



## GRAND COUNTY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

Grand County Commission Chambers  
Held virtually on Zoom  
Moab, Utah

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### MINUTES 18 MAY, 2021

The Grand County Commission met in a regular meeting on 18 May, 2021. The meeting was streamed/attended electronically. It was also broadcast and saved on YouTube. Commissioners in attendance were Evan Clapper, Jacques Hadler, Trish Hedin, Mary McGann, Sarah Stock, Kevin Walker, and Gabriel Woytek. Also present were County Commission Administrator Chris Baird, County Commission Associate Administrator Mallory Nassau, County Attorney Christina Sloan, and Clerk/Auditor Quinn Hall.

**Call to Order 3:04 PM**

#### **PM Purchasing Policy Workshop/Discussion**

Mallory discussed obstacles created by the old, outdated purchasing policy. Mallory shared some proposed changes and comparisons with similar counties, noting policy revisions would make the County more efficient increase future flexibility. Mallory shared relevant purchasing thresholds and asked for input.

Chris offered input on the budgeting vs. purchasing methods and explained current practices in more detail. Chris discussed proposed thresholds and the rationale behind updating the purchasing policy. Chris discussed the public noticing requirements. Chris discussed the potential time savings associated with updating the purchasing policy, noting the time taken by asking for bids for smaller amounts. Mallory and Chris discussed some nuances like appointed signatories and smaller contractor agreements.

Chris and Evan discussed different types of purchases and dollar amounts, and the necessity of Commission approval. Kevin and Chris discussed the appropriateness of placing smaller dollar amounts on the consent agenda.

Christina discussed implied approval via the budgeting process and applauded the update. Chris noted that technically every purchase is approved by the commission by ratifying the bills at the meetings.

Mallory noted the County is leaving bids and requests for proposals (RFP's) open for much longer than required by current statute, and suggested adjusting local timelines accordingly.

Mallory discussed the next steps and suggested everyone offer what input they may have in the coming weeks.

Mary asked the commission about realistic timelines for feedback on the purchasing policy. General agreement that feedback should be given within a week.

Chris noted the ability to adjust the policy in the future if deemed necessary.

**4:00 p.m. Thompson Springs Special Service Fire District Board Meeting (see separate agenda)**

**4:05 p.m. Call to Order**

**Chair McGann called the meeting to order at 4:10**

**Citizens to Be Heard** (and again at approximately 6:00 pm)

Susie Harrington suggested support for the commission's letter on the Labyrinth Canyon management plan and suggested support for a better planned trail system.

Krystyna Dillard commented about the letter to the BLM as well; suggesting support for limiting roads in the area and potentially decreasing resource damage in the backcountry. Suggested support for roadless areas.

Mary O'Brien commented and suggested support for the letter to the BLM and support for wildlife habitat.

Bill Love commented in support of the letter to the BLM and shared some information from the Division of Wildlife Resources (DWR). Bill suggested support for better habitat protection for the Bighorn Sheep. Bill noted support for decreasing roads in the area.

Christian encouraged the commission to send the letter to the BLM and supports the notion of fewer roads and less crowding. Christian supports roadless areas.

Will K suggested support for the letter to the BLM and support for roadless areas.

Saina (Via Chris/Chat) does not want to see a zoning change in Thompson Canyon area.

**Approval of Minutes** (Quinn Hall, Clerk/Auditor)

A. May 4, 2021 (Regular County Commission Meeting)

**Motion by** Jacques Hadler to approve the minutes from 4 May, 2021.

**Motion Seconded by** Kevin Walker

**Discussion** (none at this time)

**Motion passes 7-0**

**Ratification of Payment of Bills**

**Motion by** Gabriel Woytek to ratify payment of bills totaling \$392,995.76 and payroll totaling \$261,102.97 for a combined total of \$654,098.73.

**Motion Seconded by** Jacques Hadler

**Discussion** (none at this time)

**Motion passes 7-0**

**Commission Member Disclosures**

Evan Clapper disclosed he has a recreation permit with the BLM.

## General Commission Reports and Future Considerations

Sarah Stock  
(none at this time)

Trish Hedin

- Attended Grand Water and Sewer Meeting
- Weekly meetings for Thompson Springs cleanup
- Conservation District Meeting
- Grand County School District meeting
- Attended local homeless committee meeting
- Met with fire chief in Thompson Springs
- Meetings with Thompson Springs Special Service Water District

Jacques Hadler

- Trail Mix Meeting
- Motorized Trails Committee meeting
- Historical Preservation Commission meeting working on an Land Acknowledgement Statement for future consideration

Kevin Walker

- Meeting of Transportation Special Service District meeting
- Met with redistricting consultants

Evan Clapper

- Met with Boundary Commission
- Met with EMS board

Gabriel Woytek

- Virtually attended NATCON 2021 (annual conference for National Council for Behavioral Health)
- UAC board of directors meeting
- Executive Appropriations Committee meeting
- Met with AOG

Mary McGann

- Monument Waste (Canyonlands Solid Waste Authority)
- Staff meeting at Solid Waste District
- Housing Task Force meeting
- Met with Travel Council
- Met with Ike White (Office of Environmental Management)
- Attended meeting to discuss future funding

## Elected Official Reports

Christina Sloan discussed the Rally on the Rocks event and increased oversight from local law enforcement. Christina noted there were no complaints about abuse on public lands.

Quinn discussed the internal audit meetings.

## Commission Administrator Report

Chris discussed the American Rescue Act Funding and the potential to receive that money. Chris noted the potential uses for federal funding. Chris discussed some of the needs of the County and funding goals for the State. Chris discussed some of the larger projects. Chris discussed some the changes at the Thompson Springs Water district board.

Mallory discussed the pending arrival of the new Planning and Zoning director. Malloy will begin work on the grant and surplus policy soon. Mallory discussed a potential upcoming special meeting – but noted that it may be best to wait until a later date. Mallory discussed the vaccination clinic at the Courthouse.

**Department Reports** (none at this time)

**Agency Reports** (none at this time)

**Presentations**

- B. Presentation and discussion regarding proposed Moab Region Transit Service Alternatives (Carly Castle, Moab Deputy City Manager, Monte Aldridge, UDOT Region Four Deputy Director, and Jason Miller, Fehr & Peers)

Carly Castle discussed the transit pilot project and some specifics like background and funding. Carly discussed different aspects of the project and the funding from Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) and local contributions.

Jason Miller from Fehr & Peers discussed some of the alternatives available to the City and County for transportation alternatives and potential timelines for completed studies. Jason discussed some potential specifics like transit vehicle types and challenges to providing service. Jason discussed the idea/concept of “microtransit.” Jason discussed options with routes and potential ridership. Jason discussed the roles and responsibilities of the involved partners. Jason ran down potential ongoing costs associated with long-term operation. Jason discussed potential long-term capital expenses and some other logistical concerns like wait times and route differentiation and potential stops for different plan options.

Sarah asked about potential integration with a future Arches Transit plan, and Jason responded that the current plan doesn’t allow for any entrance to Arches National Park, but that integration with a future park shuttle system could be adapted to work with an existing shuttle system by adjusting pick-up/drop-off times.

Evan asked about the possibility of finding suitable contractors and Jason suggested Fehr & Peers would help create the RFP. Jon Nepstad noted there are other communities in the region that may be suitable and willing to offer the service. Jason suggested that the ideal service may be a 2 vehicle system with some slight modifications.

Evan suggested support for quick adoption and implementation. Evan asked about timelines for feedback on options presented. Carly suggested some future meetings where the County and City agree on an option and move forward with a recommendation to UDOT. Monte suggested the entities simply commit to funding and then UDOT and the community can work toward a firmer solution. Jeff noted agreements on how funding would work could potentially be worked out later. Chris suggested the financial commitment is large and requires careful consideration before committing. Chris noted support for the overall plan, but suggested only moving forward once it’s budgeted and accounted for.

**6:00 Citizens to Be Heard** (none at this time)

**General Business- Action Items- Discussion and Consideration of:**

- C. Adopting Resolution indicating support for the Moab and Spanish Valley 2050 Regional Transportation Plan, prepared by Fehr & Peers May 4, 2021 (Monte Aldridge, UDOT Region Four Deputy Director)

### **Presentation**

Jeff Sanders discussed the transportation plan – noting this plan looks 25-30 years in the future. Bill Jackson noted they'd come up with a plan that will benefit all stakeholders. Jeff noted there are several projects included in the plan, including active transportation and transit. Jeff noted the bypass was discussed in one of the early drafts, but noted the bypass has been removed from the current proposed regional plan.

**Motion by** Kevin Walker to approve the proposed resolution indicating support for the Moab and Spanish Valley 2050 Regional Transportation Plan.

**Motion Seconded by** Gabriel Woytek

### **Discussion**

Sarah offered thanks for the removal of the bypass. Evan offered thanks as well and suggested expanding the plan in the future. Jacques noted support for the active transportation component.

**Motion passes 7-0**

- D. Adopting Resolution of the County Commission of Grand County, Utah (The "Issuer") authorizing the issuance and sale by the Issuer not to exceed \$57,000,000 hospital revenue and refunding bonds (Moab Regional Hospital Project), Series 2021, which will be payable solely from the revenues arising from the Pledge of a Loan Agreement (The "Loan Agreement") among the Issuer, Moab Valley Healthcare, Inc. D/B/A Moab Regional Hospital, as Borrower, and Zions Bank Corporation, N.A. D/B/A Zions First National Bank, as Lender, the proceeds of which will be used to refund certain outstanding obligations and to finance the acquisition, construction and equipping of improvements to Moab Regional Hospital and the adjacent medical office building and related improvements, in order to promote the general welfare of the residents of the State of Utah; Authorizing the execution and delivery of said loan agreement and related documents; Confirming the sale of said bonds; And related matters (Chris Baird, Commission Administrator)

### **Presentation**

Chris discussed the resolution and the Moab Regional Hospital expansion and improvements. Chris noted bond counsel agrees that the resolution agrees with earlier discussions and the County bears no liability.

**Motion by** Gabriel Woytek to adopt the Resolution authorizing the issuance and sale of the County's not to exceed \$57,000,000 Hospital Revenue and Refunding Bonds (Moab Regional Hospital Project), Series 2021, to refund certain outstanding obligations and to finance the construction of new improvements at Moab regional Hospital and the adjacent Medical Office Building; and, to authorize the execution of a Loan Agreement and related documents and matters.

**Motion Seconded by** Jacques Hadler

**Discussion** (none at this time)

**Motion passes 7-0**

- E. Approving Independent Contractor Agreement with Taylor Fence Co. for the Airport Drive Through Gate Operator Upgrade in the amount of \$5,631.00 (Andy Solsvig, Airport Director)

### **Presentation**

Andy related some detail surrounding the gate upgrade and the need for the new gate at the airport.

**Motion by** Kevin Walker to approve the agreement with Taylor Fence Company of Grand Junction for the installation of a drive through gate operator system contingent upon submission of acceptable Certificate of Insurance.

**Motion Seconded by** Evan Clapper

**Discussion** (none at this time)

**Motion passes 7-0**

- F. Approving the modification of the Planning and Zoning Administrative Assistant position (Grade 5) to Planning and Zoning Planner 1 (Grade 8) (Renee Baker, Personnel Services Director)

**Presentation**

Renee discussed the position and the changes to the job description.

**Motion by** Jacques Hadler to approve the reorganization of the Planning and Zoning Administrative Assistant (Grade 5) to the Planning and Zoning Planner 1 (Grade 8) and approve the recruitment and hiring of the Planner 1 effective 5/19/2021.

**Motion Seconded by** Kevin Walker

**Discussion** (none at this time)

**Motion passes 7-0**

- G. Adopting Resolution approving COVID sick leave policy (Renee Baker, Personnel Services Director)

**Presentation**

Renee described the policy and the extension of the policy. Renee noted employees can use this to get the vaccine and the incentive of on vacation day. It's in effect until 31 December, 2021.

**Motion by** Sarah Stock to approve the proposed resolution titled "A Resolution adopting COVID-19 Sick Leave during the 2021 Pandemic Period"

**Motion Seconded by** Jacques Hadler

**Discussion** (none at this time)

**Motion passes 7-0**

- H. Approving the Resolution amending Section VIII (Benefit- All Employees E. Vacation) of the Grand County Employee Handbook (Renee Baker, Personnel Services Director)

**Presentation**

Renee described the resolution and the changes. Christina noted support from the County Attorney's office.

**Motion by** Jacques Hadler to approve the proposed resolution amending Section VIII (Benefit- All Employees E. Vacation) of the Grand County Employee Handbook.

**Motion Seconded by Kevin Walker**

**Discussion**

Renee noted this would not be retroactive.

**Motion passes 7-0**

- I. Approving the Resolution amending Resolution No. 3159, in part, to modify Section VII (Compensation- All Employees Initial Grade and Step Assignment) of the Grand County Employee Handbook” (Renee Baker, Personnel Services Director)

**Presentation**

Renee described the resolution and the changes.

**Motion by** Kevin Walker to approve the proposed Resolution Amending Resolution No. 3159, in part, to modify Section VII (Compensation- All Employees Initial Grade and Step Assignment) of the Grand County Employee Handbook.

**Motion Seconded by Jacques Hadler**

**Discussion** (none at this time)

**Motion passes 7-0**

- J. Approving bid award to Petroleum Equipment Services for new software and hardware for county fuel station, in the amount of \$11,825.00 (Glen Arthur, Assistant Road Supervisor)

**Presentation**

Glen discussed the bid and the required upgrade.

**Motion by** Sarah Stock to approve the bid from Petroleum Equipment Services in the amount of \$11,825.00 for new software and hardware for the fuel station

**Motion Seconded by Evan Clapper**

**Discussion** (none at this time)

**Motion passes 7-0**

- K. Ratifying the Chair’s signature on face covering policy effective May 4, 2021 for all Grand County facilities (Chris Baird, Commission Administrator and Christina Sloan, County Attorney)

**Presentation**

Chris noted HB 294 overruled most executive orders, but noted the County still has the discretion to require masks on County property. Chris noted Grand County is the only County in Utah in the “high transmission” status.

**Motion by** Kevin Walker to ratify the Chair’s signature on face covering policy effective May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021 for all Grand County facilities.

**Motion Seconded by Evan Clapper**

**Discussion** (none at this time)

**Motion passes 7-0**

- L. Approving letter to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) regarding the Labyrinth Rims and Gemini Bridges Travel Plan (Commissioner Kevin Walker)

**Presentation**

Kevin Walker discussed the letter and intent. Kevin noted the importance of diverse recreation, noting the need for different areas for different uses. Trish suggested adding language that discusses habitat.

**Motion by** Kevin Walker to approve the letter to BLM regarding Labyrinth Rims/Gemini Bridges travel planning, amended to read “Habitat important to wildlife should be protected. This includes, specifically, big horn sheep habitat”

**Motion Seconded by** Sarah Stock

**Discussion** (none at this time)

**Motion passes 7-0**

- M. Appointing an Elected Official Representative to the Community Renewable Energy Board (Commissioner Sarah Stock)

**Presentation**

Sarah described the board and discussed the need for a board member.

**Motion by** Sarah Stock to appoint Sarah Stock to the Community Renewable Energy Board as the elected official representative for Grand County.

**Motion Seconded by** Evan Clapper

**Discussion** (none at this time)

**Motion passes 7-0**

- N. Approving Agreement for an Office Space Expansion Feasibility Study, performed by Jones & DeMille Engineering, in the amounts of \$5,500 for Planning Services, \$40,000 for Pre-Design Engineering Services, and \$5,000 for GIS Services (Chris Baird, Commission Administrator)

**Presentation**

Chris discussed the study, noting the need to design and construct facilities that align with the priorities and needs of the County. Chris noted Jones and DeMille would map the organization and engineer the space. Sarah asked about the cost of the project and Chris noted this was to create a more efficient space for the County – both by redesigning the current courthouse and building a new facility. Gabriel suggested prioritizing sustainability during design and construction.

**Motion by** Jacques Hadler to approve the agreement with Jones & DeMille Engineering for an “Office Space Expansion Feasibility Study” for a total not to exceed \$50,500.

**Motion Seconded by** Sarah Stock



**Discussion** (none at this time)

**Motion passes 7-0**

**Consent Agenda- Action Items**

- O. Ratifying the Chair's signature on letter of engagement for bond counsel services for Moab Regional Hospital bonds
- P. Approving Contract Award for Professional Fireworks Display on Independence Day

**Motion by** Evan Clapper to approve the consent agenda as presented.

**Motion Seconded by** Kevin Walker

**Discussion** (none at this time)

**Motion passes 7-0**

**Discussion Items**

- Q. Discussion on Public Lands Bill (Chris Baird, Commission Administrator)

Chris discussed the Public Lands Bill – noting Congressman Curtis' office wanted to gauge commission support and interest. Chris asked about commissioner interest. Russ Von Koch would like to help part time on any public lands bill that may be in the future. Mary noted support and commented on the potentially short time frame. Kevin noted support for a public lands bill, and suggested addressing some of the larger issues. Jacques agreed. Sarah noted support. Gabriel noted support. Evan noted support. Trish noted support. Mary noted support.

- R. Calendar items and special events (Mallory Nassau, Associate Commission Administrator)

Mallory discussed the upcoming special events, noting the dates for the vaccination clinic at the Courthouse. The County is closed for Memorial Day.

**Public Hearings- Possible Action Items**

**Closed Session(s)** (if necessary)

**Adjourn**

Chair McGann adjourned the meeting at 7:05 pm.

ATTEST:



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Mary McGann  
Chair, Grand County Commission



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Quinn Hall  
Clerk/Auditor