

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

November 10, 2025
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. Chair Elizabeth Tubbs called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. In attendance were GCEMS Board Members Dr. Lionel Weeks, Rani Derasary, Jason Taylor, Jim Webster, Taryn Peterson, and Melodie McCandless. Melodie McCandless was later excused at 9:55 a.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 October 7, 2025, regular meeting as presented; Melodie McCandless seconded. The motion carried unanimously (7–0).
4. **Updates:**
 - a. **Chair Report:** Chair Tubbs opened her report by expressing gratitude for the passage of Proposition 13. She reminded the board that January 20, 2026, will be the Annual Meeting for the GCEMS Board, during which office appointments and committee assignments will be determined. She also noted that the Open and Public Meetings Act training, Ethics Pledge, and Conflict of Interest forms will be due. She discussed the 2026 board calendar and noted ongoing discussion regarding the auditor for 2026.
 - b. **Treasurer Report:** In the Treasurer Report, Treasurer Jason Taylor reported the account balances as of November 10, 2025: \$141,196.20 in combined Mountain America accounts and \$659,271.89 in the PTIF savings account.
 - c. **Board Member Reports:**
 - i. Melodie McCandless mentioned that the County Commission meeting where the auditor was selected took place on October 7th, should anyone wish to listen to it. She also informed the board that on Friday, November 14th, the Commission will ratify the election, and on November 18th the Commission will review the proposed split of the Rural Healthcare Sales Tax between the Canyonlands Healthcare District, Moab Valley Fire Protection District, and Grand County EMS. She also recommended that GCEMS record meetings in a video format and upload them to YouTube for improved public engagement and for board members to reference.
 - ii. Rani Derasary expressed gratitude for the passage of Proposition 13, noting that it will reinstate funding for mental health and staff training.
 - iii. Jason Taylor reported that he was re-elected to the Moab City Council and intends to continue on the GCEMS Board.
 - d. **Administrative Staff:** Nothing to report.
 - e. **Director Report:**

Executive Director Andy Smith provided an update on call volume. He noted that October 2025 was a slower month than usual, though there were a few very busy weekends. Discussion followed regarding call numbers, refusals, and the financial impact of non-transport calls. Andy discussed full-time seasonal employment and a policy in development to address such positions. He also noted that Proposition 13 passed in every precinct in Grand County. Discussion was also held about the Fixed Guideway Sales Tax proposed by the GC Sheriff's Department.

f. Committee Reports:

- i. **Evaluation Committee** - No report.
- ii. **Policy Committee** – The Policy Committee is working on policies that will impact the State Auditor's Fraud Risk Assessment and will present them to the board at the public hearing and special meeting next Monday, November 17th.
- iii. **Executive Committee** - No report.
- iv. **Budget/Audit Committee** – No report.

5. Discussion/Action Items:

a. Approval of Resolution to Amend the 2025 Budget – Discussion/Action:

Andy noted that no public hearing was required for this budget amendment because it reflects a reduction in expenses of approximately \$200,000 rather than an increase. He reviewed the proposed amended 2025 budget. Rani Derasary moved to approve Resolution 2025-11-10-1 amending the 2025 budget of the Grand County Emergency Medical Services Special Service District and to authorize the Chair to sign all associated documents. Taryn Peterson seconded. The motion was approved unanimously (6-0).

b. Approval of Tentative 2026 Budget for Public Hearing – Discussion/Action:

Andy Smith reviewed the tentative 2026 budget and highlighted line items including PILT revenue, building mortgage payments, commercial services, mental health support, education, training, staffing, capital expenses, and reserves. The board asked questions about dispatch payments, taxes, grants, cost-of-living increases, and staff benefits. Andy noted that the Browning Foundation donated \$15,000 toward the power-loading cot and that the budget is based on the expected split of the Rural Healthcare Sales Tax. Jim Webster moved to approve the tentative 2026 budget and set the public hearing for November 17, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. Jason Taylor seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

c. Approval of Ambulance Purchase – Discussion/Action:

Andy discussed the proposal to replace the Mercedes transfer ambulance, which has 275,000 miles. He described recent issues and noted the year and a half delivery times for new ambulances. He reviewed quotes from three vendors and explained his recommendation to purchase from Braun Northwest. Jason Taylor moved to approve the agreement to purchase one Type 2 ambulance from Braun Northwest in the amount of \$495,840 and to authorize the Chair to sign all associated documents. Dr. Weeks seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

d. Approval of Board Meeting Schedule for 2026 – Discussion/Action:

Liz revisited the discussion about the 2026 Board Calendar. Taryn Peterson made a motion to approve the board schedule for 2026. Rani Derasary seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

6. Future Considerations:

- a. Policy Committee will review the seasonal full-time position policy for 2026.

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

8. **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 10:42 p.m.



Grand County EMS Special Service District
Elizabeth Tubbs, Chair



Mandy Turner
Clerk/Secretary