

DRAFT Meeting Minutes
Grand County Local Emergency Planning Committee
Quarter 3, 2026

1. The Grand County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) met for its Q3, 2026 meeting on August 25, 2026 at 11 AM.
 - a. The physical meeting took place at the Moab Valley Fire Department, 45 S 100 E, Moab UT 84532
 - b. A virtual option was also available via Google Meet. The meeting audio was recorded from Google Meet
2. Attendees
 - a. In-person: Kate Finley (Grand County Emergency Manager), Micah Nielsen (Moab UMTRA Project), Sean Yeates (Grand County Engineer), Lisa Cenicerros (Grand County), Chris Tull (Grand County Search and Rescue), Libby Bailey (Grand County School District), Tony Mancuso (State of Utah FFSL), Jim Winder (citizen), Phillip Mosher (Moab UMTRA Project), Barbara Fincham (citizen), Chet Ingram (Southeast Utah Health Department), Lex Bell (Moab City Police), TJ Brewer (Moab Valley Fire Department), Andy Smith (Grand County EMS), Eric Anderson (Southeast Utah Health Department), Chris Whetton (Moab Valley Fire Department), Brandon McGuffee (Moab Valley Fire Department), Didar Charles (City of Moab), Sydney Maller (City of Moab), Dee Taylor (Grand Conservation District), Cody McKinney (Grand County Road Department), Clark Maughan (Moab Valley Fire Department), Darci Miller (Moab Regional Hospital), Kara Dohrenwend (Rim to Rim Restoration), Scott Solle (Grand County Search and Rescue), Greg Davis (Rocky Mountain Power)
 - b. Virtual: Jacques Hadler (Grand County Commission), Tim Mason (Moab UMTRA Project), Mark Marcum (Canyonlands Regional Airport), Jazmine Duncan (Town of Castle Valley)
3. Welcome/Introductions
4. Approval of meeting minutes
 - a. Andy Smight made a motion to approve the Quarter 2, 2026 minutes. Brandon McGuffee seconded. Approved unanimously without discussion.
5. Emergency Management Program Updates (Kate Finley)
 - a. Draft plans in development
 - i. Extreme heat annex
 - ii. Debris management
 - b. Upcoming exercises
 - i. UMTRA drill in October - will simulate a highway incident and involve Grand and Emery Counties in the response
 - ii. Active threat annex tabletop with Grand County School District in October and follow-on interagency tabletop in November/December
 - iii. Healthcare coalition tabletop involving a simulated special pathogen patient in November
 - iv. Other projects

1. Utah Division of Emergency Management/Silver Jackets led signage project at high flood risk trailheads in the county
 2. Evacuation zones and planning
 3. Standardized documentation templates
 4. Grant projects
 - a. Animal sheltering equipment
 - b. Generator transfer switches
 - c. Physical Security enhancements
 - d. Revitalization of CERT
6. Flood Mitigation Project presentations
- a. Cody McKinney of the Grand County Road Department presented on the All-American Wash project
 - i. \$2.6 million effort between October 2025 and June 2026
 - ii. Upgrading culverts to elevated structures, over 400 feet of articulated mats, 10,000 cubic feet of riprap to manage debris and improve drainage flow
 - iii. Project aims to prevent catastrophic damage and improve safety
 - iv. Requires ongoing collaboration to manage flow downstream
 - v. Discussion/questions
 1. Concerns were raised on potential increases in downstream flow, prompting discussion on City/County collaboration
 2. Discussion of building diversion dams or retention basins elsewhere in the county
 - a. There is a project list but funding is uncertain
 3. Discussion of maintenance of Sheley Tunnel and the problem of debris clogging the grates in high water events. Participants discussed possible solutions, such as a self-cleaning grate or mechanical grate to better capture floodwaters during flood events.
 4. Kara informed the group of the upcoming assessment of the Pack Creek watershed from Spanish Trail to the confluence, supported by the Moab Area Watershed Partnership and the Utah Watershed Restoration Initiative. The assessment could help County and City officials identify and address downstream flood risks.
 - b. Didar Charles of Moab City presented on the Mill Creek stabilization project
 - i. Funded by National Resources Conservation Service with Moab City contributing 25% of costs.
 - ii. \$1.8 million, carried out between November 2025 and May 2026
 - iii. Gabion baskets to stabilize stream banks and protect homes, infrastructure, and property around Dream Drive and Rotary Park
 - iv. Grade control structure near the Youth Garden. Easier to maintain debris and erosion during flood events, easier to clean.
 - v. Discussion/questions

1. A question was raised about the 300 S bridge. The city has developed plans for replacing the bridge and is seeking funding for the project.
2. Scott Solle raised concerns about the public safety impacts of the control grade structure and possible inescapable hydraulics if someone were in the creek during a high flow event. Tony Mancuso provided a contact who specializes in mitigating risks associated with low-head dam structures.
3. Dee Taylor raised concerns about the risk associated with promoting the walk path in the flood zone. There was discussion of state-level liability protections for right of ways on private property.

7. Organization updates

- a. Moab Valley Fire Department purchased a new water tender. Now three tenders will be spread throughout the county to ensure coverage. The fire district has resources supporting both local and national wildfire efforts. They plan to engage a fuel reduction crew this fall to continue mitigation work.
- b. Rocky Mountain Power has updated their mitigation plans, which focus on reducing risk in high-consequence fire areas. This involves increased vegetation management, the replacement of equipment, and the implementation of real-time monitoring and remote equipment.

8. Future discussion topics

- a. Debris removal in the creeks
- b. Post-wildfire flooding
- c. Expected winter conditions and spring runoff from the NWS
- d. Possible field trips/site visits

9. Adjourn

- a. Motion to adjourn by Micah Nielsen, seconded by Kara Dohrenwend