

## **Insurance Department**

JONATHAN T. PIKE Insurance Commissioner

# Title & Escrow Commission Special Meeting

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

<u>Date:</u> February 21, 2024 <u>Place:</u> <u>In Person</u> <u>Virtual</u>

Taylorsville SOB Google Meet

**<u>Time:</u>** 11:00 AM 4315 S. 2700 W.

Little Cottonwood Room Taylorsville, UT 84129

## **ATTENDEES**

TITLE & ESCROW COMMISSION

xChair, Kim Holbrook (Insurer, Davis County) xNathan Sprague (Insurer, Utah County) xVice Chair, Jeff Mathews (Public, Morgan County) xKevin Parke (Agency, Salt Lake County)

DEPARTMENT STAFF

xJon Pike, Insurance Commissioner xReed Stringham, Deputy Comm. xTracy Klausmeier, P&C Dir. xRandy Overstreet, Licensing Mgr. Patrick Lee, Finance Dir. xKelly Christensen, P&C Asst. Dir. Michael Covington, CE Specialist xSteve Gooch, PIO Recorder

**PUBLIC** 

Cort Ashton Nancy Frandsen Joseph McPhie
Rachael Ortiz Matt Ryden David Smith
Wade Taylor Frank Medina Jessica Goodman

TeJay Rasband Matt Sager

# MINUTES — Approved

General Session: (Open to the Public)

- Welcome / Kim Holbrook, Chair (11:01 AM)
- Telephone Roll Call
- New Business
  - o Recommended changes to R592-6 / Reed
    - *Timestamp 03:00*
    - The purpose of this meeting is to review and approve the changes that were discussed and agreed to at the February 12 meeting.
    - Discussion about R592-6-4(6), which concerns the sharing of office space. Discussion focuses on how the change could interfere with a landlord doing business.
    - Kim recommends removing "under an agreement to which the client is a party" to deal with the landlord issue. Tina and Jeff agree.

<sup>\*</sup>This special meeting was called at the request of the Insurance Commissioner under 31A-2-403(6)(c)(i)\*

- Discussion about R592-6-4(7), which sets expectations for complying with the rule.
- Discussion about R592-6-4(17), which is being removed because it clashes with Subsection (21).
- Discussion about R592-6-4(21), which includes items moved from Subsection (17).
- Discussion about R592-6-5, which sets a deadline to comply with the rule. Jeff objects to an
  arbitrary date because it forces a landlord to change a valid, executed contract with a tenant.
  Discussion about getting rid of the specific date and sticking with the expiration date of the
  current agreement.
- Nate notes that some leases may have clauses that allows renewal or extension of the term. He thinks having a date is a good thing. Reed says "current agreement" wouldn't allow someone to exercise their right to renew. Jeff says a renewal agreement or extension is a valid part of the lease and cannot be prohibited. Reed says the prohibition would apply to the person wanting to renew the lease, not the landlord.
- Discussion about making the language more about sharing common resources and less about the space itself.
- Discussion about the need to set an end date for enforcement purposes, and whether such a limitation interferes with the right to contract. Reed says if we're already limiting what kind of space can be leased i.e., no internal doors this is just another kind of limitation that disallows renewing a lease. He proposes an end date of December 31, 2029.
- Discussion about changing the rule to just say office space cannot be shared at all, including common space.
- Reed proposes changing the language to be "(6) Occupying office space with a client, except:" and then a list of exceptions that includes a lobby and a break room and other areas the commissioner deems appropriate.
- Cort believes that "separate and distinct" is a statutory requirement, and the rule is the right place to give guidance about what "separate and distinct" is.
- Tracy notes that the rule language is complicated for market conduct to enforce because different people have different ideas about what's OK and what's not. Reed is trying to draw a line in the sand so examiners know what is and is not a violation.
- Discussion about specific common spaces and whether they should be allowed.
- Reed will make changes and take suggestions for the rule and will present them at a future meeting.

### Executive Session (None)

- **Adjourn** (12:00 PM)
  - o Motion by Tina to adjourn. Seconded by Nate. Motion passes 5-0.
    - YEA: Kim, Kevin, Tina, Nate, Jeff
    - NAY: None
- Next Meeting: March 11, 2024 Flaming Gorge Room, Taylorsville State Office Building

#### **2024 Meeting Schedule**

<del>Jan 22</del> Flaming Gorge	Feb 12 Flaming Gorge	Mar 11 Flaming Gorge	Apr 8* TBD	May 13 TBD	Jun 10 TBD
Jul 8	Aug 19	Sep 9	Oct 21*	Nov 18	Dec 9
TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD

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