

Moab Valley Fire Protection District Commission Meeting

45 South 100 East, Moab Utah 84532

Tuesday February 24, 2026- 5:00 p.m.

A. Call to Order:

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Archie Walker at 5:00 p.m.
2. Commissioners Present: Chairman Archie Walker, Commissioner Jim McGann, Commissioner Charlie Harrison
3. Staff Present: Chief TJ Brewer, Administrator Cathy Bonde, Battalion Chief Brandon McGuffee, Wildland Division Chief Clark Maughan, Captain Ryan Burraston
4. Others Present: For REMS discussion: Robin Reibold, Grand County EMS; For Impact Fee Public Hearing: Cody Deeter EFG Consulting

B. General Business:

1. Approval of Minutes – Commissioner McGann stated that the minutes did not reflect Commissioner Walker’s statement of conflict of interest. Commissioner Harrison motioned to approve the minutes from the December 8, 2025 meeting with an amendment to include the statement. Commissioner McGann seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
2. Citizens to Be Heard – No one present wishing to speak.
3. Commission Member Disclosures – Commissioner Walker stated he has one son who works for the Department and one who is a volunteer firefighter for the Department. Commissioner McGann stated his wife is a Grand County Commissioner. Discussion was had on when disclosure is necessary. It was concluded disclosure was only necessary when a subject was to be voted on where a conflict of interest may exist.
4. Approval of Bills – Commissioner Harrison motioned to approve the bills, Commissioner McGann seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

C. Chief’s Report:

1. There have been 64 calls to service so far this year. Total losses \$320,000.00, total saved \$400,000.00. The department currently has 33 members.
2. Engine 2 has been sold for \$13,500.00. The department that purchased it has informed us it is in service and running great.
3. The legislature is currently in session and Chief Brewer has been active in many meetings pertaining to proposed legislation.

4. We participated in the career fair at the high school. We currently have 3 interns from the high school. The intern program is very time consuming, but it is invaluable to the youth of our community.
5. We are applying for several small equipment grants.
6. We received a grant to put in signage about fire danger at all of our stations.
7. Sean Gray from Cobb County, Georgia will be here next week to teach firefighting and search tactics.
8. We are now an explosive detonation resource for the State Fire Marshal's office. We detonated some dynamite at Ruby Ranch that needed to be disposed of. We will be doing the same at a mine where explosives were found as it was being reclaimed. Commissioner McGann asked if we had to do anything to become the detonation resource. Chief Brewer stated volunteer firefighter Doran Michels has all of the certifications and training.
9. Engine 161 has been deployed to Texas as part of a Utah task force with Shea Walker and Cody Thurlo.

D. Ongoing Business:

1. San Juan County Annexation – Chief Brewer stated there is nothing new but he anticipates discussions will pick up in March.
2. REMS Team – Clark Maughan explained a REMS team is a rapid extraction module support 4-person team that has been deploying on wildfires for about 10 years. They are now being used in other all-hazards incidents. The primary purpose is to rescue firefighters who are injured on a fire and get them out. Chief Brewer stated Grand County EMS and Moab Fire have been talking about putting a team together for several years. He added there have been incidents locally where a REMS team would have been advantageous.

Commissioner Walker asked if there were grants available for equipment. Chief Brewer said there is not a lot of grant availability for the equipment needed.

Three videos were presented to Commissioners to further explain a REMS team and the needs associated with it. Discussion was then had on the REMS team.

Clark Maughan stated a rough estimate of cost to equip the REMS team is just under \$200,000.00. This includes a truck, trailer, and UTV along with rescue gear. Chief Brewer said we would recoup the expenditures in 4-5 deployments. Chief Brewer stated we have spoken for a number of years about the need for a UTV for use within our District. Cathy added that the truck would be multi-purpose.

Clark informed Commissioners that Ryan Burraston and Robin Reibold of Grand County EMS have developed a training program for the REMS team, and training has been taking place every two weeks for half a day.

Cathy stated there are funds available in both our Capital Projects budget and Capital Equipment line item in our general budget to support the REMS team. Chief Brewer added that a current grant opportunity would provide a slip-in for the REMS UTV.

Chief Brewer said we could keep the REMS team as a standing item on the agenda and update Commissioners on a regular basis.

E. Future Considerations:

1. Commissioner Walker asked for an update on the hiring of an assistant chief. Chief Brewer said we currently have 7 applicants.
2. Chief Brewer stated he would like to enter a closed session to discuss personnel issues.

F. Closed Session:

1. Commissioner Walker motioned to enter closed session to discuss personnel issues at 5:48 p.m. Commissioner Harrison seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
2. Commissioner Walker motioned to leave closed session at 5:56 p.m. Commissioner Harrison seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

G. PUBLIC HEARING and consider adoption of proposed impact fee facilities plan and proposed impact fee ordinance/impact fee enactment and to adopt, enact, or modify: impact fee facilities plans, written impact fee analyses and an impact fee enactment for Moab Valley Fire Protection District.

1. Commissioner Walker opened the public hearing at 6:00 p.m.
2. Cody Deeter of EFG Consulting presented on the impact fee facility plan & impact fee analysis that his company created in relation to Moab Fire and impact fees. He reviewed the statute governing impact fees and the methodology used to calculate impact fees. Cody Deeter answered several questions posed by Commissioners and staff.
3. Cathy stated that no comments have been received on our consideration of the District implementing impact fees.
4. Discussion was had on the impact of these fees on development as well as consideration of different impact fee amounts.
5. Commissioner McGann suggested setting the residential impact fee at \$1,200.00. Commissioner Harrison agreed. This would set the commercial impact fee at \$1704.00. Commissioners can choose to increase or decrease impact fees at a later date, but they cannot go above the amount in the impact fee facility plan and analysis.

H. Action Item: Resolution 2026-001 – A Resolution Adopting an Impact Fee Facilities Plan and Impact Fee Analysis and Imposing Certain Impact Fees for Fire Services.

1. Commissioner Walker motioned to accept Impact Fee Resolution 2026-001 and to set the initial residential impact fee at \$1,200.00 per ERC. Commissioner Harrison seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
2. Cathy stated there is a 90 day period before the impact fees go into effect. Cathy sent the County a copy of the MOU in place the last time the County collected impact fees for the District. Ideally, we can make minor changes to that agreement and then have both the Grand County Commission and our Commission approve the MOU prior to the 90 day wait period expiring.

I. Adjourn:

1. Chair Walker adjourned the meeting at 6:41 p.m.

_____ **Date** _____

Archie Walker, Chair

Attest: _____

Catherine Bonde, Clerk

Moab Valley Fire Protection District Closed Session Form

Date: February 24, 2026

Commissioners Present:

Archie Walker
 Jim McGann
 Charlie Harrison

Others Present:

TJ Brewer
Chief
 Cathy Bonde
Administrator

Motion to enter Closed Session made by: Commissioner Walker

Seconded by: Commissioner Harrison

Time In to Closed Session: 5:48 p.m.

Motion to adjourn Closed Session made by: Commissioner Walker

Seconded by: Commissioner Harrison

Time Out of Closed Session: 5:56 p.m.

Purpose of Closed Recorded Session:

- Pending or Reasonably Imminent Litigation
 Purchase, Exchange, Lease or Sale of Real Property, including any form of a water right or water shares (UCA 52-4-205(1)(d) & (e))
 Investigative Proceedings Regarding Allegations of Criminal Misconduct
 Commercial Information Obtained from a Property Taxpayer (UCA 59-1-404)

Purpose of Closed Unrecorded Session (affirmation required)*

- Deployment of Security Personnel, Devices or Systems (**unrecorded**)*
 Character, Professional Competence or Physical or Mental Health of an Individual (**unrecorded**)*

***Affirmed by Commission Chair (for unrecorded session)**

*If unrecorded, Chair swears and affirms that the sole purpose for closing the meeting was to discuss one of the following: †the deployment of security personnel, devices or systems; †or the character, professional competence or physical or mental health of an individual.