RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

The Regular Meeting of the Meeker Town Board was held Tuesday, October 6, 2026, at Town Hall.

Members Present	Mayor	Day
	Trustees	Browning
		Day
		Lockwood
		Madison
		Sizemore
Town Staff Present	Administrator	Joy
	Town Clerk	Massey
	Attorney	Massih
	Public Works Supt.	Kilduff

CALL TO ORDER
Mayor Day called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL
All Board members were present with the exception of Trustee Smith.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
Mayor Day asked for changes to the agenda. Trustee Sizemore made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Second by Trustee Day. All ayes. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES
A motion was made by Trustee Lockwood to approve the minutes for September 15, 2026, as submitted with corrections to the Go Services section, changing bear provoking to proofing and the Public Works report specifying Junior Hinkley as a new hire. Second by Trustee Sizemore. All ayes. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MONTHLY DISBURSEMENTS
A motion was made by Trustee Browning to approve the disbursements dated October 6, 2026. Second by Trustee Day. All ayes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
a. Presentation from Pioneers Medical Center
Steve Hannah, CEO at Pioneers Medical Center (PMC) made a presentation. He introduced Erika Wyld, Marketing and Pioneers Healthcare Foundation Manager at PMC. Hannah shared his background of growing up in Wellington, Colorado on the family farm. He stated he had 25 years' experience running rural hospitals across the country. He has been the interim CEO at PMC for about 7 months, and last month became the regular CEO. Congratulations.

Hannah shared a few slides that chronicled the timeline of PMC from its founding in 1950 to today with the inclusion of Colorado Advanced Orthopedics. He stated how their value statement drives who they were and what they've become, sharing the people are the priority, patients, staff, community residents. They will be hosting a staff and leadership retreat in October with the whole intent of learning how to lead together.

PMC was recognized at the Colorado Hospital Association conference been a member of AHA, the American Hospital Association for 75 years. PMC was the only hospital at the convention to receive that distinction this year. Next, Hannah talked about the longstanding partnership with Ovation Management Firm (formerly Quorum and QHR). Some of the benefits to the partnership are access to resources, and expertise. He disclosed that he was an employee of Ovation and that is what brought him to the area.

For history, Hannah shared that in 2006 Eastern Rio Blanco Health Services District was created by a vote of the community as a Special District. He recognized that this revenue stream is their lifeblood and how important it is for PMC to maintain their status as an SDA. The new PMC facility was developed and opened in 2015. Around that same time, Dr. Kevin Borchard began his Orthopedic practice at PMC. The Orthopedic program has been given a formal name of Colorado Advanced Orthopedics (CAO). Which has a regional presence and has the potential to become even more regional and a larger player.

PMC has 16 inpatient beds, three emergency room bays, three operating rooms and could use a fourth, and the skilled nursing home (Walbridge Wing.) Hannah shared that residents of the Walbridge Wing asked him to be sure and tell the town "We feel so supported up here. We feel like the Town has us."

The newest business unit is a retail pharmacy, which accounts for $3,500,000 in revenue.

Hannah then referred to a map and stated that 92% of their inpatient admissions come from those zip codes. On average, they have less than 2 inpatients per day. Some days they have 10 or 12, but on average it's less than two. PMC has close to 300 employees and providers. That does not count the contract employees. Over the last decade, from 2016 to 2026, PMC revenue has grown from $24 million to over $60 million. This is net revenue numbers and not necessarily grants.

Hannah answered a question about contract employees, such as traveling staff, and physicians.

PMC and OAC are serving patients from all over Western Colorado, across the United States and even some internationally. He specifically called out that over 60% percent of patients come from outside of Meeker. Future plans include growing the surgery program, as well as other business units, like retail pharmacy. Another thing that he is interested in is focusing on relationships and that is why Erika was hired to be the face of the organization and the community. Challenges they face are housing for employees, continued sustainability and possible facility expansion. They have hired a grant writing firm to help secure funding. They recently were awarded a $1.2 million grant.

Mayor Day mentioned he appreciated the gesture of working with the Town of Meeker and Rio Blanco County. Hannah mentioned a possible project of having a sidewalk that connects PMC with the town.

Wyld mentioned she is enjoying Meeker

Trustee Madison mentioned concerns over travelers and glad to see that there is a plan to address that. Madison appreciates the efforts to improve access to pharmacy service. Trustee Browning mentioned she sits on the Patient Family Advisory Committee and invited Wyld to present to that group. Mayor Day would like to see joint meetings on common topics of interest such as assisted living, housing, etc.

OLD BUSINESS

Colorado River Engineers was scheduled but not ready to present and has been rescheduled for October 20th. Mayor Day voiced concerns about the delays. Circle Park water rights are the next discussion. Ed Olszewski, Water Attorney, was available to visit with Trustees in regard to legalities surrounding Circle Park.

A motion was made by Mayor Pro Tem Lockwood to go into Executive Session for legal advice specific to water rights at Circle Park. Trustee Madison seconded the motion.

Margie Joy, Town Administrator and Jak Kilduff, Public Works Superintendent we're asked to participate in the Executive Session.

The Board went into Executive Session at 7:40pm

After the adjournment of the Executive Session, the Board reconvened the regular meeting at 8:05pm

NEW BUSINESS

Presentation of Draft Town of Meeker 2027 Budget

Administrator Joy presented a power point to explain how staff incorporated some of the figures that were taken from discussions at the September 22nd workshop.

2027 PROJECTED OPERATIONS

General Fund

2027 Projected Operations

- Revenue: $3,723,135
- Expenses: $3,022,617 (not including Systems Development)
- Net Revenue: $700,518

Projected Operations & System Development

- Revenue: $3,723,135
- Expenses: $5,102,517 (including Systems Development)
- Reserves To Balance $1,379,382
- Systems Development Expenses without Operation $2,079,900

Water Fund

2027 Projected Operations

- Revenue $834,842
- Expenses $737,861 (not including Systems Development)
- Net Revenue $96,981

Projected Operations and System Development

- Revenue $834,842
- Expenses $987,861 (including Systems Development)
- Reserves To Balance $144,019
- Systems Development Expenses without Operation $250,000

Administrator Joy pointed the Trustees to the page titled *Systems Development Prioritized at Workshop.* Joy informed the Trustees that this page reflects the ranking of projects for 2027.

COLA and Merit

- 3% Cost of Living – Averaged hourly increase applied across all positions
- 1% Flexible Merit as a tool for Department Leaders to use
- Continuing to follow practice of increase of $0.50 for certifications (i.e. CDL, Water Certifications, Continuing Education)

Healthcare Increase

CEBT Projects at 12.6% Increase

- Have reached out to CEBT to try to negotiate.
- Total Anticipated Cost Increase: $40,000

Health Reimbursement Account (HRA) at $4,500

- Budgeting for full use: $90,000
- The Town pay for actual use: 2026 YTD $40,000

Administrator Joy reflected on the Other Funds which included Abatement Fund, Conservation Trust and Colo Trust.

5-Year Capital Project/Equipment

- Water Line on Pinyon (Estimated $3 million)
- 2030 Water Leak Detection
- 2030 Water Tank Diving
- 2030 Ute Park Deed Restriction
- Robert Stree Build Out
- Sidewalks on School Street
- Vehicle Replacement Program
    - Police Vehicles: one year $80,000-$90,000
    - Public Works

After a lengthy discussion and hearing no further questions or concerns, Administrator Joy reminded the BOT on November 17th will be the Public Hearing for the 2027 Budget and then on December 15th the 2027 Budget will be adopted.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Administrator Joy stated the following:

- Library and Rio Blanco County Commissioners' joint meeting will be held Tuesday Oct 13th at 6:00 pm at the RBC Court House downstairs.
- Road Ahead planning is going well, however the is a need for volunteers to help, especially with the cleaning up after the event. Mayor Day is slated for the opening and closing of the meeting and staff will have a draft for Day to follow. The Town needs a representative from the BOT to talk about town initiatives. Perhaps the Mayor Pro Tem Lockwood. Staff are preparing questions for the panels and are meeting on the 21st to prepare the panelists. Invitations were sent to various boards across the community for panelists, the response has been favorable so far. Trustees Sizemore and Lockwood volunteered to help, stating they would help wherever needed.
- Several months ago, Administrator Joy mentioned a young couple wanted to use Ute Park for their wedding. The wedding is scheduled for September of 2027, Joy and Attorney Massey are working on an agreement for them, this is a different kind of event that has not been done yet. Trustee Sizemore stated by doing an agreement the Town will then have something to use moving forward.

MAYOR'S REMARKS

Mayor Day said the data center meeting presented, sponsored by White Rive Electric Association, a YouTube video explaining the pros and cons. Day will get the video to Comm Dev/Planner Thomson because it will come in handy for writing codes.

OTHER BOARD BUSINESS

- Trustee Lockwood inquired about obtaining an application for the Basin Round Table. Mayor Day said he would get one for him.
- Trustee Sizemore had left a note for JAK on his desk at the shop. Town Parks employee Fallon Nielsen found the note in JAK's absence and went to visit with Sizemore. Trustee Sizemore stated how much she appreciated the follow up from Nielsen.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Day adjourned the meeting at 9:07 pm.

Attest:

Dannie Massey, Town Clerk

Travis Day, Mayor