



PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY ADVISORY BOARD WILL MEET FOR A REGULAR MEETING IN THE

Grand County Commission Chambers
125 E Center Street
Moab, Utah 84532
October 29, 2025 - 3:00 PM

Zoom And Youtube Meeting Information

Remote attendance option available on Zoom. See below for instructions to give public comment: Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89020477794?pwd=CUACxiOGzbY6AQpa4csDB3a0o11RAI.1> Meeting ID: 890 2047 7794 Passcode: 441139

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89020477794?pwd=Cuacxiogzby6aqa4csdb3a0o11rai.1>

Meeting ID: 890 2047 7794

Passcode: 441139

Call To Order

Opening Items

Presentations (15 Min)

General Business - Action Items - Discussion And Consideration Of Approval

Approval Of Minutes From 09/24/25 Meeting

Approval Of Minutes From 08/27/25 Meeting

Discussion Items

2024 RCOG/2025 RCG Update Discussion

Discussion Of Bylaws

RCOG/RCG 2026 Strategy Subcommittee Discussion

2025 Holiday Meeting Schedule

Future Considerations

Adjourn

NOTICE OF SPECIAL ACCOMMODATION DURING PUBLIC MEETINGS. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals with special needs requests wishing to attend Grand County Commission meetings/hearings and other Grand County Boards, Commissions, or Committees are encouraged to contact the County two (2) business days in advance of these events. Specific accommodations necessary to allow participation of disabled persons will be provided to the maximum extent possible. T.D.D. (Telecommunication Device for the Deaf) calls can be answered at:(435) 259-1346. Individuals with speech and/or hearing impairments may also call the Relay Utah by dialing 711. Spanish Relay Utah: 1 (888) 346-3162

It is hereby the policy of Grand County that elected and appointed representatives, staff and members of the Grand County Commission meetings/hearings and other Grand County Boards, Commissions, or Committees may participate in meetings through electronic means. Any form of telecommunication may be used, as long as it allows for real time interaction in the way of discussions, questions and answers, and voting.

At the Grand County Commission meetings/hearings and other Grand County Boards, Commissions, or Committees any citizen, property owner, or public official may be heard on any agenda subject. The number of persons heard and the time allowed for each individual maybe limited at the sole discretion of the Chair. On matters set for public hearings there is a three-minute time limit per person to allow maximum public participation. Upon being recognized by the Chair, please advance to the microphone, state your full name and address, whom you represent, and the subject matter. No person shall interrupt legislative proceedings.

Requests for inclusion on an agenda and supporting documentation must be received by 5:00 PM on the Tuesday prior to a regular Commission Meeting and forty-eight (48) hours prior to any Special Commission Meeting.

Information relative to these meetings/hearings may be obtained at the Grand County Commission's Office, 125 East Center Street, Moab, Utah; (435)259-1346.



AGENDA SUMMARY

Economic Opportunity Advisory Board Meeting

Date: October 29, 2025

Title: Approval of Minutes from 09/24/25 Meeting

If this submission is from the general public you will need a commission sponsor, feel free to contact the Commission Administrators Office with any questions commadmin@grandcountyutah.net (435) 259-1342 or contact the Commissioners directly at commission@grandcountyutah.net

Fiscal Impact:

Presenter(s):

Department: Commission Administrators Office

Legal Review:

Approved and within budget? Economic Opportunity Advisory Board

Budget Number:

Recommended Motion:

Background:

Attachments:

1. EOAB_Minutes_9-24-2025

Grand County Economic Opportunity Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
September 24, 2025
Held at the Grand County Commission Chambers
125 E. Center St., Moab, Utah 84532

Full Meeting on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rUIbLsSHjK8>

Call to Order

Chair Chris Wilson called the meeting to order at **3:03 p.m.**

Attendance

- ☐ Chris Wilson (Chair, Voting, Private Sector Representative) — **Present**
- ☐ Randy Martin (Vice Chair, Voting, Moab Area Chamber of Commerce) — **Present**
- ☐ Ashley Korenblat (Voting, Workforce Development Representative) — **Present**
- ☐ Aaron Lindberg (Voting, Secretary) — **Present (remote)**
- ☐ Forrest Rodgers (Voting, Public Representative) — **Present**
- ☐ Jazmine Duncan (Voting, Municipal Representative) — **Present (remote),**
- ☐ Brittney Melton (Voting, Private Sector Representative) — **Present**
- ☐ Melisa Jeffers (Non-voting, County Economic Development Staff) — **Present**
- ☐ Melodie McCandless (Non-voting, County Commission Representative) — **Present**
- ☐ Cory Shurtleff (Non-voting, Moab City Representative) — **Present (remote)**
- ☐ Todd Thompson (Non-voting, USU Small Business Development Director) — **Present**
- ☐ Samantha Campbell (Non-voting, USU Moab Campus Representative) — **Absent**
- ☐ Debra McKee (Non-voting, Governor’s Office of Economic Opportunity) — **Present (remote)**

Guests: Geri Gamber; Julie Rosier; Karen Olson; Chris Allred; Jade Powell (SERTA)

Presentation – Southeastern Utah Regional Transportation & Economic Development District (SERTA)

Representatives from SERTA provided an overview of their tripartite board structure, federal requirements, and ongoing initiatives. They invited board members to share contacts for potential low-income sector representatives to fill a vacant Grand County seat on their board.

Economic Development Department Updates

COG Contract:

Melisa Jeffers gave an update on the **Governor’s Office of Economic Opportunity (GOEO)** contract. Due to project delays, the County is working with Deborah and James Dixon on a possible contract amendment. If approved, Grand County EMS may proceed with a tight grant application timeline.

Board Openings & Advertising:

Dana has posted board openings. County leadership will review vacancies October 2, after which paid advertising will run through mid-late October in local publications. Word-of-mouth promotion was encouraged.

Board Vacancies and Meeting Schedule

The Board discussed timelines for filling upcoming vacancies to avoid gaps at the start of 2026.

- **Application deadline:** November 12, 2025
 - **Interviews:** November 19, 2025 (rescheduled November meeting)
 - **Selection of new members:** December 17, 2025 (rescheduled December meeting)
 - Motion to adopt these dates passed **unanimously**.
-

Strategic Discussion – Advisory Role & Economic Development Principles

The Board held an extended discussion on how to better fulfill its advisory function to the County Commission and Economic Development office. Key points included:

- Clarifying the Board’s role as a conduit of community and sector input.
- Exploring principles and priorities for economic development that reflect both state criteria and Grand County’s unique needs.
- Using these principles to inform RCG/RCOG grant evaluation and future recommendations.
- Possible public engagement through op-eds or community discussions.

Motion: At approximately **1:58:21** on the meeting recording, **Forrest Rodgers** stated:

“I move that this board shall **explore or create principles and priorities for economic development in Grand County**. These shall be presented to the Grand County Commission, the County Administrator’s Office, and the Economic Development Office **in support of our responsibilities as outlined in the board’s advisory role.**”

- **Second:** Randy Martin
- **Vote:** Passed unanimously by members present at approximately **2:03:10**. (*Jazmine Duncan had departed prior to the vote.*)

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at **5:04 p.m.**



AGENDA SUMMARY

Economic Opportunity Advisory Board Meeting

Date: October 29, 2025

Title: Approval of Minutes from 08/27/25 Meeting

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Fiscal Impact:

Presenter(s):

Department: Commission Administrators Office

Legal Review:

Approved and within budget? Economic Opportunity Advisory Board

Budget Number:

Recommended Motion:

Background:

Attachments:

1. EOAB Minutes 8-27-2025

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY ADVISORY BOARD (EOAB)

Grand County Commission Chambers

125 E. Center St., Moab, Utah 84532

August 27, 2025

YouTube recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Uil8SwbPhA8>

Call to Order

Chair Chris Wilson called the meeting to order at **3:01 p.m.**

Attendees

- Chris Wilson (Chair, Voting, Private Sector Representative) — Present
- Randy Martin (Vice Chair, Voting, Moab Area Chamber of Commerce) — Present
- Ashley Korenblat (Voting, Workforce Development Representative) — Present
- Aaron Lindberg (Voting, Secretary) — Present
- Forrest Rodgers (Voting, Public Representative) — Present
- Jazmine Duncan (Voting, Municipal Representative) — Present
- Brittney Melton (Voting, Private Sector Representative) — Present
- Melisa Jeffers (Non-voting, County Economic Development Staff) — Present
- Melodie McCandless (Non-voting, County Commission Representative) — Present
- Cory Shurtleff (Non-voting, Moab City Representative) — Present (remote)
- Todd Thompson (Non-voting, USU Small Business Development Director) — Present
- Samantha Campbell (Non-voting, USU Moab Campus representative) — Present
- Cora Phillips (Non-voting, Moab Chamber of Commerce) — Present
- Debra McKee (Non-voting, Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity) — Present (remote)

Ex-Parte Communications and Disclosures

None.

Citizens to be Heard

None.

Approval of Minutes

Motion: Forrest moved to approve the **July 30, 2025** minutes.

Second: Randy.

Vote: Passed unanimously, with Jazmine abstaining.

Economic Development Update *(Staff report by Melisa Jeffers)*

- RCG: End-of-year reporting completed; new submission accepted, contracts under state review.

- RCOG: Intent to apply submitted with support from GOEO Utah. Close-out of prior grant remains a priority. Grand County and the Moab Area Housing Trust are working together to get the grant closed out.

SBDC Update (Todd Thompson)

- Shared recent assistance to businesses on financials, loans, and workforce development.
- Example: revolving loan fund application expected to create 4–5 new local jobs.
- Highlighted management training efforts and continuing hiring challenges linked to high local housing costs.

Strategic Planning & Grant Process Discussion

Key Positions from the Discussion (attribution in parentheses):

- No board-led rewrite of the General Plan. Commission appetite is limited to *updates* at most; staff will work from the existing County economic development strategic plan. (Melodie McCandless; general agreement)
- Staff work plan (not a plan rewrite). Economic Development staff (Melisa Jeffers) is building an actionable work plan aligned to the current strategic plan and administration direction; the EOAB will advise on priorities and projects, not reformat the plan. (Melisa Jeffers)
- Board's role beyond grants. EOAB retains advisory authority per bylaws, but the primary executable work remains RCG/RCOG administration with clearer strategy/criteria. (Debra McKee, board discussion)
- Support existing businesses & resiliency. Address workforce/housing capacity and service levels while pursuing targeted diversification (events/conferences that fit Moab's assets). (Ashley Korenblat, Cory Shurtleff, Brittney Melton)
- City–County alignment. Improve coordination with City of Moab (interlocal/task-force style) so policy and investments paddle in the same direction. (Cory Shurtleff)

Consensus Points

- Agreement to refine RCG/RCOG strategy this fall with goal of hosting a **workshop for applicants in December or January**.
- Board acknowledged need for clearer criteria for project selection, balancing inclusivity with targeted qualifications.

- Recognition that EOAB retains advisory powers beyond grant administration per bylaws, though scope must align with Commission direction.

Board Composition Update

- Discussion of upcoming vacancies: Forrest (term-limited), Jazmine (not reapplying), and Melisa (has changed to staff).
- Agreement to advertise positions this fall to ensure replacements seated by year-end.
- Suggestion for Cory Shurtleff to apply for municipal representative seat; Cory expressed interest but cited possible conflicts.

Future Agenda Items

- Review and feedback on staff work plan.
- Workshop planning for RCG/RCOG applicants.
- Coordination updates with City of Moab and other regional partners.
- Staff to draft 2026 RCG/RCOG application calendar and prepare December/January workshop framework.
- Melissa to circulate outline of her departmental work plan for EOAB feedback at next meeting.
- Commissioners to clarify appetite for plan updates vs. full rewrite.
- Staff to open applications for upcoming board vacancies and schedule interviews.

Adjournment

Chair Chris Wilson adjourned the meeting at **5:08 p.m.**

Secretary: Aaron Lindberg

Draft prepared: September 1, 2025