

**MINUTES OF THE
SENATE JUDICIAL CONFIRMATION COMMITTEE**
Wednesday, July 6, 2016 – 10:00 a.m. – Room 450 State Capitol

Members Present:

Sen. Scott K. Jenkins, Chair
Sen. Lyle W. Hillyard
Sen. Peter C. Knudson
Sen. Karen Mayne
Sen. Stephen H. Urquhart
Sen. Todd Weiler

Members Absent:

Sen. Jim Dabakis

Staff Present:

Mr. Jerry D. Howe, Managing Policy Analyst
Ms. Susan Creager Allred, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Lucy W. Daynes, Legislative Assistant

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 Jenkins called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

Committee members and staff introduced themselves.

MOTION: Sen. Hillyard moved to approve the minutes of the June 10, 2016, committee meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Mayne and Sen. Urquhart absent for the vote.

2. Interview of Mr. Craig Bunnell

MOTION: Sen. Weiler moved to close the meeting for the purpose of discussing the character, professional competence, and physical or mental health of the judicial candidate, Mr. Craig Bunnell. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Mayne and Sen. Urquhart absent for the vote.

Chair Jenkins requested that the candidate and all audience members leave the committee room for the closed portion of the meeting.

The committee met in closed session.

The committee invited the candidate into the closed session to discuss the candidate's character and professional competence.

Chair Jenkins invited the audience back into the committee room.

MOTION: Sen. Hillyard moved to open the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Jenkins noted that Mr. Bunnell was placed under oath by Mr. Howe when the committee met with the candidate in closed session. Chair Jenkins advised Mr. Bunnell in the open meeting that the oath would remain in effect through the remainder of the meeting.

Mr. Bunnell introduced his family in attendance and offered a statement on his family history, upbringing, and legal experience with the Office of the Guardian ad Litem and juvenile courts.

Mr. Bunnell answered questions from the committee regarding his education, the transition from the role of a guardian ad litem to that of a juvenile court judge, and the importance of drug courts.

MOTION: Sen. Urquhart moved to favorably recommend to the full Senate that Mr. Bunnell be confirmed as a judge on the Seventh District Juvenile Court. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Hillyard absent for the vote.

3. Other Items/Adjourn

MOTION: Sen. Weiler moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Hillyard absent for the vote.

Chair Jenkins adjourned the meeting at 11:39 a.m.