



**GRAND COUNTY
COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING**

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

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**MINUTES
April 19 2022**

The Grand County Commission met in a regular meeting on April 19th, 2022. 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 (time stamps in parentheses). Attending the meeting in-person were Grand County Commissioners Mary McGann, Trisha Hedin and Jacques Hadler. Josie Kovash entered the meeting in-person at 3:13pm. Kevin Walker joined the meeting in-person at 4:27pm. Commissioner Sarah Stock attended the meeting virtually. Commissioner Evan Clapper joined the meeting virtually at 4:13pm. Also attending in-person were Commission Administrator Mallory Nassau, Associate Commission Administrator Quinn Hall and Clerk/Auditor Gabriel Woytek. Grand County Attorney Christina Sloan and Strategic Development Director Chris Baird was in attendance virtually.

3:02 pm Grand County Water Community Information Session (audio begins at 4:25)

Presenters: Marc Stilson, Southeast Regional Engineer, Utah Division of Water Rights and Chris Wilkowski, USGS

Presentation offered a summary of water information presented within previous few years, water rights policy and records, information regarding monitoring wells, current status of groundwater supply availability, identification of actions needed, descriptions of progressing effort to monitor groundwater, efforts to establish a stream gauge at Pack Creek. Grand County Water Community Information Sessions will continue in the future at quarterly intervals.

4:09 pm Call to Order (1:07:30)

Pledge of Allegiance

Citizens to Be Heard (none at this time)

Presentations (none scheduled)

Department Reports (none scheduled)

Approval of Minutes (Gabriel Woytek, Clerk/Auditor) (1:08:50)

A. April 5th, 2022 (Regular County Commission Meeting)

Motion by Commissioner McGann to approve the minutes from April 5th, 2022.

Motion Seconded by Commissioner Hedin

Discussion (none at this time)

Motion Passes 5-0

Ratification of Payment of Bills (1:09:30)

Motion by Commissioner McGann to approve and ratify payment of bills in the amount of \$1,117,697.24 and payroll in the amount of \$352,157.64 for a combined total of \$1,469,854,.88.

Motion Seconded by Commissioner Hedin

Discussion (none at this time)

Motion passes 5-0

Commission Member Disclosures (1:10:30) (none at this time)

(Commissioner Clapper joined the meeting virtually at 4:13pm)

General Commission Reports and Future Considerations (1:11:00)

Jacques Hadler

- Grand County Trail Mix
- Thompson Springs SSD
- Economic Diversification Advisory Council, no quorum present
- Motorized Trail Committee
- UDOT 'Charging Forward' presentation

Trisha Hedin

- Grand County Planning Commission
- Division of Wildlife Bookcliffs Working Group, impacts of feral horses and cows on wildlife
- Local Homeless Council, 146 individuals seeking services

Sarah Stock

- Moab Area Housing Task Force
- Visit to Mosquito Abatement and Weed Department Facilities to discuss potential needed capital improvements for 2023 budget

Kevin Walker

- Transportation SSD
- Economic Development Advisory Board
- Joint Meeting with San Juan County and Moab City
- Various ongoing discussions regarding Public Lands Proposal and SITLA land trade

Evan Clapper

- Cemetery District
- Grand County EMS

Mary McGann

- Canyon Country Partnership
- Moab Area Travel Council Meeting, presentation from Love Communications

- Solid Waste Special Service District
- Future consideration: monitor and potentially support federal legislation items of interest
- Congressman John Curtis to visit May 4, Town Hall at 7:30pm at Star Hall

Josie Kovash

- UDOT "Charging Forward" presentation, electric charging infrastructure

(Commissioner Walker joined meeting in person at 4:27pm)

Elected Official Reports

Grand County Clerk/Auditor Gabriel Woytek

- Certified as Records Officer
- Pre-Audit engagement process has commenced

Commission Administrator Report

Commission Administrator Mallory Nassau

- Alishia Oliver hired as Commissioner Coordinator
- Upcoming Moab City dispersed parking demonstration

Strategic Development Director Chris Baird

- CIB meeting for Jackson Street Phase II, grant and loan awarded

General Business - Action Items, Discussion and Consideration of:

B. Approving Small Tourism Business Marketing Grant Program Pilot (Ben Alter, Economic Development Specialist) (1:38:00)

Presentation

Staff presented grant program as presented in packet. Commissioner McGann expressed excitement about potential for program. Commissioner Hedin confirmed receipt of feedback to include language specifying eligibility of Spanish Valley region of San Juan County. Staff clarified eligibility requirements of small businesses, offering details on what defines a 'small' business. Commissioner Walker expressed concern regarding support for year-round employment vs. seasonal employment, potential for establishing priorities associated with rewarding businesses that supply year-round jobs. Commissioner Hadler expressed that program targeting tourism based industry will naturally skew seasonal. Commissioner McGann suggested using a points system to account for a variety of variables. Commissioner Walker suggested introducing soft limits on eligibility requirements rather than hard cutoffs.

Motion by Commissioner McGann to approve the Small Tourism Business Marketing Grant Program Pilot for implementation.

Motion Seconded by Commissioner Walker

Discussion (none at this time)

Motion passes 7-0

C. Approving Local Economic Diversification Grant Program Pilot (Ben Alter, Economic Development Specialist) (1:49:58)

Presentation

Staff presented grant program as presented in packet.

Motion by Commissioner McGann to approve the Economic Diversification Grant Program Pilot for implementation.

Motion Seconded by Commissioner Kovash

Discussion

Commissioner Kovash requested update on Small Business Development Center staffing. Staff stated that MOU has been drafted and job to be posted very soon. New SBDC officer will be trained over three months by regional SBDC specialist Megan McFall, will not necessarily be available in processing applications, but McFall to fill in as needed for this process.

Motion passes 7-0

D. Approving SkyWest Seasonal Modification of Flight Schedule at Canyonlands Regional Airport (Tammy Howland, Interim Airport Director) (1:55:10)

Presentation

Staff discussed routine annual flight schedule modification as presented in packet, unchanged from previous two seasons.

Motion by Commissioner McGann to approve the SkyWest seasonal modification of flight schedule as shown in the attachment.

Motion Seconded by Commissioner Kovash

Discussion

Commissioner Walker inquired if schedules were optimized for tourists or residents. Encouraged discussion in the future about emphasizing service for local residents.

Motion passes 7-0

E. Approving the reclassification of the Part Time Library Assistant to a full time, benefited Library Assistant (Renee Baker, Personnel Services Director) (1:59:16)

Presentation

Staff presented decrease part-time hourly pool to convert to a full time position at the teen desk.

Motion by Commissioner Walker to approve the reclassification of the Part Time Teen Services Library Assistant (Grade 7) to a full time, benefitted Teen Services Library Assistant (Grade 7) effective 4/20/2022 and authorize the update to the 2022 Grand County Employee Pay Plan.

Motion Seconded by Commissioner Kovash

Discussion (none at this time)

Motion passes 5-0, McGann and Clapper absent

- F.** Approving the step adjustment of 5 current Sheriff's Office Employees (Renee Baker, Personnel Services Director) (2:01:40)

Presentation

Staff discussed rationale for potential adjustment as presented in packet. Commissioner Stock asked if this included all employees at GCSO with potential to earn these benefits, staff confirmed that it did. Commissioner Stock asked if this policy was offered across the county, staff explained importance of such a program within GCSO due to hiring difficulties in law enforcement, industry standard practice.

Motion by Commissioner Walker to approve the suspension of personnel policy, Resolution 2968 to approve of step adjustments as proposed for the Sheriff's Office Staff effective 4/20/2022 and authorize an update to the 2022 Employee Pay Plan.

Motion Seconded by Commissioner McGann

Discussion

Motion passes 6-0, Clapper absent

- G.** Approving the 2022 Bronco Safari Special Event Permit (Angie Book, Old Spanish Trail Arena Director) (2:06:20)

Presentation

Staff presented event details as shown in packet. Commissioner Walker sought clarification that event has taken place in Moab since 2017. Commissioner Stock sought clarification of Special Event permitting process and whether this application met deadlines called out in Ordinance.

Motion by Commissioner McGann to approve the Utah Bronco Safari Special Event Permit under the currently approved special event Ordinance.

Motion Seconded by Commissioner Hedin

Discussion

Commissioner Stock sought clarification that this application passed through Special Events Committee. Commissioner Stock described heavy rotation of motorized-based events on the spring events calendar. Expressed concern with approval given lack of process and saturation of motorized recreation-based events. Commissioner Walker shared this concern, expressed need to select events with less impact given oversaturation of events, look at bigger picture of events calendar when evaluating special events permitting. Commissioner Kovash concurred, expressed need for establishing more proactive criteria for permitting events in County.

Motion passes 5-1, Stock opposed, Clapper absent

- H.** Approving the purchase of scoreboards for the Old Spanish Trail Arena ballfields (Angie Book, Old Spanish Trail Arena Director) (2:16:40)

Presentation

Staff described details of purchase as presented in packet. Commissioner Walker asked if this constituted a wise purchase given available resources and priorities, stated that it is important to evaluate how districts

spend mineral lease monies when Commission determines allocations. Commissioners Hadler and Hedin spoke to well thought out process by recreation board in approving this purchase.

Motion by Commissioner Hedin to approve the purchase of two scoreboards from Varsity Scoreboards in the amount of \$9,955.00

Seconded by Commissioner Walker

Discussion (none at this time)

Motion passes 6-0, Clapper absent

I. Approving Independent Contractor Agreement with Kevin Bowden Construction for Old Spanish Trail Arena ballfield scoreboards (Angie Book, Old Spanish Trail Arena Director) (2:20:35)

Presentation

Staff presented ICA as presented in packet.

Motion by Commissioner Hedin to approve the signature of the Independent Contractor Agreement with Kevin Bowden Construction for the installation of the OSTA ballfield scoreboards and infield backstop hoods in the amount of \$34,615.

Motion seconded by Commissioner McGann

Discussion (none at this time)

Motion passes 6-0, Clapper absent

J. Approving amendment to Professional Services Agreement with SCJ Alliance to include a subarea plan for the Book Cliffs (John Guenther, Planning & Zoning Director) (2:22:25)

Presentation

Staff presented amendment as shown in packet. Suggested modifying motion to reflect contract. Commissioner Walker requested clarification on need for this amendment given already existing plan for this area. Commissioner Stock sought clarification on how this fit into overall land use update process.

Motion by Commissioner McGann to direct staff to develop a small area plan for the Book Cliff's Area, incorporating it into the General Plan 2030, as part of the Land Use update.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Hedin

Discussion

Commissioner Stock requested clarification on process timeline. Staff discussed need to complete Land Use Code amendments before adoption of General Plan.

Motion passes 6-0, Clapper absent

- K.** Approving Disposition of Real Property Parcels 26S22E358401, 26S22E358402, 27S22E014200, and 0003900000D0 - Owned by Grand County and Located within San Juan County, Utah (Chris Baird, Strategic Development Director) (2:28:35)

Presentation

Staff discussed statutory process for potential sale of parcels. Disposition is not an obligation to sell. Brief description of parcels as shown in packet. No comment during public hearing. Commissioner Walker mentioned that San Juan County Administrator Mack McDonald was not aware of process thus far, staff explained that information had been relayed informally. Discussion about possibilities for development on these parcels versus utilizing funds from sale to develop workforce housing in Grand County, preferably in an existing project underway such as Arroyo Crossing. Commissioner Stock expressed hesitance to selling parcel near airport, still interested in hearing offers, reasoned that if workforce is driving from Willow Springs or from mountains, distance from Moab should not preclude development for workforce housing at these parcels. Staff discussed possibility of deed restricting parcels prior to sale.

Motion by Commissioner McGann to approve the disposition of parcels 26S22E358401, 26S22E358402, 27S22E014200, and 0003900000D0 - Owned by Grand County and Located within San Juan County, Utah.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Walker

Discussion

Commissioner Walker emphasized that this step in process is not an obligation to sell, not convinced at this time that selling property is the best direction given value of property holdings to local government.

Motion passes 6-0, Clapper absent

- L.** Approving volunteer appointment to the Thompson Special Service District Water Board (Chair Hadler) (2:41:10)

Presentation

Chair presented applications as shown in packet. Commissioner Hedin confirmed that residency status of applicant within district was confirmed by board.

Motion by Commissioner McGann to approve the appointments of Ron Pene to serve on the Thompson Special Service District Water Board, with the term expiring 12/31/2022.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Walker

Discussion (none at this time)

Motion passes 6-0, Clapper absent

- M.** Approving volunteer appointment to the Travel Council Advisory Board (Vice-Chair McGann) (2:43:10)

Presentation

Vice-Chair presented application presented as shown in packet.

Motion by Commissioner McGann to approve the appointments of Alex Borichevsky to serve on the Travel Council Advisory Board, with the term expiring 12/31/2023.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Hedin

Discussion (none at this time)

Motion passes 5-0, Kovash abstaining, Clapper absent

N. Approving Resolution of support for the 30x30 Initiative (Commissioner Stock) (2:44:22)

Presentation

Commissioner Stock discussed importance of Grand County's participation in initiative, as presented in packet. Commissioner Walker asked if this was part of a unified effort by local governments and organizations.

Motion by Commissioner Kovash to adopt a resolution supporting the 30X30 Campaign to Protect 30 Percent of U.S. Lands and Inland Waters and 30 Percent of US Ocean by 2030, and to authorize the Chair's signature on two related letters.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Stock

Discussion

Commissioner Walker thanked Commissioner Stock for her efforts in coordinating this action.

Motion passes 6-0, Clapper absent

O. Adopting Ordinance repealing and replacing Chapter 8.16 (Special Events) of the Grand County General Ordinances and related Ordinance No. 643 (Mallory Nassau, Commission Administrator) (2:50:10)

Presentation

Administrator Nassau presented revisions as shown in packet. Commissioner McGann asked if this revision should be delayed until a more comprehensive upcoming amendment is proposed. Staff explained urgency for some upcoming events and uncertainty regarding COVID-19 safety protocols.

Motion by Commissioner Walker to repeal Chapter 8.16 (Special Events) of the Grand County General Ordinances and related Ordinance No. 643 and adopt new Chapter 8.16 (Special Events), as set forth in the attached Ordinance and its Exhibit A.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Hedin

Discussion

Commissioner Walker expressed no concerns with frequent changes to this Ordinance, that revisions indicate that committee is engaged and working to improve processes.

Motion passes 5-0, Clapper and McGann absent

Citizens to be heard (none at this time)

Consent Agenda – Action Items (2:57:10)

P. Ratifying the Chair's signature on a Common Interest, Joint Defense, Attorney Work Product, and Exchange of Confidential Information Agreement

Q. Approving a Memorandum of Understanding with the Southeast Utah Riparian Partnership

R. Approving Commission board and committee liaison re-assignments

Motion by Commissioner Walker to approve all items on Consent Agenda as presented.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Kovash

Discussion (none at this time)

Motion passes 6-0, Clapper absent

Discussion Items

S. Discussion on visitor messaging and visitor surveys related to noise and other impacts (Commissioner Walker) (2:58:20)

Discussion

Commissioner Walker presented two related discussion items:

(1) UTV noise in residential neighborhoods, efforts to craft messaging that asks people to voluntarily curb noise, provide staff with direction in doing so.

Commissioner Hadler requested clarification on different forms of media and marketing strategies to be used, Commissioner Hedin discussed possible messaging approaches and need for effective action, Commissioner Kovash discussed need to be clear about spelling out proper etiquette and supporting residents affected by noise impacts, Commissioner McGann highlighted success in marketing timed-entry at Arches NP and suggested utilizing similar methods, Commissioner Stock encouraged the use of unconventional messaging approaches.

(2) Research to understand impact of motorized recreation on overall tourism economy, potential effort to fund further research that seeks to understand this relationship in a more detailed way.

Anecdotal evidence suggests that excess noise negatively impacts non-motorized visitation, more scientific data is needed to validate. Discussion regarding potential survey approaches. Economic Development Director August Granath suggested partnering with Wayne Freimund at USU who is already engaged in related research.

T. Calendar items and special events (Quinn Hall, Associate Commission Administrator) (3:16:20)

Public Hearings- Possible Action Items

U. Public hearing on a request to rezone real property located at 75 W. Old Hwy 6 & 50, Thompson Springs from Range and Grazing to General Business (Parcel No. 07-00210105), while preserving the existing OAO-RV/Campground (Planning & Zoning) (3:17:35)

Presentation

Associate Planner Elissa Martin presented rezone application as shown in packet. Commissioner Hedin sought clarification that ‘will serve’ approach typically associated with new development is being applied by staff in this case due to current water moratorium in Thompson Springs. Applicant John Corkery expressed rationale for request, excitement in establishing rural hub in Thompson Springs, follows Grand County Land Use Code, stated that owner of neighboring Café will also be seeking rezone to General Business. Commissioner Kovash sought clarification on efforts to develop water resources for future development. Developer mentioned current application with BLM for developing spring up canyon, UMTRA pipeline possibility, well drilling. Commissioner Walker asked how this rezone would interact with Overnight Accommodation Overlay. Staff confirmed that this rezone would not encourage further overnight accommodation development.

Chair Hadler opened Public Hearing at 6:34, to remain open until Wednesday, April 27th at 5pm. (no comment at this time)

Motion by Commissioner McGann to enter closed session to discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Hedin

Motion passes 6-0, Clapper absent

Motion by Commissioner McGann to exit closed session

Motion seconded by Commissioner Walker

Motion passes 6-0, Clapper absent

Chair Hadler adjourned meeting at 7:07pm



Jacques Hadler
Chair, Grand County Commission



Gabriel Woytek
Grand County Clerk/Auditor