



GRAND COUNTY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

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

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MINUTES 2 June 2026

The Grand County Commission met in a regular meeting on June 2nd, 2026. 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 Melodies McCandless, Commission Vice-Chair Bill Winfield, who served as Chair for this meeting, and Commissioners Trish Hedin, Jacques Hadler, Mary McGann, Brian Martinez and Mike McCurdy. Also attending in-person were Commission Administrator Mark Tyner, Associate Commission Administrator Quinn Hall, Clerk/Auditor Gabriel Woytek and County Attorney Stephen Stocks.

3:56 p.m. Board of Equalization Special Meeting (see separate agenda)

Chair McCandless called the Regular Meeting to order at 4:23 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Citizens to be Heard

Pete Gross expressed caution regarding the potential expansion of nuclear energy projects, which he says have had chronic issues with meeting timelines and proposed budgets.

Allyson Mathis spoke in opposition to the Arches shuttle pilot, which she feels was a decision not made with the support of facts and reason and was not done with sufficient transparency.

Rory Paxman spoke in regards to item G on the consent agenda, expressing concern that the airport asphalt project was being implemented for new hangars whose owners should foot the cost of that improvement. Paxman also pointed out that local businesses other than farmers and ranchers were suffering due to water shortages and advocated for their consideration in drought declarations.

Department Reports

ITS Department (IT Director Matt Cenicerros)

General Business - Action Items, Discussion and Consideration of:

1. Commission member disclosures and future considerations

Commissioner McCurdy disclosed that his wife is an employee at the Grand County Sheriff's Office.

2. Approval of Consent Agenda Items

- A. Approval of Meeting Minutes for May 19th, 2026**
- B. Ratification of Payment of Bills**
- C. Ratification of Change Order #2 CNY - Additional Asphalt**
- D. Ratification of ORI Amendment for Contract 251763-1 Mud Springs**
- E. Approval of Partial Refund of Property Taxes for Parcel 02-ORIM-0046 for the 2025 Tax Year**
- F. Renewal of MOU With MVFD Administration of Impact Fees**
- G. Reallocation of Previously Approved Airport Pavement Funding to Another Location at the Airport**

Motion by Commissioner Hedin to approve the Consent Agenda, as read by the Chair, excluding item C

Motion Seconded by Commissioner Winfield

Discussion

Item C to be considered after action item 3.

Motion passes 7-0

3. Reallocation of previously approved airport pavement funding to another location at the airport (Airport Director Steven Gleason)

Presentation

Gleason explained the Taxiway Foxtrot project that is expected to be funded through development of new additional hangars. Gleason explained that testing did not meet FAA standards in front of existing county owned hangars. Repayment of new taxiway will still be set at previous funding level. Current estimate for full payback of \$700,000 "loan" estimated at ten years. Commissioner Hedin asked if there was a contract or MOU between the airport and County to memorialize the "loan" terms. Attorney and Administration agreed to have such an agreement drafted. Gleason explained that the repair was a priority project not eligible for FAA funding.

Motion by Commissioner McCurdy to approve the use of \$54,000 saved in the Taxilane F project to repair the pavement in front of the county-owned hangars during the apron reconstruction project commencing June 8

Motion seconded by Commissioner Martinez

Discussion

Commissioner Hedin pointed out that it was not on the Capital Projects List. Hedin added that there were extensive Capital Project needs across the county. Clerk/Auditor Woytek explained that this approval should be considered a unique and separate appropriation of funds separate from the one approved previously.

McCurdy explained that the needs for this priority repair still existed. Gleason explained the urgent nature of the proposed pavement project. Vice Chair Winfield stressed that the Airport was an economic driver that needed these improvements in order to continue to support the local economy. Commissioner Hadler stressed that there were needs across the county and that spending should be treated more holistically.

Motion passes 4-3, Hedin, McGann, and Hadler opposed

C. Ratification of Change Order #2 CNY - Additional Asphalt (from Consent Agenda)

Presentation

Discussion concluded that this additional expense come out of Airport department budget.

Motion by Commissioner McCurdy to approve the ratification of change order #2 CNY, with a fiscal impact of \$1,050.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Winfield

Discussion (none at this time)

Motion passes 7-0

4. Moab Office Of Tourism New Position Proposal (Personnel Services Director Tess Barger)

Item postponed; no action taken

5. Resolution Vista Antigua Amended Final Plat (Planning and Zoning Director Andrew Jackson)

Item postponed; no action taken

6. 2026 Cooperative Wildfire System Agreement (Emergency Management Director Kate Finley and County Attorney Stephen Stocks)

Presentation

Finley explained that the Utah Division of Forestry, Fire & State Lands' Cooperative Wildfire System (CWS) is a system in which the state provides financial protection for major, costly wildfires in exchange for local government committing resources toward wildfire prevention, preparedness, and response. This agreement formalizes roles and commitments between the state and the county for 2026.

Motion by Commissioner McCurdy to approve the 2026 Cooperative Wildfire System agreement as amended, pending completion of legal review

Motion Seconded by Commissioner Winfield

Discussion

Commissioner Martinez explained that the proposed contract must not conflict with the Wildland Urban Interface agreement to be considered at an upcoming meeting.

Motion passes 7-0

7. First Amendment to Contract — ABC Thompson, LLC (Cristin Hofhine, County Attorney's Office)

Presentation

During its regular meeting on May 19, 2026, the County Commission deliberated on a proposal to recall STAR Grant funds previously allocated to ABC Thompson LLC. This action was prompted by significant delays and a lack of progress regarding the project's planning and permitting phases.

The STAR Business Grant, totaling \$100,000.00, was originally intended to support the redevelopment and reopening of the Thompson Cafe and related commercial enhancements in Thompson Springs. Although the formal contract was established in June 2023 with an active period spanning from June 20, 2023, to June 20, 2024, the project has experienced prolonged inactivity.

Following the discussion, the Commission opted to table the matter. This postponement allows Commissioners to evaluate a potential contract amendment that would introduce specific milestones and a revised timeline for the facility's reopening.

County Attorney Stocks explained the current draft amendment being considered, which would require a site plan submission by July 15, site plan approval by August 25, business licenses by December 1, and opening for business by December 31. Failure to meet requirements timely will result in default and requirement for full repayment of grant funding.

Motion by Commissioner McCurdy to approve the First Amendment to the Sustainable and Resilient (STAR) Business Grant Contract between Grand County and ABC Thompson, LLC.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Hadler

Discussion (none at this time)

Motion passes 6-0, Hedin absent

8. Amending the CIB list to add a planning grant for the Moab Information Center (MIC) for remodel and/or rebuild (Commission Administration)

Presentation

The MIC bathrooms need to be remodeled. There are rough designs attached, and the project will be completed through a State Contractor. Administrator Tyner explained that the Commission was considering a request for a feasibility study with the CIB for a total overhaul of the facility. Chair McCandless explained that a study would facilitate a more holistic approach for remodel and expansion. The MIC bathrooms are in very high demand and have become a maintenance burden for County staff. Fiscal impact of a new bathroom rebuild was estimated to be roughly \$200,000. McGann suggested that the motion could not be made to approve the bathroom expense for this item due to the way that the agenda item was named.

Motion by Commissioner McCurdy to postpone item 8

Motion Seconded by Commissioner Hadler

Discussion

Clerk Auditor/Woytek asked if the expense served to solicit, advertise, or market or enhance transient guest spending, and emphasized that the intent of the portion of the code governing the use of TRT Rec/Film/Convention funds is to bring people from outside the county into the county for tourism, recreation, film, and conventions, both points which have been made by State Auditor Tina Cannon on the record.

Motion passes 7-0

Discussion Items

9. Proposed Letters of Support Policy Discussion

The Commission discussed the outlines of a concrete formal policy for evaluating and offering letters of support to various partnering entities, and establishing clear guidelines and expectations for entities requesting such letters.

6pm Citizens to be Heard (none at this time)

Workshop

10. Policies And Procedures of The Governing Body Review

The Commission made a page-by-page review of the policies and procedures document, with a redlined version included in the packet.

Closed Session

At 6:54 p.m., motion by Commissioner McCurdy to enter closed session to discuss the purchase, exchange, lease, or sale of real property and to discuss pending or reasonably imminent litigation

Motion seconded by Commissioner Winfield

Motion passes 7-0

At 8:42 p.m., motion by Commissioner McGann to exit closed session

Motion seconded by Commissioner Winfield

Motion passes 7-0

Chair McCandless adjourned the meeting at 8:44 p.m.

Melodie J. McCandless

Melodie McCandless
Chair, Grand County Commission

ATTEST:

Gabriel Woytek

Gabriel Woytek
Grand County Clerk/Auditor

Audit trail

Details

FILE NAME	6.2.2026 REG GCC MINUTES approved - 6/16/26, 5:20 PM.pdf
STATUS	● Signed
STATUS TIMESTAMP	2026/06/17 13:52:58 UTC

Activity

 SENT	dvanhorn@grandcountyutah.gov sent a signature request to: - Melodie J. McCandless (mmccandless@grandcountyutah.gov) - Gabriel Woytek (gwoytek@grandcountyutah.gov)	2026/06/16 23:20:44 UTC
 SIGNED	Signed by Melodie J. McCandless (mmccandless@grandcountyutah.gov)	2026/06/17 03:00:31 UTC
 SIGNED	Signed by Gabriel Woytek (gwoytek@grandcountyutah.gov)	2026/06/17 13:52:58 UTC
 COMPLETED	This document has been signed by all signers and is complete	2026/06/17 13:52:58 UTC

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