

Lieutenant Governor

## **Insurance Department**

JONATHAN T. PIKE Insurance Commissioner

# **Title & Escrow Commission Meeting**

(https://insurance.utah.gov/licensees/title/tec/)

August 18, 2025 Date:

In Person Place:

Virtual Google Meet

Time: 9:00 AM

Taylorsville SOB 4315 S. 2700 W. Flaming Gorge Room Taylorsville, UT 84129

## **ATTENDEES**

TITLE & ESCROW COMMISSION

xChair, Nathan Sprague (Insurer, Utah County) xKim Cruz (Insurer, Salt Lake County) xVice Chair, Kevin Parke (Agency, Salt Lake County) xJeff Mathews (Public, Morgan County) xDoug Newell (Agency, Carbon County)

#### DEPARTMENT STAFF

Jon Pike, Insurance Commissioner Randy Overstreet, Licensing Mgr. xSteve Gooch, PIO Recorder

xReed Stringham, Deputy Comm. Tracy Klausmeier, P&C Dir. Michael Covington, CE Specialist

Patrick Lee, Finance Dir.

#### **PUBLIC**

Matt Sager	Mike Sumner	TJ Johnson
Whitney Galvan	Wade Taylor	Joseph McPhie
Blaine Einzinger	Wendy Jeffery	Maureen Dunn
Blake Heiner	Terrie Lund	Frank Medina
TeJay Rasband	Tina Williams	Brooke Adair
Tristan Hammett	Steve Hiatt	Matt Ryden
Sarah Wade	Carol Yamamoto	Shellie Ennis
Frank Ivory	Crystal Keele	James Swan
Trevor Mooney	Roger Gardiner	Jeff Wiener
Cort Ashton	Kim Holbrook	"bhohman"

# MINUTES — Approved

General Session: (Open to the Public)

"Freedom Title Insurance Agency"

- Welcome / Nathan Sprague, Chair (9:03 AM)
- **Telephone Roll Call**
- **Adopt Minutes of Previous Meeting** 
  - o Timestamp 02:00
  - Motion by Kevin to adopt minutes. Seconded by Kim. Motion passed x5-0.
    - YEA: Nate, Kim, Kevin, Jeff, Doug

■ NAY: None

#### Concurrence Reports

- Licenses
  - *Timestamp 03:22*
  - Motion by Kevin to concur. Seconded by Kim. Motion passed 5-0.
    - YEA: Nate, Kim, Kevin, Jeff, Doug
    - NAY: None
- Penalties
  - Summit Escrow & Title Insurance Agency, Docket #2025-4819
    - *Timestamp 05:00*
    - The respondent failed to file its 2024 annual report by the May 1 deadline and was assessed a \$250 forfeiture.
    - Motion by Kevin to concur. Seconded by Kim. Motion passed 5-0.
      - o YEA: Nate, Kim, Kevin, Doug, Jeff
      - o NAY: None
  - REI Title LLC, Docket #2025-4825
    - *Timestamp 07:41*
    - The respondent stipulated to a \$500 forfeiture for failure to file its 2024 annual report by the May 1 deadline.
    - Motion by Kevin to concur. Seconded by Kim. Motion passed 5-0.
      - O YEA: Nate, Kim, Kevin, Doug, Jeff
      - o NAY: None

## • Update on 2025 Goals

- ULTA report
  - *Timestamp 09:06*
  - The ULTA convention was held last month. It was a success and lots of good topics were discussed.
- New ULTA liaison
  - *Timestamp 10:00*
  - Kim Cruz will act as the new ULTA liaison.

### • Marketing Questions / Reed

Final determinations posted at <a href="https://insurance.utah.gov/licensees/title/tec/#marketing-questions">https://insurance.utah.gov/licensees/title/tec/#marketing-questions</a>.

- O Q1: Are title sales reps allowed to give a shout out to agents on social media?
  - *Timestamp 12:55*
- O Q2: Did R592-6 change to allow stickers on self-promotional items?
  - *Timestamp 26:15*
- O Q3: Can a title company sponsor a breakfast for an event that does not include CE?
  - *Timestamp 28:00*

#### New Business

- Need for requirement to maintain a physical office 31A-23a-406(2)(i) / Reed
  - *Timestamp 31:15*
  - The UID was contacted by an entity in Minnesota that is threatening to sue over the requirement that a title agency have a physical office in Utah.
  - The TEC and industry discussed the importance of maintaining a physical office in the state for consumer protection, enforcement, and client accessibility.
- o Proposal: Title insurers monitor agency producers / Reed
  - *Timestamp 45:45*
  - Reed presented a proposal for title insurers to monitor how agency producers handle escrow funds. He emphasized that it is just a proposal and is an attempt to stop rogue escrow agents from stealing consumer funds.

- Discussion followed about the few positives and many negatives about the UID's proposal, largely focusing on the burdensome nature of the requirement. It was noted that 31A-23a-407 is a sufficient backstop that protects consumers and is already in effect.
- The TEC formed a subcommittee to explore capitalization requirements for new title agencies. The subcommittee members are:
  - Kim Cruz
  - Terrie Lund
  - Mike Sumner
  - Matt Sager
  - Joseph McPhie
  - TeJay Rasband
  - Frank Ivory
  - Cort Ashton
  - Wade Taylor
  - Roger Gardiner
  - Blaine Einzinger
- The first subcommittee meeting will be September 8, immediately following the regular TEC meeting.
- Ultimately, Reed withdrew the proposal for title insurers to monitor agency producers.
- Exam review workshop / Reed
  - *Timestamp 01:24:40*
  - Prometric will hold its annual exam review workshop on October 1 from 1:30-5:00pm. One TEC member is required to attend.
  - Kim and Nate will attend for the TEC. Mike Sumner will attend as well.
- o Five-year review of R592-1 / Steve
  - *Timestamp 01:26:15*
  - Discussion followed about the need for the rule.
  - Motion by Kevin to continue R592-1. Seconded by Kim. Motion passed 5-0.
    - YEA: Nate, Kim, Kevin, Doug, Jeff
    - NAY: None
- Old Business
- Other Business
  - O Status of construction money rule / Matt
    - *Timestamp 01:28:05*
    - Cort Ashton, Matt Sager, and Joseph McPhie have been working on it, but it's not ready yet. It should be done shortly.
- Hot Topics

### Executive Session (None)

- **Adjourn** (10:34 AM)
  - o Motion by Kevin to adjourn. Seconded by Kim. Motion passed 5-0.
    - YEA: Nate, Kim, Kevin, Doug, Jeff
    - NAY: None
- Next Meeting: September 8, 2025 Flaming Gorge Room, Taylorsville State Office Building

### 2025 Meeting Schedule

<del>Jan 13**</del>	Feb 10**	<del>Mar 10</del>	Apr 14	<del>May 12*</del>	<del>Jun 9</del>
ONLINE	ONLINE	Flaming Gorge	Flaming Gorge	Flaming Gorge	Flaming Gorge

Jul 14	Aug 18	Sep 8	Oct 20*	Nov 10	Dec 8**
Flaming Gorge	ONLINE				

<sup>\*</sup>Proposed TEC/REC meeting immediately following
\*\*Online only

These minutes were prepared with the assistance of Google Gemini AI. They have been reviewed and improved by a human person and are accurate.