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# Former Commissioner Kevin Ross runs for at-large commissioner seat



Kevin Ross is running for the at-large seat on the Weld County Board of Commissioners

By TREVOR REID | treid@greeleytribune.com | Greeley Tribune PUBLISHED: January 21, 2022 at 5:10 p.m. | UPDATED: January 21, 2022 at 8:07 p.m.

Former Weld County Commissioner Kevin Ross is running to return to the commission this year.

Ross, who was appointed an at-large seat for 10 months in 2020 following Sean Conway's resignation, is running for another at-large seat to be vacated by Commissioner Steve Moreno's retirement, both announced in news releases issued simultaneously.

Republican Elijah Hatch, a former member of the Weld County Council, is also running for the at-large seat.

Ross is excited for another opportunity to manage Weld County and continue its successes, according to the release.

"I am incredibly proud of the team that we have at Weld County," Ross said in the release. "We have some of the greatest talent I have ever seen, and I believe we accomplished a great deal in arguably one of the most challenging years ever. We were able to keep Weld County moving forward while continuing to uphold individual rights."

As commissioner, Ross helped create language protecting landowner rights and securing the county's authority over energy siting, according to the release, as well as language for the county's comprehensive and transportation plans. He also worked with the finance



In 2020, Ross ran for the at-large seat he had been appointed to, but lost the Republican nomination to former State Rep. Perry Buck by 9,529 votes, about 23.7% of the votes in that race. Buck went on to defeat Democrat Paul Echternacht by nearly 40,000 votes, almost 25%. Her term expires at the end of 2024.

Moreno's decision to retire was a deciding factor for Ross, according to the release, who said he hopes to uphold Moreno's legacy.

"Kevin was able to strengthen the communication lines with our municipalities and lead a regional approach to many of the infrastructure issues challenging our communities," Moreno said in the release. "I cannot think of anyone more qualified and suited for the role, and I fully support his run for commissioner."

Ross, 43, has lived in Weld for more than 35 years, serving as mayor of Eaton from 2016-2020. During that time, Ross opposed Proposition 112, which would have further restricted oil and gas production in the state. Ross was also the only elected official in the county to testify against Gov. Jared Polis' low-emission vehicle standards and zero-emission vehicle mandates, according to the release.

Now the vice president at Poudre Valley Capital, Ross has served on boards including the Highway 85 Coalition, the I-25 Mayors Bullseye Coalition and the Front Range Metropolitan Planning Organization, where he secured funding for the I-25 expansion.

For more information or to get involved, go to www.kevinrossforweld.com.



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