30, 2029. See Utah Code 63N-7-201(4)(f).

Dixie Tech Board of Trustees:

Gil Almquist is reappointed as a member of the Dixie Tech Board of Trustees, a term to expire June 30, 2029. See Utah Code 53B-2a-108(2)(c)(i)(C).

Reuben Evans is reappointed as a member of the Dixie Tech Board of Trustees, a term to expire June 30, 2029. See Utah Code 53B-2a-108(2)(c)(i)(C).

Stephen Wade is reappointed as a member of the Dixie Tech Board of Trustees, a term to expire June 30, 2029. See Utah Code 53B-2a-108(2)(c)(i)(C).

Title and Escrow Commission:

Doug Newell is appointed to replace Tina Williams as a member who is an employee of a Utah agency title insurance producer, for the Title and Escrow Commission, a term to expire June 30, 2029. See Utah Code 31A-2-403(1)(a)(ii)(A).

Utah Transit Authority Board of Trustees:

Beth Holbrook is reappointed as a member representing the northern region of the Utah Transit Authority Board of Trustees, a term to expire November 1, 2029. See Utah Code 17B-2a-807.2(1)(a)(ii)(c).

Wildlife Board:

Justin Oliver is appointed to replace Bryce Thurgood as a member representing the northern region and who has expertise in economics, including knowledge of recreational wildlife uses, for the Wildlife Board, the remainder of the term to expire August 15, 2027. See Utah Code 23A-2-301(2)(a)(iv).

Bob Christensen is appointed to replace Randy Dearth as a member representing the northeastern region and who has expertise in wildlife management or biology, for the Wildlife Board, a term to expire August 15, 2031. See Utah Code 23A-2-301(2)(a)(i).

Christopher Robinson is appointed to replace Wade Heaton as a public member and who has expertise in habitat management, including range or aquatic, for the Wildlife Board, a term to expire August 15, 2031. See Utah Code 23A-2-301(2)(a)(ii).

Ryan Foutz is appointed to replace Bret Selman as a public member and who has expertise in business, including knowledge of private land issues, for the Wildlife Board, a term to expire August 15, 2031. See Utah Code 23A-2-301(2)(a)(iii).

Thank you for your timely consideration and confirmation of the above appointments.

Spencer J. Cox
Governor

Mr. President:

May 27, 2025

In accordance with Utah Code §§ 67-1-1 and 67-1-2, I propose and transmit the following appointment:

Utah Commission on Uniform State Laws:

Senator Mike McKell is reappointed as a member of the Utah Commission on Uniform State Laws, a term to expire June 30, 2029. See Utah Code 68-4-5(1)(a).

Thank you for your timely consideration and confirmation of the above appointment.

Spencer J. Cox
Governor

Mr. President:

June 2, 2025

In accordance with Utah Code §§ 67-1-1 and 67-1-2, I propose and transmit the following appointment:

Government Records Office:

Lonny Pehrson is appointed as the executive director of the Government Records Office. See Utah Code 63A-12-202(2).

Thank you for your timely consideration and confirmation of the above appointment.

Spencer J. Cox
Governor

CONFIRMATION COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. President:

June 16, 2025

The Senate Business and Labor Confirmation Committee met on June 17, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for Doug Newell to be confirmed as a member of the Title and Escrow Commission; and

The Senate Business and Labor Confirmation Committee met on June 17, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for the reappointment of Falyn Owens as a member of the Alcoholic Beverage Services Commission; and

The Senate Business and Labor Confirmation Committee met on June 17, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for the reappointment of Jennifer Tarazon as a member of the Alcoholic Beverage Services Commission.

Evan Vickers, Chair

The Senate Economic Development and Workforce Services Confirmation Committee held a meeting on June 16, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Jessica Merrill as a member of the Board of Tourism Development; and

The Senate Economic Development and Workforce Services Confirmation Committee held a meeting on June 16, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Harold Simpson as a member of the Board of Tourism Development.

Ann Millner, Chair

Mr. President: June 9, 2025
The Senate Government Operations Confirmation Committee held a meeting on June 9, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Lonny Pehrson as Director of the Government Records Office.

Ronald Winterton, Chair

Mr. President: June 18, 2025
The Senate Judiciary Confirmation Committee met on June 18, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for the reappointment of Senator Michael McKell as a member for the Utah Commission on Uniform State Laws.

Brady Brammer, Chair

Mr. President: June 17, 2025
The Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Confirmation Committee held a meeting on June 17, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Justin Oliver as a member of the Wildlife Board; and

The Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Confirmation Committee held a meeting on June 17, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Bob Christensen as a member of the Wildlife Board; and

The Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Confirmation Committee held a meeting on June 17, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Christopher Robinson as a member of the Wildlife Board; and

The Senate Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment Confirmation Committee held a meeting on June 17, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Ryan Foutz as a member of the Wildlife Board.

Derrin Owens, Chair

Mr. President: June 3, 2025
The Senate Transportation, Public Utilities, Energy, and Technology Confirmation Committee held a meeting on June 3, 2025, and reports a favorable recommendation for the appointment of Beth Holbrook as a member of the Utah Transit Authority Board of Trustees.

Wayne Harper, Chair

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President Adams stated that a majority of the Senate President, Majority Leader, and Minority Leader voted to waive the 30-day requirement for the appointments of Senator Michael McKell to the Utah Commission on Uniform State Laws and Lonny Pehrson to the Government Records Office.

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On motion of Senator Hinkins, the Senate voted to consent to the appointment of Lonny Pehrson as Executive Director of the Government Records Office on the following roll call vote:

Yeas, 18; Nays, 8; Absent, 3.

Voting in the affirmative were: Senators

Adams, S.	Balderree, H.	Brammer, B.	Cullimore, K.
Fillmore, L.	Hinkins, D.	Ipson, D.	Johnson, J.
McKell, M.	Musselman, C.	Owens, D.	Sandall, S.
Stevenson, J.	Stratton, K.	Thatcher, D.	Vickers, E.
Weiler, T.	Wilson, C.		

Voting in the negative were: Senators

Blouin, N.	Escamilla, L.	Harper, W.	Kwan, K.
Pitcher, S.	Plumb, J.	Riebe, K.	Winterton, R.

Absent were: Senators

Grover, K.	McCay, D.	Millner, A.
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On motion of Senator Hinkins, the Senate voted to consent to the remaining appointments as read by staff on the following roll call vote:

Yeas, 26; Nays, 0; Absent, 3.

Voting in the affirmative were: Senators

Adams, S.	Balderree, H.	Blouin, N.	Brammer, B.
Cullimore, K.	Escamilla, L.	Fillmore, L.	Harper, W.
Hinkins, D.	Ipson, D.	Johnson, J.	Kwan, K.
McKell, M.	Musselman, C.	Owens, D.	Pitcher, S.
Plumb, J.	Riebe, K.	Sandall, S.	Stevenson, J.
Stratton, K.	Thatcher, D.	Vickers, E.	Weiler, T.
Wilson, C.	Winterton, R.		

Absent were: Senators

Grover, K.

McCay, D.

Millner, A.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

A citation was presented honoring the life, legacy, and service of Judy Kastin Bell.

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A citation was presented honoring the Salt Lake Community College's baseball team's 2025 National Championship victory.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

President Adams directed Senator Sandall to notify the Governor's representative that the Senate has concluded its business in the Third Extraordinary Session.

Senator Sandall reported that Governor's representative has been notified that the Senate has concluded its business in the Third Extraordinary Session.

On motion of Senator Wilson, and at 5:03 p.m., the Senate adjourned sine die.