



MEETING MINUTES
WEBER FIRE DISTRICT - BOARD OF TRUSTEES
October 1, 2026

Weber Fire District Board of Trustees - Meeting Agenda:

Board Members in Attendance:

Kevin Ward, Chair	Y	Michael Hancock, Vice Chair	Y	Jim Truett, Treasurer	N
Kristi Bell	Y	Sheri Bingham	N	David Bolos	N
Val Heiner	Y	Les Syme	Y	Rob Vanderwood	Y
Janet Wampler - Online	Y	David Yonan	Y		

Administration Members in Attendance:

Britt Clark, Chief	Y	Jared Taylor, Deputy Chief	Y	Cody Draheim, Div. Chief	Y
Jasmine Griffin, Finance Dir.	Y	Jolene Whipple, Office Mgr.	Y	Amy Hugie, Attorney	N

1. Call to Order – Kevin at 6:00 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance – Led by L. Syme
3. Invocation – Given by D. Yonan
4. Public Comments – The Chair requested that public comments address matters outside the annexation public hearings. Two Roy residents spoke about annexation concerns before the administrative presentation. The Chair advised that those concerns would be addressed during the hearing process.
 - Edwin Boswell, Roy, expressed concern about the financial effect of annexation following Roy City's planned property tax increase.
 - Russ Garcia, Roy, expressed concern that local resources would be sent outside Roy, resulting in longer response times and reduced service. He also questioned the financial impact on seniors, residents, on fixed incomes, and young families.

No action was taken during the general public comment period.

5. Administration Presentation on Annexation Process and Considerations.
 - Presented by Chief B. Clark
 - Chief Clark explained that Roy and Riverdale cities requested annexation after considering options for Fire and EMS Services. The District is responding to those requests. This meeting is for public comments and the next steps in the process, not final approval of annexation.
 - The District mailed the notices and is repeating the hearing process to correct a missed procedural step required by Utah Law and provide property owners an opportunity to participate and to provide a protest period. Final action will follow the protest period and completion of the required agreements and statutory procedures.
 - The working plan would retain both Roy's two fire stations and Riverdale's one station. Chief Clark described a coordinated regional response, additional staffing depth, and access to the District's prevention services, wildland division, 24-hours Chief-level supervision, and public information services.

- Chief Clark stated that the District was not proposing a tax rate increase. He explained that the mailed cards were annexation notices containing estimated financial information for Weber Fire District's current tax rate for an average home, rather than tax bills or notices of completed annexation. The average property values were provided by the County.
- The District's tax rate presented was 0.001301. Chief Clark explained that, if annexation proceeded, the District levy would appear as a separate line on the property tax bill. The notice estimated tax is only on one side. State law requires the cities to reduce their tax rates. But city reductions and individual financial effects were not available at the time of this meeting.
- Chief Clark distinguished the annexation hearing from a truth-in-taxation hearing. He explained that funding for Fire and EMS would move from the cities to the District, which would assume responsibility for the services.
- Anticipated benefits included additional resources for major incidents and station coverage, coordinated training, preventions services, medical oversight, logistics, and apparatus replacement supported by a larger tax base.
- Chief Clark stated that the financial planning has been ongoing to ensure the District could support the two cities without impact to current District residents. Remaining work includes a financial model, operational plan, written agreements covering facilities, apparatus, and employees, and completion of legal requirements.
- A 30-day protest period would follow the hearings. The District would validate eligible protests, review public comments, and continue the financial, operational, agreement, and legal work.

6. Public Hearings

- Riverdale City Annexation
 - Residents are allotted three minutes to address the Board. They must state their name and city of residence.
 - Motion to open the Riverdale City annexation public hearing made by M. Hancock
 - Second by L. Syme
 - The public hearing was opened at 6:20 p.m.
 - Roll call vote: All eight participating Board Members vote aye. Motion carried unanimously. J. Wampler participated electronically.

Roll Call Vote:

Kevin Ward, Chair	Y	Michael Hancock, Vice Chair	Y	Jim Truett, Treasurer	N
Kristi Bell	Y	Sheri Bingham	N	David Bolos	N
Val Heiner	Y	Les Syme	Y	Rob Vanderwood	Y
Janet Wampler - Online	Y	David Yonan	Y		

- Neal Clarke, Riverdale, thanked the firefighters for their service during a difficult time for the community. He stated that the District's rate was clear, but the city reductions were not and asked that the cities publish those reductions so residents could understand the offset and any remaining financial effect.
- Motion to close the Riverdale City annexation public hearing made by K. Bell
- Second by R. Vanderwood

- The Riverdale City public hearing closed at 6:23 p.m.
- Roll call vote: All eight participating Board Members vote aye. Motion carried unanimously. J. Wampler participated electronically.

Roll Call Vote:

Kevin Ward, Chair	Y	Michael Hancock, Vice Chair	Y	Jim Truett, Treasurer	N
Kristi Bell	Y	Sheri Bingham	N	David Bolos	N
Val Heiner	Y	Les Syme	Y	Rob Vanderwood	Y
Janet Wampler - Online	Y	David Yonan	Y		

- Roy City Annexation
 - Residents are allotted three minutes to address the Board. They must state their name and city of residence.
 - Motion to open the Roy City annexation public hearing made by M. Hancock
 - Second by D. Yonan
 - The public hearing was opened at 6:24 p.m.
 - Roll call vote: All eight participating Board Members vote aye. Motion carried unanimously. J. Wampler participated electronically.

Roll Call Vote:

Kevin Ward, Chair	Y	Michael Hancock, Vice Chair	Y	Jim Truett, Treasurer	N
Kristi Bell	Y	Sheri Bingham	N	David Bolos	N
Val Heiner	Y	Les Syme	Y	Rob Vanderwood	Y
Janet Wampler - Online	Y	David Yonan	Y		

- Steve Harris, Roy, (can't confirm name or residence, there is not Steve Harris, Roy listed on the public sign-in sheet). Asked how Roy City's tax reduction would relate to the District levy and who would provide that information. He also questioned the potential effect of District growth and the Powder Mountain station on future taxes.
- Chief Clark advised that Roy City would need to provide its reduction information.
- Dennis Brown, Roy, asked speakers to speak louder and use microphones. He requested clarification of the notice's financial estimates, whether both Roy stations would remain operational, the transfer of equipment, and training for firefighters and EMS personnel. And would taxes be raised.
- David Young, Roy, questioned if Roy City and the District had the same understanding of Roy's recent tax increase and the funding needed for annexation. He asked that the issue be reviewed between the City and the District and stated that annexation could be beneficial overall.
- Clair Brown, Roy, compared the postcard mailer estimate to her property valuation notice and asked how the estimated District amount would relate to Roy City's levy and reduction. She requested an explanation of how the figures should be interpreted.
- Danette McGilvray, Roy, expressed concern about notice and communications, the lack of accessible information about the proposal and deadlines. Is having difficulty hearing

speakers and viewing presentation slides. She requested more information about response times and asked that Roy's stations and recently purchased assets remain in Roy.

- Chief K. Ward and Vice Chair, M. Hancock addressed the public and acknowledged the difficulty hearing. They explained that what everyone is referring to as a microphone does not amplify sound and is used to record the meeting. It was asked that speakers speak louder and that the audience take conversations outside the meeting room.
- Janel Hulbert, Roy City Council Member, stated that she was attending as a constituent. She said that questions had been presented in public council meetings. She expressed support for annexation, thanked the District for its professionalism, and offered to answer Roy resident's questions afterward.
- Grant Cooper, Roy, requested timely and clear disclosure of the city and District tax changes. He asked about staffing levels, duplicate administration, possible long-term savings, and representation for residents.
- Sherrie Kay, Roy, described the prompt assistance her family had received from Roy firefighters and asked whether response times would increase when crews responded outside the City, especially as Roy's population grows.
- Stacy Little, Roy, commended the professionalism and response time of Roy crews and asked that the level of service be maintained.
- Motion to close the Roy City annexation public hearing made by D. Yonan
- Second by K. Bell
- The Roy City public hearing closed at 6:44 p.m.
- Roll call vote: All eight participating Board Members vote aye. Motion carried unanimously. J. Wampler participated electronically.

Roll Call Vote:

Kevin Ward, Chair	Y	Michael Hancock, Vice Chair	Y	Jim Truett, Treasurer	N
Kristi Bell	Y	Sheri Bingham	N	David Bolos	N
Val Heiner	Y	Les Syme	Y	Rob Vanderwood	Y
Janet Wampler - Online	Y	David Yonan	Y		

Responses and Discussion Following the Hearings

- Chief Clark explained that Stations 31 and 32 in Roy, and Station 41 in Riverdale would continue operating. A larger staffing pool would help fill the vacancies and absences, maintain apparatus staffing, and reduce the need to close units or rely on forced overtime.
- The District is already assisting Roy with staffing under a memorandum of understanding. Chief Clark later stated that Roy was down seven positions and that the District intended to fill those positions.
- Chief Clark explained that automatic aid already sends Roy, Riverdale, and other county agencies outside their boundaries when assistance is needed. Annexation would add

staffing flexibility, prevention services, and the ability to backfill stations during extended or larger incidents.

- Chief Clark described ongoing reviews of call volume, turnout times, travel times, time on scene, and hospital turnaround. He stated that maintaining response times was a priority and that Roy's call volume does not support reducing its staffing.
- Discussion addressed growth throughout the county and the west side, with stations planned in West Haven and Hooper, and land available for a future station on 12th Street. Chief Clark explained that the District's prevention office reviews development plans for fire access and other fire safety requirements.
- Chief Clark also discussed that with a larger organization crews would have more opportunities for training and additional practice and would have the staff to cover while crews attended those training courses. Especially with the planned training tower being built in Farr West.
- Station and apparatus markings would transition over time, with emergency response remaining the priority. Consolidated dispatch would remain the same.
- Chief Clark explained the District levy at the current rate of 0.001301 would be shown separately. He referred to questions about the cities' exact reductions would need to be addressed by each city; a coordinated release of that information was discussed
- Riverdale Fire Chief Matt Hennessy stated that Riverdale firefighters were enthusiastic about additional advancement, staffing depth, and training opportunities. He explained that a larger organization could maintain coverage while crews trained and help address minimum staffing challenges.
- Chief Hennessy stated that he operates within the budget provided for Riverdale fire services. He also thanked the District for its fire investigation assistance following the Riverdale fire that morning.
- The Board addressed the service demands created by Riverdale's daytime commercial population, the experience of existing District communities, and the benefits of regional resources.
- Jeff Cox, Roy, asked about wages and the loss of Roy firefighters over time. Chief Clark described annual wage comparisons with similar fire districts, competitive compensation and benefits, and career opportunities intended to retain experienced personnel.
- Chief Clark explained that employees would transfer be placed on the District's pay scale according to time and grade. Board members discussed promotion opportunities, and Chance Wilcox described his decision to join the District after serving in Salt Lake City.
- Board members explained that Roy and Riverdale would each have representation on the District Board if annexation proceeds.
- December 27 was discussed as the anticipated transition date if the process proceeds as planned. Staff stated that Roy firefighters would not be lost as a result of annexation.
- Chair Ward explained that a Board committee and assigned chief officers were reviewing the details of the annexation and transition. Staff and Board members offered to answer additional questions after the meeting.

7. Discussion and Action on Resolutions

- Resolution 39-2026 – A resolution acknowledging Riverdale City’s request for annexation, authorizing the District to proceed with the annexation process, and directing District staff to complete all necessary actions in accordance with Utah Law
- Motion to approve Resolution 39-2026 made by M. Hancock
- Second by V. Heiner
- Roll call vote: All eight participating Board Members vote aye. Motion carried unanimously. J. Wampler participated electronically.

Roll Call Vote:

Kevin Ward, Chair	Y	Michael Hancock, Vice Chair	Y	Jim Truett, Treasurer	N
Kristi Bell	Y	Sheri Bingham	N	David Bolos	N
Val Heiner	Y	Les Syme	Y	Rob Vanderwood	Y
Janet Wampler - Online	Y	David Yonan	Y		

- Resolution 40-2026 – A resolution acknowledging Roy City’s request for annexation, authorizing the District to proceed with the annexation process, and directing District staff to complete all necessary actions in accordance with Utah Law
- Motion to approve Resolution 40-2026 made by M. Hancock
- Second by K. Bell.
- Roll call vote: All eight participating Board Members vote aye. Motion carried unanimously. J. Wampler participated electronically.

Roll Call Vote:

Kevin Ward, Chair	Y	Michael Hancock, Vice Chair	Y	Jim Truett, Treasurer	Y
Kristi Bell	Y	Sheri Bingham	N	David Bolos	Y
Val Heiner	Y	Les Syme	Y	Rob Vanderwood	Y
Janet Wampler - Online	Y	David Yonan	Y		

8. Administration Report

- No additional administration reports.

9. Board Presentation

- Board members thanked residents for attending and providing questions and comments. Chair Ward thanked participants for the discussion and stated that Board member and staff would remain available afterward to answer questions.

10. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn by R. Vanderwood.
- Second by M. Hancock
- All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.
- Adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

The next Regular Meeting is Tuesday, October 13th, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.

Kevin Ward, Chair

Jim Truett, Treasurer

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