

Grand County Emergency Medical Services Special Service District
520 East 100 North
Moab, Utah

November 19, 2024
9:00 a.m.

1. The Grand County Emergency Medical Services Special Service District met in regular session on the above date and time at the Grand County EMS SSD station located at 520 E. 100 N., Moab, Utah. Vice Chair Jim Webster called the meeting to order and chaired at 9:02 a.m. In attendance were GCEMS Board Members Jim Webster, Lionel Weeks, Taryn Peterson, Rani Derasary, and Jason Taylor. Board member Elizabeth Tubbs attended by video call. Evan Clapper joined at 9:04 am. Also, present were Executive Director, Andy Smith, Administrative Coordinator, Jennifer Williams, and Administrative Assistant, Mandy Turner.
2. **Welcome Public Comment:** There was no public comment.
3. **Approval of Minutes:** Rani Derasary moved to approve the minutes of the October 15, 2024, regular meeting with adjustments as discussed. The motion was seconded by Taryn Peterson and passed unanimously, 7-0.
4. **Updates:**
 - a. **Chair Report:** Liz Tubbs and Jim Webster's terms are set to expire at the end of the year. Both have reapplied, and the county will advertise the positions. Liz and Jim will continue in their roles until new appointments are made. Liz emphasized the need for timely notifications of vacancies in the future to allow for November recommendations.
 - b. **Treasurer Report:** Board Treasurer, Jason Taylor reported account balances as of November 18, 2024, including \$37,148.54 in combined Mountain America accounts and \$200,630.74 in the PTIF savings account. Lionel Weeks asked about an optimal savings amount, to which Andy responded that \$800,000 to \$1 million would cover a Medicare audit.
 - c. **Board Member Reports:**
 - i. Jim Webster confirmed he has submitted his application for reappointment.
 - ii. Evan Clapper provided updates from the County Commission, noting limited support for EMS's \$350,000 TRT funding request and urging EMS to focus on securing the last 0.5% of the Health Care Sales Tax. Andy highlighted that TRT funding was intended to support EMS but has not yet materialized, which complicates state-level funding discussions. Liz reiterated the essential nature of EMS to the community. Evan commented that letters from citizens supporting County departments is not uncommon.
 - iii. Jason Taylor updated the board on Moab City projects, including the redesign of the 200 South bridge, street repairs, traffic speed adjustments, and flood management studies.
 - d. **Emergency Coordinator:** No updates.
 - e. **Administrative Staff:** Mandy Turner passed around the board contact sheet for updates.

- f. **Director Report:** Andy Smith stated that all relevant updates would be addressed in the discussion and action items.

- g. **Committee Reports:**

- i. **Evaluation Committee** – Taryn Peterson needs to get Andy’s comments on his evaluation to Lionel Weeks.
- ii. **Policy Committee** – Will reconvene in 2025.
- iii. **Executive Committee** – No updates.
- iv. **Budget Committee** – No updates.

5. **Discussion/Action Items:**

- a. **Ratification of Payment of Bills (Q3) – Discussion/Action:**

The board approved ratification of \$1,390,171.64 in bill payments for July 1 to September 30, 2024. The motion was made by Taryn Peterson, seconded by Rani Derasary, and carried unanimously.

- b. **Adoption of Updated Fee Schedule and Date for Public Hearing – Discussion/Action:**

Andy explained the need to adjust fees in line with state ambulance rates and American Heart Association course and card costs. Rani Derasary moved to approve the proposed 2025 fee schedule and set a public hearing for December 5 at 6:00 p.m. Jason Taylor seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

- c. **Proposed Change in Retirement – Discussion/Action:**

Andy discussed the benefits of switching to the Utah Public Safety Retirement System, which would reduce the retirement age to 25 years. The board tabled the decision pending budget discussions. Rani Derasary moved to table the matter, seconded by Jason Taylor, and the motion passed unanimously. After budget approval, Jason Taylor moved to approve resolution #2024-11-19-01 to adopt the Utah Public Safety Retirement System. Lionel Weeks seconded, and the motion carried 7-0 in a roll call vote.

- d. **Approval of Tentative 2025 Budget and Date for Public Hearing – Discussion/Action:**

Andy presented the tentative 2025 budget, highlighting no projected revenue increases, cost-saving measures, and employee benefit changes. Evan Clapper moved to approve the budget at \$4,688,422 with employee pay and benefits changed as discussed and a public hearing on December 5, 2024. Lionel Weeks seconded, and the motion passed 6-0, with Evan opposed.

- e. **Set Board Meeting Dates for 2025 – Discussion/Action:**

Jim Webster proposed meeting dates for 2025 on the third Tuesday of every other month at 9:00 a.m., beginning January 21, 2025. Evan Clapper moved to approve the schedule, seconded by Taryn Peterson, and the motion passed unanimously.

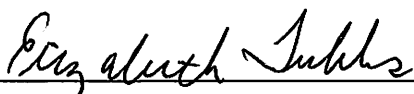
- f. **Ratify Chair, Vice Chair, and Treasurer signature on letter to Grand County Commission pertaining to financial needs of GCEMS – Discussion/Action:**

The board approved ratification of the Chair, Vice Chair, and Treasurer’s signatures on the November 13, 2024, letter to the Grand County Commission. Rani Derasary moved, Lionel Weeks seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

6. **Future Considerations:**

- a. Public hearings for budget and fee schedule approval on December 5, 2024.
- b. Board Vacancies
Holiday party scheduled for December 17, 2024.

7. **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 11:12 a.m.



Grand County EMS Special Service District
Elizabeth Tubbs, Chair



Mandy Turner
Clerk/Secretary