GRAND COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING

Grand County Commission Chambers
Hybrid virtual participation on Zoom
Moab, Utah

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MINUTES
27 May 2025

The Grand County Commission met in a regular meeting on May 27th, 2025. The meeting was held in-person in the Grand County Commission Chambers, with hybrid virtual participation also available via Zoom. It was also broadcast and saved on YouTube. Attending the meeting in-person were Commission Chair Bill Winfield, Commission Vice-Chair Melodie McCandless and Commissioners Jacques Hadler, Brian Martinez, Mary McGann, Trisha Hedin, Mike McCurdy. Also attending in-person were Commission Administrator Mark Tyner, Associate Commission Administrator Quinn Hall and Clerk/Auditor Gabriel Woytek.

8:30 a.m. Budget Workshop

Finance Officer Steven Vowles gave an update on sales and use tax revenue receipts to date, with associated updates on year-to-date trends compared to projections. Actual receipts across all sales and use taxes after May receipts are negative 0.8% below projections. Clarification given that the cumulative trend projections are weighted to the volume of each respective revenue source.

Clerk/Auditor Woytek presented a summary document displaying unplanned expenses that have come up in 2025, potential correcting reimbursements to be entered in order to achieve compliance with Transient Room Tax (TRT) uses, capital project fund expenses, and the current status of fund balances in the General Fund and the Capital Project General Fund.

Commissioner Martinez sought clarification on currently budgeted expenses from TRT 2(a)(ii), or establish and promote recreation, film productions, and conventions. Martinez asked whether programmatic expense related to the Trail Ambassador program were included in items still budgeted and not pulled due to potential ongoing compliance issues. Martinez added that all budgeted expenses that would remain from this category must be tied back to promotion. Attorney Stocks explained that the Commission must make a determination on whether expenses would be defined as promotional or non-promotional, and that goal should be to settle on uses that are easily defensible.

Clerk/Auditor Woytek suggested that 2(a)(ii) uses currently budgeted for the Recreation Special Service District should also receive the same level of scrutiny regarding their qualification as promotion. Commissioner Hadler requested that Attorney Stocks prepare a memo that outlines defensible uses within the TRT statute. Commissioner Martinez sought clarification as to whether Trail Ambassador salaries from 2021, 2022, and 2024 were also being considered for reimbursement, and requested that they be presented for that consideration.

Clerk/Auditor Woytek went over a list of unplanned General Fund expenditures as well as Capital Project expenditures that the County has committed to. Some corrections were needed regarding actual cost of OSTA cattle panels and the CJC facility purchase. Commissioner Hadler stated that monies held in reserve in the General Fund and the Capital Projects fund were fungible and could be moved back and forth, and transfers out of the General Fund into the Capital Projects fund were made to keep that reserve balance lean in accordance with statute. Commissioner Winfield asked why there were new vehicle leases included on the list when the Commission had approved no new leases for the 2025 budget year, Clerk/Auditor Woytek stated that he would follow up. A budget amendment will be set to be prepared upon clarification of necessary budgeting corrections and clarification of resulting fund balances from these corrections.

Further discussion ensued regarding the process for the Commission to determine uses that would be deemed allowable by code, particularly relating to allocations budgeted to the Recreation Special Service District. Overview lead by Attorney Stocks on the current and future statute related to TRT allowable uses (17-31-2).

Clerk/Auditor Woytek referenced another document in the agenda packet showing expense trends across General Fund departments. Commissioner Martinez highlighted that recent trends show a level of expenses that are depleting reserve balances, and that the County must rein in spending into the future given the flattening of key revenue sources. A budget meeting will precede the next Commission meeting in order to update the topics addressed at this workshop, including but not limited to further analysis on Trail Ambassador expenses, Recreation Special Service District expenses, and vehicle leases. Commissioner Martinez requested that the Fund 47 reserve balance be analyzed in order to identify unspent TRT funds which should be held in Fund 23. More general discussion regarding next steps, including upcoming budget workshop schedules and budget amendment timeline.

Chair Winfield adjourned the meeting at 10:20 a.m.

Bill Winfield

Bill Winfield
Chair, Grand County Commission

Gabriel Woytek

Gabriel Woytek
Grand County Clerk/Auditor

Audit trail

Details

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Activity

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SIGNED	**Signed** by Gabriel Woytek (gwoytek@grandcountyutah.gov)	2025/06/19 13:30:15 UTC
SIGNED	**Signed** by Bill Winfield (bwinfield@grandcountyutah.gov)	2025/06/18 15:58:28 UTC
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