

**MOAB CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**July 8, 2025**

***Regular Meeting Attendance and Call to Order:***

Moab City Council held its Regular Meeting on the above date in Council Chambers. Archived audio is at [www.utah.gov/pmn](http://www.utah.gov/pmn) and video is at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=2AdQK7yrrXc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2AdQK7yrrXc). Mayor Joette Langianese called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. Dashiell Kulander led the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilmembers Kaitlin Myers, Jason Taylor, Colin Topper, Luke Wojciechowski and Tawny Knuteson-Boyd attended. Also in attendance were City Manager Michael Black, Recorder Sommar Johnson, Public Works Director Levi Jones, Police Chief Lex Bell, Engineer Mark Jolissaint, Assistant Police Chief James Blanton, Jr., Attorney Lisa Watts Baskin and six members of the public.

***Public Comments:***

Pete Gross spoke about noise, citing words of a Hopi elder regarding flyover noise in the Grand Canyon and a cultural discomfort with quiet places.

Bill Agee stated he resided on Millcreek Drive and spoke about a significant increase in off-highway vehicle (HOV) noise. He regarded the noise as a nuisance and public health concern. Agee stated there were more than 100 OHVs available to rent in Moab, and combined with increased private use, he said there were between 200 and 400 noisy drive-bys at his address daily. He spoke about the adverse health effects of excessive noise and noted the HOVs exceed the noise ordinance. He cited the 2022 noise ordinances adopted by the City and County and requested enforcement.

***Department Updates:***

***Public Works Flood Preparation:*** Public Works Director Jones listed ongoing work of his staff to prepare for the upcoming monsoon season. He mentioned work on 100 East, establishment of four sandbag stations downtown, clearing debris from detention basins, cleaning out of storm drains, and street sweeping. He outlined upcoming continuation of the work and noted the new street sweeper had become inoperable. Mayor Langianese thanked the staff and mentioned flood damage of the magnitude of the recent Texas event could not be prevented if it happened in Moab. She urged staff to convey to the community the work that is being done to prepare for flood events.

***Police Department Report:*** Police Chief Bell stated his department was fully staffed. He mentioned lead mitigation at the firing range and a grant for domestic violence training. Bell said the animal shelter was awarded No Kill status for the twentieth year in a row. He presented statistics for the department for the last six months, including 2.8 million readings by automated license plate readers, 384 illegal campers, 1,560 citations issued, and 38 noise-related problems. Councilmember Myers asked about the illegal camping matter and whether violations were by visitors or unhoused residents. Bell stated it was mainly visitors at parks and along Main Street, and that warnings and education were presented to violators. Councilmember Wojciechowski asked about enforcement trends, and Councilmember Topper asked about bicycle patrols. He also requested more public communications about the work of the department. Councilmember Taylor brought up the motorcycle fleet and Councilmember Myers asked about noise enforcement. Bell noted speed studies and statute issues regarding noise.

***Presentation:***

***Water Utility Resource Management Plan (WURMP):*** Representatives from the City's engineering firm, Hansen Allen and Luce, presented a final report of their work on the WURMP. City Engineer Jolissaint stated it was not a master plan and does not address aquifer capacity, but it estimates population growth, infrastructure needs and potential supplementary water sources for a 100-year projection, to develop a 40-year plan. Topics discussed included revisiting population growth projections, tourism impacts, evaluation of potential solutions to infrastructure needs, and cooperation with other local water providers. The engineers outlined public engagement efforts, current usage, supply and

demand, and the over appropriation of water rights. Utilizing Colorado River water for future needs was discussed, in view of the ongoing negotiations over water rights at the state and federal levels. Potential conservation measures were mentioned, monitoring wells, and future steps. Councilmember Myers brought up visitor impacts and buildout population and asked when the conversation will turn to planning. City Manager Black brought up state restrictions on limiting growth.

### ***Consent Agenda—Approved***

Councilmember Knuteson-Boyd moved to approve the consent agenda, as follows: approval of minutes of the June 24, 2025, regular meeting. Councilmember Topper seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0 with Councilmembers Taylor, Knuteson-Boyd, Topper, Myers and Wojciechowski voting aye.

### ***General Business:***

#### ***Planning Commission Appointment—Approved***

**Motion and Vote:** Councilmember Taylor moved to approve the appointment of Shalee Bryant to the Moab City Planning Commission for a three-year term ending December 31, 2027. Councilmember Myers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### ***Medical Cannabis Pharmacy Letter of Support—Approved***

**Presentation and Discussion:** City Manager Black explained a letter of support for a local medical cannabis pharmacy was drafted three or more years ago for the current applicant. He said the requested letter of support was part of a state process, requiring an exception for proximity to a residential zone. The applicant, Dashiel Kulander, stated his organization was locally owned and had support from the City, County and community. He said there was one license to be awarded in 2026, and he said he should know by October if his application is approved. He added there are currently 181 medical cannabis card holders in Grand County, and the facility could serve neighboring counties as well. Councilmember Myers asked if the distance from residences was acceptable to the state, and it was explained the exception relied on local approval. Councilmember Taylor asked if neighboring residents had been consulted, and City Manager Black explained the C-2 commercial zoning that would most likely be assigned to the business. The former Wabi Sabi retail store location on 100 South was discussed as the requested location for the pharmacy. Councilmember Myers thanked the applicant, and stated it was a huge need in the community.

**Motion and Vote:** Councilmember Myers moved to approve a letter of support for a Medical Cannabis Pharmacy in Moab. Councilmember Wojciechowski seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### ***City Manager Updates:***

City Manager Black reported on a meeting with the County's administrator regarding dispatch services and the Victim Advocate program. He updated Council on a bulb out pilot project on Main Street and mentioned a commercial film shoot on Main Street. He said the film commission director noted the production fee is too low and the applicant will pay more than the required \$150. Black mentioned a speed study of traffic on Main Street. Councilmember Taylor asked about streetlamps that have been damaged by semi-trucks on Main Street. Black concluded with a mention of final sales tax figures for April, stating they were slightly lower than expected but still in an acceptable range.

### ***Mayor and Council Reports:***

Councilmember Topper reported he attended a TrailMix meeting and learned that the new Utahrapator State Park was damaged in a recent rain event, with campgrounds and retention basins requiring repairs. He brought up recent street sweeping efforts on Millcreek Drive and noted debris was swept into the bike lanes.

Councilmember Wojciechowski reported that he participated in the recent parade.

Councilmember Taylor said he also participated in the parade and attended the fair. He reported on an airport board meeting and an Emergency Medical Services (EMS) meeting to discuss a potential ballot measure to raise sales tax to support EMS and other services.

Councilmember Knuteson-Boyd reported she attended an interim museum board meeting. Councilmember Myers said she participated in the parade, and attended the fair, police department banquet, and the first free concert of the series. She reported on a meeting of the Utah Renewable Energy Agency and noted Rocky Mountain Power estimates a need for \$5 million in upfront costs. Myers also reported on a meeting of the Utah League of Cities and Towns regarding the state strategic housing plan. Mayor Langianese reported she participated in the parade and attended the police department banquet. She said she met with EMS leadership to discuss the potential ballot issue; she said she represented the Canyonlands Health Care Special Service District's interests and noted potential funding cuts to the care center. Mayor Langianese also noted a meeting she attended with the Monticello mayor and an assistant to the Utah State University (USU) president, at which she witnessed a graduation for 40 English as a Second Language learners. The Mayor announced Councilmember Knuteson-Boyd will represent the City at USU stakeholder meetings. Discussion about cancelling the regularly scheduled August 12 meeting ensued.

***Adjournment:***

Councilmember Knuteson-Boyd moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Topper seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 7:43 p.m.

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_  
Joette Langianese, Mayor

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sommar Johnson, City Recorder