

To the Grand County Commission

Dear Commissioners,

Canyonlands Healthcare and Emergency Medical Services Special Service Districts have met several times to discuss each districts current needs and negotiate a fair and equitable allocation of the 2023 Healthcare sales Tax.

For purposes of this negotiation, we anticipated total tax revenues to be collected at \$3,000,000.

Both districts are experiencing increasing costs in

- Salaries, wages and benefits
- Supplies and materials
- Inflation

Both districts have loan obligations to the CIB for building loans

In addition –

CHC is currently obligated to produce the DSH seed money for MRH estimated to be between 200K and 250K for 2023. The DSH monies available to MRH provides a vital revenue source to maintain adequate services to our community. In the past the source of the seed money has come from mineral lease payments, something which has not been made available to the CHC district for several years.

EMS is experiencing the same increase in costs as every other entity and in addition has seen exorbitant increases in vehicle (ambulance) maintenance and fuel costs. This is of course, the lifeblood of an ambulance service. Call volume, while slightly lower than 2021, continues to increase when compared to 2019 levels. As you know, when call volume increases so do costs (putting additional ambulances in service, staffing, fuel, wear and tear on vehicles, additional maintenance etc.) while revenues may or may not increase. Remember that EMS can only bill for services when the call results in a transport.

Recruitment and retention issues are experienced by both districts and have resulted in the need to adjust staffing patterns as well as wages. EMS has incurred more overtime hours to manage the situation and adequately staff the service. Moab's high cost of living exacerbates this situation and requires that we bring wages up to keep pace with current wage levels in the community.

We feel strongly that the current financial situation of both districts prohibits any reduction in revenues from the healthcare sales tax. While we support a 50-50 split of the tax revenues we

have agreed to move toward that goal in incremental steps. As such we have agreed to a 43% (EMS) 57% (CHC) for CY 2023.

We feel confident that the County Commission will support the agreement reached by the districts and will respect the hard work that went into this process. The services provided by both districts are highly valued by the citizens and visitors to the Grand County community.

Respectfully submitted,

Canyonlands Healthcare SSD

Grand County EMS SSD