

**MINUTES OF THE
SENATE EDUCATION CONFIRMATION COMMITTEE**
Tuesday, July 19, 2011 – 10:00 a.m. – Room 445 State Capitol

Members Present:

Sen. Howard A. Stephenson, Chair
Sen. Karen W. Morgan
Sen. Stephen H. Urquhart

Members Absent:

Sen. Mark B. Madsen
Sen. Aaron Osmond

Staff Present:

Ms. Allison M. Nicholson, Policy Analyst
Ms. Chelsea B. Lloyd, Legislative Secretary

Note: A list of others present, a copy of related materials, and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at www.le.utah.gov.

1. Committee Business

Chair Stephenson called the meeting to order at 10:26 a.m. Sen. Osmond was excused from the meeting.

2. Consideration of Proposed Appointment of James M. Lekas as a member of the School and Institutional Trust Lands Board of Trustees

Mr. James M. Lekas, participating by teleconference, introduced himself and commented briefly on his background. Mr. Lekas explained that he believes school lands must be managed so that the Trust receives the maximum value, while also being protected and preserved to provide the best good for Utah today and in the future.

Ms. Margaret Bird, State Office of Education, commended the Committee for allowing the public to participate in the confirmation of appointees and recommended Mr. Lekas as a member of the Institutional Trust Lands Board of Trustees.

MOTION: Sen. Urquhart moved to recommend to the full Senate that Mr. James M. Lekas be confirmed as a member of the School and Institutional Trust Lands Board of Trustees. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Consideration of Proposed Appointment of Robert W. Prince as a member of the Utah State Board of Regents

Mr. Robert W. Prince, participating by teleconference, introduced himself and commented briefly on his background.

Sen. Urquhart advised Mr. Prince to be an active participant of the Utah State Board of Regents to better the standards for public institutions of higher education in Utah.

Mr. Prince responded to committee members' questions that included discussions of engineering education and the role of the Board of Regents in regional and state higher education issues. He explained his interests include considering individuals who are struggling to finance higher education, researching the low completion rates for higher education students, and the necessity to equip students with economically valuable skills.

MOTION: Sen. Urquhart moved to recommend to the full Senate that Mr. Robert W. Prince be confirmed as a member of the Utah State Board of Regents. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes of the Senate Education Confirmation Committee
July 19, 2011
Page 2

4. Other Items / Adjourn

MOTION: Sen. Morgan moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Stephenson adjourned the meeting at 11:23 a.m.