



Wasatch County Council Meeting Minutes

DRAFT Minutes for March 4, 2026

The Wasatch County Council met in regular session live and on-line Wednesday, March 4, 2026, in the Wasatch County Chambers located in the Wasatch County Administrative Building at 25 North Main, Heber City, Utah 84032.

A video recording of the meeting may be viewed by using the Wasatch County Public Portal (<https://wasatchcount.portal.civicclerk.com/>) and selecting the desired meeting.

Call to Order

1. Prayer/Remarks – Mark Nelson
2. Pledge of Allegiance – Erik Rowland

Public Comment

Public comments will be accepted in-person or via Zoom Webinar. Please limit comments to three minutes. If action is necessary, the item will be listed on a future agenda. The Council may elect to discuss the item if it is an immediate matter of concern. Email public comments to publiccomment@wasatchcounty.gov.

Summary: Councilmember McMillan: We will accept public comment in person or by zoom. Please limit comment to 3 minutes if possible. If action is necessary, the item will be listed on a future agenda item. Council may elect to discuss the item or there may be no discussion at all.

Call for Agenda Items

Summary: Councilmember McMillan, call for agenda items.

Councilmember Bonner asked if adjustments to board assignments need further discussion and to be on the next week's agenda.

Councilmember Rowland added that he has some exciting changes he would like to present for board assignments.

Board of Equalization

1. Abatement of taxes for tax-exempt parcel 00-0020-1082 – Jerry Jones

Summary: We found these parcels on the tax delinquent billing report.

Abatement of \$113.80

Action Taken: Councilmember Park made a motion to **abate the taxes for parcel 00-0020-1082 because it is now a county parcel.** Councilmember McMillan seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following vote:

Voting Aye: Colleen Bonner, Erik Rowland, Karl McMillan, Kendall Crittenden, Luke Searle, Mark Nelson, Spencer Park

Voting Nay: None

Consent Items

1. Approval of February 11, 2026 Minutes – Clerk/Auditor

Summary: Included in motion after item #2

2. Approval of February 18, 2026 Minutes – Clerk/Auditor

Action Taken: Councilmember Crittenden made a motion to continue these two **February 11, 2026 and February 18, 2026 minute approvals until we get those corrections made.** Councilmember Searle seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following vote:

Voting Aye: Colleen Bonner, Erik Rowland, Karl McMillan, Kendall Crittenden, Luke Searle, Mark Nelson, Spencer Park

Voting Nay: None

Council Items

1. Swearing in of Sheriff's Deputies – Jared Rigby

Summary: Many entities, as a part of the on-boarding process for law enforcement officers, conduct swearing-in ceremonies for new hires. This will be the first cohort to do so in Wasatch County.

This brief ceremony will cover the swearing in of Sheriff's Deputies.

Sheriff Rigby shared updates about this ceremony with council and that a new citizens advisory board has been created to help the office interact with the public more. Four deputies were sworn in: Colton Evans, Frankie Carmona, Garrett Kimball and Justin Deckard.

2. Presentation on a proposed statue for Chief Tabby – Mark Nelson & Marvin Rust

Summary: Marvin Rust has proposed installing a statue and plaque at the Heber City Cemetery in honor of Chief Tabby and his son, who is buried in the cemetery. While this project has applied for TAP funds, the council requested Mr. Rust present prior to that submission and the presentation does not include any request for funding. The TAP approval process will consider any potential recommendations at a future date.

Presentation to the council on a proposed statue of Chief Tabby
Councilmember Nelson introduced Marvin Rust. Marvin Rust presented on behalf of Wasatch Community Foundation and Sons of Utah Pioneers. This is regarding Chief Tabby's son, Tom Tabby, and the graveside in Heber City cemetery. The Sons of Utah Pioneers in 1986 put up a marker, and it has deteriorated over the years, and the Wasatch Community Foundation and Sons of Utah Pioneers are putting in a new marker and a new monument and would like to invite the County Council on May 2nd at 1:00 PM. for this event.

3. Discussion and consideration of interlocal meeting format and topics -
Dustin Grabau

Summary: Wasatch County adopted adjustments to the interlocal meeting structure for 2026. This includes having semi-annual interlocal meeting on the fourth Wednesday in April. Wasatch County intends to inform the interlocal participants of the following:

- Wasatch County will hold the interlocal meeting on Wednesday, April 22 at 4:00pm
- The meeting will include panel discussions at 4:00, 5:00, and 6:00
- The proposed topics are Local Land use Updates, Open Space Preservation, and Wasatch County Olympic Coordination.

Does the council support the proposed plan for the April Interlocal Meeting?

Council discussed the proposed format and approved it. They discussed the availability of all participating entities to hold a meeting on April 15th and move regular council to April 22nd because of the conflict with conference meetings.

4. Discussion and consideration of Heber Valley EIS comment submission -
Erik Rowland

Summary: UDOT published the Heber Valley Environment Impact Study in January 2026. Wasatch County has the option to provide a formal comment during the public comment period that extends to March 9, 2026.

Council Member Rowland brought up additional items for consideration at the February 11 meeting. Council recommended submitting the staff comments while continuing to work on additional comments.

At the February 18th and February 24th meeting, the County Council discussed additions and adjustments to the proposed comments and intends to adopt a final version at this meeting for submission.

What comments would the County Council like to submit to UDOT as part of the Heber Valley EIS?

Councilmember Rowland stated that he had attended the Heber City Council meeting the night before to discuss the draft letter addressed to UDOT that outlines the concerns, suggestions, and proposed amendments that the councils have with the route options and presented them in the meeting. Rowland stated he has been invited to attend an emergency meeting with Midway City to discuss whether they want to participate in signing the letter.

There were 11 public comments listed in the following order: Mark Wilson (representing North Fields Irrigation Co.), Ed Clyde, George Holmes, Wade Hansen, Linda Middleton, Randy Crist, Neal

Richardson, Kristi Judd, Tracy Taylor, Heidi Franco.

Action Taken: Councilmember Crittenden made a motion **that we approve this and sign it as a County Council with changes as discussed.** Councilmember Searle seconded the motion and emphasized that the letter is not an attempt to stop or delay a bypass. The motion passed with the following vote:

Voting Aye: Colleen Bonner, Erik Rowland, Karl McMillan, Kendall Crittenden, Luke Searle, Mark Nelson, Spencer Park

Voting Nay: None

Council/Board Reports

Summary: Councilmember Nelson reported on a meeting from earlier that was the working group that did the feasibility study on the trail from Deer Creek Dam to Soldier Hollow. There is a conflicting priority within the State of Utah: two parts of the state of Utah. The Utah trail, which is under UDOT, is responsible and has a mandate to build this trail. By definition, a 12' paved trail is, by definition, open, and it's free to all users. The trail runs through the state park and other parts of the trail and other parts of Utah also run through the state park, and the state park mandate is a fee per use and those two things are conflicting. There are issues with maintenance and determining who is responsible for those things.

Councilmember Nelson also reported on the UDOT quarterly meeting that discussed the different projects like the bypass issues and also the construction project on 189 and the costs associated with the project.

Councilmember McMillan reported that NRCS came through with the money for Alan Giles Conservation.

Councilmember Crittenden reminded Council it is that time of the year that they will deliver meals on wheels to the Senior Citizens some time in the month of March. The Council decided on the 20th at noon. Crittenden also reported that MAG and Wasatch County does not have the problem of a shortage because we will cover the short fall if that occurs. There was a suggestion to put something out to the public to be able to make private donations in addition to the local restaurant donation program.

Councilmember Crittenden reminded about Issues Conference tonight at 6:30 PM

Councilmember Crittenden had a question about HB 457 for County Manager Grabau. Will it affect Wasatch County?

Councilmember Crittenden mentioned County news from NACO report from Utah, Summit County recently launched a nightly rental concerns hotline for residents in neighborhoods with short-term rentals. Crittenden suggested that it may be something worth discussing for our County.

Councilmember Searle reported that this is the last week of the legislative session and a good number of bills have died. Most of the bills we were concerned about have been pulled. There is another bill that will make us whole as a state as we do the DMV for the state. The Library board meeting is doing good things working on the initiative walk with 250. The library lecture series is trying to get involved in celebrating our country turning 250 years old.

Councilmember Nelson added an item about our Heritage Day event. He met again with Ted Caldwell, one of the founders and keeper of the flame for cowboy poetry, and discussed being able to do some soft events at no cost to the county. Nelson will update as information is available.

Manager's Report

Summary: Grabau verified that Ed Sabey is person they are recommending for cowboy of the year?

Council all agreed yes.

Closed Session - as needed

Closed sessions may be held in accordance with Utah State Code 52-4-205 to discuss the following: Purchase, Exchange or Lease of Property; Pending or Reasonably Imminent Litigation; The Character, Professional Competence, or Physical or Mental Health of an Individual.

Councilmember McMillan, asked if there was a need for closed session, and there was no need.

Adjournment

Action Taken: Councilmember Park made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember McMillan seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following vote:

Voting Aye: Colleen Bonner, Erik Rowland, Karl McMillan, Kendall Crittenden, Luke Searle, Mark Nelson, Spencer Park

Voting Nay: None

Chairman

Joey D. Granger/Clerk/Auditor