

BWD Special Board Meeting Meeting Minutes

**November Ballot Measure
August 12, 2026**

1. Call to Order

The special board meeting was called to order at approximately 6:16 p.m. Ricardo Lovett presided.

2. Attendance

Board members in attendance at the start of the meeting were Anne Squire, Tami Ege, and Ricardo Lovett. Seth Olson joined the meeting after it was called to order.

No members of the public were present at the time the meeting was called to order.

3. November 2026 Ballot Measure

The Board considered placing a new five-year levy on the November 2026 ballot. The proposed levy is \$1.70 per \$1,000 of assessed value for five years, beginning with the 2027–2028 fiscal year. The proposal revises the request made in May by removing fiscal year 2026–2027 and adding fiscal year 2031–2032.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the ballot measure as presented. The motion was approved. Ricardo stated that he would send the approved measure to Allegra that evening so that any issues could be addressed the following day.

4. Questions for Portland Fire Department

The Board discussed questions to be submitted to Kari Schimmel at the Portland Fire Department for additional information concerning fire and ambulance services and the proposed levy.

- What would happen if the ballot measure failed and the district could not raise sufficient funds in the future to pay for Portland Fire services?
- Would failure to fund the levy affect fire service, ambulance service, or other emergency services, and what would the resulting service arrangements be?
- Why are Burlington Water District customers responsible for the fee when nearby properties outside the water district also receive fire and ambulance services?
- Who provides or covers fire and ambulance services for neighboring areas that are outside the water district, including areas discussed such as Morgan Road, McNamee Road, Logie Trail, Newbury, and other Highway 30 properties?
- Are there cooperative arrangements among districts in unincorporated Multnomah County that can contract with Portland Fire Department at lower rates?
- Could the district potentially be incorporated into or otherwise served through Multnomah County Fire District arrangements, and what is the best avenue for challenging or reviewing the district's current rates?

- Can Portland Fire provide locations corresponding to the emergency-service response times previously supplied, including the response time and service coverage for McNamee Road and the district reservoir area?
- Are these questions within Kari Schimmel's area of responsibility, or is another person at the department better suited to answer them?
- Would it be appropriate to schedule a meeting with the new fire marshal in September or October?

The Board also discussed asking the Small District Association of Oregon about other small districts that have experienced a failed levy and what those districts did afterward. Ricardo reported that a previous contact had referred him to another person who had not responded. He will contact the original person again and request assistance with these questions.

5. Follow-Up

Ricardo will revise the questions, send the edited version to the Board, and then send the questions to Kari Schimmel. The Board hoped to receive a response before the next meeting.

6. New Business

Seth Olson asked about a part-time position that had apparently been posted using the district's PO box and contact information. Tami Ege stated that the job advertisement had been removed from Indeed and that a version was on Marketplace without the district's letterhead. Tami will contact Gail to determine where the posting had been placed and clarify the matter.

Seth also asked about a letter that had been referenced in an email. It was clarified that the letter would be addressed at the following week's meeting.

7. Adjournment

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn. The motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:31 p.m.

Action Items

- Ricardo Lovett: Send the approved November ballot measure to Allegra and address any issues.
- Ricardo Lovett: Revise and circulate the questions for Kari Schimmel/Portland Fire Department, then submit them.
- Ricardo Lovett: Re-contact the Small District Association of Oregon regarding failed levies in other small districts and available assistance.
- Tami Ege: Contact Gail to determine where the part-time job posting was placed and clarify use of district contact information.

Source note: These minutes were prepared from the transcript of the August 12, 2026 special board meeting. Where the transcript was unclear about a speaker or exact procedural detail, the minutes avoid adding unsupported information.