

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

October 7, 2025  
10:00 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. Chair Elizabeth Tubbs called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. In attendance were GCEMS Board Members Dr. Lionel Weeks, Rani Derasary, Jason Taylor, Jim Webster, and Melodie McCandless. Board Member Taryn Peterson was excused. Rani Derasary was excused at 12:06 p.m. Also present were Executive Director Andy Smith, Administrative Coordinator Jennifer Williams, and Administrative Assistant and Clerk Mandy Turner.
2. **Welcome Public Comment:** Chair Tubbs opened the floor for public comment; none was offered.
3. **Approval of Minutes:**  
Rani Derasary moved to approve the minutes of the August 19, 2025, regular meeting; Melodie McCandless seconded. The motion carried unanimously (6–0).
4. **Updates:**
  - a. **Chair Report:** Chair Tubbs introduced Beth Logan of the Moab Healthcare Foundation, who will provide an update later in the meeting regarding the Foundation's advocacy efforts for Proposition 13 and ways the board can get involved. She also noted that the 2026 budget would be a major discussion topic.
  - b. **Treasurer Report:** In the Treasurer Report, Treasurer Jason Taylor reported the account balances as of October 20, 2025: \$167,540.23 in combined Mountain America accounts and \$619,477.21 in the PTIF savings account. Jennifer Williams noted that the MACU account is higher than usual because they received reimbursement from the State of Utah for wildland fire response.
  - c. **Board Member Reports:**
    - i. Melodie McCandless informed the board that she will address the County's audit RFP later in the meeting. She also noted the Grand County Commission will vote on awarding the audit contract this evening and shared information about a new route for the Electric Light Parade.
    - ii. Rani Derasary thanked the Moab Healthcare Foundation for hosting a webpage with information on Proposition 13.
    - iii. Jason Taylor shared that the Uranium Avenue paving project is nearly complete and that Moab City has awarded the downtown sidewalk improvement contract, which should improve EMS gurney access.
  - d. **Administrative Staff:** Mandy Turner informed the board that EMS, per directive of the State of Utah, has updated their website and email addresses to: [www.grandcountyemsutah.gov](http://www.grandcountyemsutah.gov).
  - e. **Director Report:**
    - i. Executive Director Andy Smith opened his report with commendations to EMS crews for a series of successful critical calls in the past month. He then provided updates on operations, staffing, cost-saving initiatives, vehicles, wildland fire season, and community events. He noted that

August 2025 was the busiest August on record for GCEMS. Jason Taylor recommended the “Back from Beyond” podcast, produced by GCSAR, as a helpful resource for understanding emergency response in Grand County.

- ii. Andy also reviewed the public outreach efforts GCEMS has made regarding Proposition 13 (the Rural Healthcare Sales Tax initiative). Beth Logan then described the Moab Healthcare Foundation’s advocacy work and encouraged board involvement.

**f. Committee Reports:**

- i. **Evaluation Committee** - No report.
- ii. **Policy Committee** - Policy committee will schedule a meeting to complete policies before end of the year.
- iii. **Executive Committee** - No report.
- iv. **Budget/Audit Committee** - Last meeting was canceled; the committee will meet before the next board meeting.

**5. Discussion/Action Items:**

**a. 2026 Auditor RFP – Discussion/Action:**

Jennifer Williams outlined three options for contracting a financial auditor for the 2025 audit: remain with the current auditor, issue a request for proposals (RFP), or adopt the same auditor selected by the Grand County Commission. Melodie McCandless suggested postponing the decision until after the Commission’s vote later that evening. Following discussion, Jason Taylor moved to use the County’s auditor for the 2025 audit if the cost is equal to or less than GCEMS’s current auditor. Jim Webster seconded. The motion passed 5–0, with Mel McCandless abstaining.

**b. 2026 Budget – Discussion:**

Andy Smith reviewed key operational data and provided a year-to-date overview of the 2025 budget, highlighting lower-than-expected revenues and reduction in expenditures. He then presented three draft 2026 budget scenarios based on varying revenue and expense projections.

**6. Future Considerations:**

- a. Budget Committee Meeting - Wednesday November 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.
- b. Special Board Meeting - Monday November 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.
- c. Public Hearing for Budget and Regular Board Meeting - Monday November 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. will be the public hearing for the 2026 budget with a regular board meeting following.

**7. Closed Meeting:** There was none.

**8. Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.