

**MINUTES OF THE WORK SESSION OF
THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF WEBER COUNTY**

Monday, March 16, 2026, from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., held in the Commission Conference Room #365, Weber County Commission Office 2380 Washington Blvd, Ste. 360, Ogden, UT

Members Present: Commissioner Gage Froerer, Commissioner Jim Harvey, Commissioner Sharon Bolos

Discussion and/or action for approval of minutes for the Commission Work Session held on March 9, 2026

Commissioner Bolos made a motion to approve the minutes for the Commission Work Session held on March 9, 2026. Commissioner Harvey seconded the motion. All voted aye. The motion carries.

Discussion regarding Opioid Recommendations - Lynelle Jensen, Jami Heiner, Julie Johnson, Brooke Stewart, Jessika Clark, Chris Crockett, Shelly Halacy, Ashley Thoman

This meeting focused on reviewing opioid settlement fund applications and presenting the applications chosen for possible funding to the Commissioners.

- Lynelle Jensen reviewed the opioid settlement fund applications and allocations. She provided an update on approved projects totaling \$2.1 million, including funding for Public Defender services, Weber Human Services training facility, and Health Department projects. She also discussed carrying forward unused funds and considered reallocating \$6 million from unspent funds toward a medical wing project, with potential additional funding of up to \$765,000 for grants. She then focused on discussing funding requests, particularly for the Public Defenders Group and a program aimed at reducing repeat arrests and probation violations. The Opioid Committee had ranked the Public Defenders Group's request as high, which seeks approximately \$157,000 annually to fund a position.
- Julie Johnson discussed a drug court program that used to be in Riverdale City. This program would need funding of \$94,000 annually.
- Jessika Clark reviewed SOAR (School of Addiction Recovery). This program offers scholarships to low-income individuals seeking treatment. This program is asking for \$15,000 for scholarships.
- Jamie Heiner discussed one of the Sheriff's programs that would replace the RISE program. This program is seeking \$578,000 annually to hire six staff members, including clinical therapists and case managers, to support individuals with opioid and behavioral health needs in custody. Commissioner Froerer mentioned working with Representative Hutchings on a Salt Lake reentry program supported by the Huntsman family, and proposed meeting with Representative Elias to explore collaboration opportunities before funding this program for the Sheriff.
- Lynelle Jensen reviewed a request from YCC for approximately \$65,000, including funding for employee salaries, training materials, and naloxone storage cabinets. The committee had determined that partial funding might be appropriate, specifically for the cabinets and naloxone storage, totaling around \$10,000.
- Shelly Halacy reviewed funding requests for opioid prevention programs, discussing two main proposals. She discussed Ogden School District's "Prevention First" program, which would hire two social workers for Ogden and Ben Lomond high schools over three years. The committee ranked it medium to low as it only affects the two high schools and not schools throughout the county. They would prefer to see opioid education integrated into regular health classes across all grades rather than dedicated counselors. Shelly also reviewed the Ogden City Police Department's proposal for two full-time positions, including a drug prevention officer and wellness coordinator. This is an evidence-based program with a marketing aspect to it to help with education regarding opioid addiction.
- Ashley Thoman presented an alternative approach based on a successful stormwater education program in Davis County School District where students created public service announcements, suggesting this creative youth engagement method could be adapted for opioid prevention messaging in local schools. The proposed program would involve students creating awareness videos shown in schools and theaters,

with scholarship awards for participants. The group discussed the potential implementation details to facilitate school participation and exploring additional marketing opportunities through theaters and other platforms.

- Lastly, the group discussed a Women's Retreat House project seeking \$755,000 for building construction and a health department proposal for substance abuse training programs. There were concerns expressed about the Women's Retreat House request, noting it appeared to focus more on alcohol abuse rather than opioids and lacked matching funds. Regarding the health department's proposal, they reviewed their previous year's accomplishments and discussed concerns about supplanting existing personnel costs with grant funds. The group agreed that supporting opioid-specific sponsorships through SOAR might be a more effective approach than capital projects for these organizations.

Discussion regarding New PID Policy - Stephanie Russell, Lynelle Jensen, Steffani Ebert, Lauren Thomas, Chris Crockett, Rick Grover, Charlie Ewert, Sean Wilkinson, Gary Myers

This meeting was canceled.

Discussion regarding Discovery Center Contract Renewal - Todd Ferrario, Marty Smith, Liam Keogh, Chris Crockett, Jessika Clark

Todd Ferrario reviewed a contract renewal for the Discovery Center, which will expire in 2027. He discussed the updates needed, including removing the control committee requirement and clarifying water usage details, particularly regarding a \$763.43 annual water share payment. He would like to proceed with a simplified approach involving just the two main parties, Weber County and Weber School District, and modifying the agreement from a 50-year term to a 5–10-year term with an option for the county to terminate it at any time. There was also discussion regarding proper liability protection for the county and discussion of whether to include provisions for the county to be able use the facility. Liam Keogh agreed to review and update the draft agreement and present the updated agreement to the Commissioners before sending it to the school district for feedback.

Commissioner Bolos made a motion to saunter until 3:00 p.m. Commissioner Froerer seconded the motion. All voted aye. The motion carries.

Commissioner Bolos made a motion to cease to saunter. Commissioner Harvey seconded the motion. All voted aye. The motion carries.

Discussion regarding Workers' Compensation proposal - Darin Palmer, Chris Crockett, Emily Wilde, Carrie Crawley

Darren Palmer from Utah Local Governments Trust presented an insurance proposal to Weber County, focusing on workers' compensation coverage. He explained that the Trust offers comprehensive services including dedicated team support, training programs, and potential savings of up to 48% compared to Workers' Compensation Fund. Darren emphasized that the Trust's services extend beyond just insurance, including HR training and loss prevention, and clarified the distinction between Workers' Compensation Fund and USIP. The presentation concluded with an invitation for the county to consider a new quote and discuss any potential obstacles or concerns regarding the switch.

Adjourn

Commissioner Bolos made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Harvey seconded the motion. All voted aye. The motion carries.