



Mesa County Safety Council (MCSC)

March 17, 2026, monthly meeting

President – Vacant; **Vice President** – Vee Edstrom; **Treasurer** – Derek Felix; **Secretary** – Jim Pringle; **Board Member At-Large** – Sanatam Khalsa; **Other Board Member At-Large** – Joshua Kirschner; **Past President** – Glenn Kiser

Members present – Patrick Jamison (MCSO COP), Bill Vavek (Hilltop Community Resources), Tyler Tobias (Hilltop Community Resources), Derek Felix (Boise-Cascade), Glenn Kiser, Drene Stevens (Grand Valley Brain Injury/Epilepsy), Nicole Heil (WCAHEC), Vee Edstrom (St. Mary’s Hospital), Jim Pringle (NWS liaison & Mesa County LEPC)

The videoconferencing was not working for some reason.

The meeting was called to order at 10:35 AM MST, followed by introductions.

(Action items highlighted in yellow.)

Review 2/17/26 Meeting Minutes

Vee Edstrom made a motion to approve the minutes. Glenn Kiser seconded the motion. Approval by members present was unanimous.

TREASURER’S REPORT –

Bank Balance as of 2/17/26 **\$6723.41**

Deposits

- 2-17-26 - City Market Community Rewards \$2.56
- 2-17-26 - Bank of Colorado \$750.00
- 2/17/26-3/17/26 – SF Exhibitor Fee Payments (3 Square & 3 checks) \$340.55

Total Deposits **\$1093.11**

Withdrawals

- 2/25/26 - Cash withdrawal to pay for CHS JROTC cadet’s lunches** \$600.00

Total Withdrawals **\$600.00**

Bank Balance as of 3/17/26 (verified with Bank of CO) **\$7216.52**

Pending Withdrawals:

Unreimbursed Expenditures by Glenn Kiser:

• 1-22-24 – 2 boxes of 1,000 T-shirt bags (for prefilled swag bags)	\$37.96
• 2-20-24 – Office Depot – 4 safety fair sponsor posters (20" X 30")	\$195.56
• 2-21-24 - USLI Director and Officers Liability Insurance	\$698.00
• 2-24-24 – Replacement easel	\$30.49
• 12-16-24 – Office Depot - Packaging tape	\$30.38
• 2-20-25 – Home Loan Ins. – Special Event Ins. required by Mesa Mall	\$544.00
• 2-29-25 – Office Depot – 4 safety fair sponsor posters (20" X 30")	\$195.56
• 3-19-25 – Elite Events – table (14) and chair (118) rental	\$480.15
• Total reimbursement due to Glenn Kiser*	\$2212.10

Projected Balance after pending withdrawals * **\$5004.42**

Derek Felix said he is working with the mall to pay the mall rental fee of \$1,100.00.

* Additionally, Glenn Kiser said that he paid for the table and chair rentals, packaging tape, the four sponsor posters, and other items just prior to the 2026 safety fair. All of these additional items (not listed above) will lower the projected MCSC bank balance.

** Jim Pringle said he received the lunch receipts from the CHS JROTC leader at the end of the safety fair and the leftover cash from the original \$600.00 that was given to their leader. The leftover cash (bills and change) added up to \$313.06. Jim then used \$200.00 of that cash to purchase safety fair prizes (four \$50.00 City Market gift cards) based on the \$200.00 that had already been donated by WCCA, Hilltop Community Resources, and KKCO for prizes, cash donations that were already in the MCSC's bank account.

During the meeting Jim Pringle then gave Derek Felix the remaining \$113.06 in cash to be deposited in the MCSC's bank account.

Review and Recap of the 2026 Mesa County Safety Fair

- Attendance – The JROTC cadets counted about 500 children on the first day of the safety fair and about 700 children on the second day. Jim Pringle said that there were prize entries submitted by homeschool families for 101 children, although there were likely many more who did not submit a prize entry.
- There were 830 registered SD51 students this year. Last year there were 815.
- Private school attendance at the safety fair increased significantly this year with the first time ever arrival of all Caprock Academy's 2nd and 4th grade students. Additionally, the 2nd grade class from Lutheran School of the Messiah attended. The approximate total of private school students was 170.

- Some of today's meeting attendees, including Drene Stevens, said that there were noticeably more chaperones this year accompanying the students. This greatly improved the situation for exhibitors and most likely for the students, as well as for the teachers.
- Jim Pringle said he sent the Save-the-Date message to SD51, private schools, and homeschools groups on 10/13/25. This early safety fair announcement is important to help maximize the potential attendance at the safety fair.
- Jim Pringle said he sent the official safety fair invitations to potential exhibitors, SD51 teachers, private schools, and homeschool families on 12/18/25, two days after the December MCSC meeting. The invitations to potential exhibitors included the exhibitor application (Google form and legacy version). The invitations to SD51 2nd, 3rd, and 4th grade teachers included the online registration form.
- Vee Edstrom and Glenn Kiser said the SD51 classroom bus registration process went well.
- There was a total of 41 exhibits, with three new exhibits, while three exhibitors from last year were not able to participate this year.
- Jim Pringle said the exhibitor application process went well, although there were a couple of online applications using the Google form which initially did not arrive in the MCSC's email inbox.
- Jim Pringle said he sent the PSA, promotional poster, and a request for promotional interviews to all local broadcast and print media outlets on 1/21/26. Additionally, the safety fair promotion was conducted in-house at Hilltop Community Resources by Bill Vavek and at Valor Tactical by Joshua Kirschner. Tara Flaharty produced the MCSC's Facebook posts and submitted the safety fair announcement to Peach Jar for dissemination.
- Media interviews about the safety fair with Jim Pringle were conducted by KJOL radio, KKCO TV, and KREX TV. Furthermore, KKCO TV produced an awesome and very professional promo that was made by Brian Wiley (KKCO Promotions Director) and Stephen Bowers (Chief Meteorologist).
- It was stated by several meeting attendees that the CMU practical nursing program's exhibits overly constricted the hallway at the JC Penney's wing of the mall. Therefore, it was recommended that those exhibits be reconfigured in future safety fairs to minimize walkway constrictions.

- Patrick Jamison said that the law enforcement area at the safety fair was more compressed than had been the case in previous years at the clock court location. He said that the 2026 safety fair location worked okay, but if possible, it would be better if the law enforcement area were back at the clock court in future safety fairs.
- It was suggested that future exhibitor guidelines include a request to not handout items from exhibitor booths that include whistles or balloons. And if an organization would like whistles and/or balloons to be given to the students, those items can be used for the prefilled swag bags that are given when the students leave the safety fair.
- Nearly 1200 swag bags were prefilled at WCCA on February 17th. Due to the significant number of volunteers, all bags were filled between noon and 4 PM.
- There were some leftover prefilled swag bags that will be handed out at the Plateau Valley Safety Fair in April. And if any bags remain after that, they will be handed out at the Kiwanis Pancake Day & Fun Fest on June 6th.
- There was a question as to why were there any leftover prefilled swag bags at the end of the safety fair? One possibility suggested that homeschool families do not have to leave the safety fair through the fair exit location, and thus there may be many homeschool students that leave the safety fair from other mall exits and do not get the prefilled swag bags.
- There was a question about the availability of empty bags for swag for the 2027 safety fair. St. Mary's Hospital has been providing deluxe bags the past 3 years.
- All the protocols and actions of the safety fair's security and safety team were followed during both days of the safety fair. There were no known safety or security issues during this safety fair. However, the team was prepared.
- There were 10-12 CHS JROTC cadets each day of the safety fair, under the leadership of John Pennington. The CHS JROTC cadets provided excellent assistance for numerous tasks.
- Four MCSC board members (Glenn Kiser, Vee Edstrom, Derek Felix, and Jim Pringle) were coordinating activities at the mall on both days of the safety fair. Having this MCSC board staffing was highly beneficial to make sure that everything during the safety fair would run smoothly.

- Mesa Mall management provided superb support for the safety fair.
 - Mall rent was kept at last year's rate of \$1100.00
 - They provided 49 tables and 76 chairs for the safety fair.
 - They set up all tables and chairs, including those rented by the MCSC
 - They provided all of the table covers that were needed
 - They provided all of the janitorial services during the two-day event
 - They printed all of the mall maps for teachers, parents, and chaperones
 - After the safety fair, they took down all tables and chairs, accurately stacking up the correct number of rental chairs and tables
- Jim Pringle has been using MS Publisher for several years to construct the Sponsor Poster and the safety fair mall map of exhibitor locations and services for use by exhibitors and safety fair attendees. **Since Publisher is going away later in 2026, he will be looking for an alternative to Publisher** which has been a big time saver and quality resource.
- Scheduled presentations were begun on the morning of the first day of the safety fair by Grand Valley Power (GVP), Martial Arts Resource Systems (MARS), and St. Mary's Hospital. According to Vee Edstrom, members of those organizations who tried to schedule presentations found the process to be unsuccessful, and abandoned the scheduling within the first hours of the fair.
- **Total expenses for the safety fair are still being calculated. Derek Felix said we are still waiting for the bill from Student Transportation of America for bussing.**
- Jim Pringle said he delivered prizes to the 17 classrooms across the Grand Valley (SD51 schools and private schools) on Tuesday and Wednesday of last week that were winners of the 2026 safety fair prize drawing. He also said that **he is in the process of coordinating multiple prizes with the homeschool family prize winners, and hopes to have that completed by early next week.**
- It was stated that the 2026 virtual safety fair was unchanged from the 2025 virtual safety fair, except for webpage title (date) changes made by Derek Felix.

MCSC IT Team Updates

- No updates were mentioned by those on the team.

Donation Resources and Prospects

- Glenn Kiser said the Bank of Colorado donated \$750.00 to the MCSC.
- MCSC members were encouraged to consider participation in the [City Market Community Rewards Program](#) to help raise funds for the MCSC. Thanks to Derek

Felix, the [City Market Community Rewards program](#) is on the MCSC website's donation page with a [clickable link](#) to get started. There is no cost to participate.

- Jim Pringle said that [GJ Rotary Club's 2026 Snowball Sweepstakes](#) on 3/7/26 likely brought in a little income for the MCSC. We will know the total amount when the GJ Rotary Club makes the payment to the MCSC.

Other Upcoming Events

- Jim Pringle mentioned the need for exhibitors at the 2026 Plateau Valley Safety Fair that will be held at the remodeled Plateau Valley School in Collbran on a Thursday (actual date TBD) in late April. The event lasts from 9 AM to 3 PM.
- Jim also stated the request for exhibitors at the GJ Kiwanis Pancake Day and Fun Fest at the Mesa County Fairgrounds on 6/6/26.

Jim Pringle said the next monthly MCSC meeting is scheduled for April 21, 2026.

At 11:32 AM MST Nicole Heil made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
Vee Edstrom seconded the motion, with all attendees in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Jim Pringle, MCSC Secretary