



## Mesa County Safety Council (MCSC)

April 21, 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** – Vacant

**Members present** – Jason Talley (SD51), Tanya Marchun (GVP), Jesse Peeler (GVP), Joshua Kirschner (Valor Tactical), Sanatam Khalsa (CO 811), Nicole Heil (WCAHEC), Jordan Koos (WCCA), Derek Felix (Boise-Cascade), Vee Edstrom (St. Mary’s Hospital), Drene Stevens (Grand Valley Brain Injury/Epilepsy), Tara Flaharty (Mesa Co. RTPO), Bill Vavek (Hilltop Community Resources), Tyler Tobias (Hilltop Community Resources), Justin St. John (DOE – Legacy Mgmt.), Cory Holland (Mesa County Road & Bridge), Jim Pringle (NWS liaison & Mesa County LEPC)

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM MDT, followed by introductions.

(Action items highlighted in yellow.)

### **Review 3/17/26 Meeting Minutes**

Drene Stevens made a motion to approve the minutes. Bill Vavek seconded the motion. Approval by members present was unanimous.

### **TREASURER’S REPORT –**

<b>Bank Balance as of 3/17/26</b>	<b>\$7216.52</b>
<b>Bank Balance as of 4/21/26</b> (verified with Bank of CO)	<b>\$7566.43</b>

### **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 |

• <b>Reimbursement due to Glenn Kiser (prior to 3/17/26)</b>	<b>\$2212.10</b>
• <b>Reimbursement due to Glenn Kiser (after 3/17/26 \$1200.00 paid)</b>	<b>\$1012.10*</b>
<b><i>Projected Balance after pending withdrawals *</i></b>	<b>\$6554.33</b>

Derek Felix said he sent a check to Mesa Mall to pay the mall rental fee of \$1,100.00.

\* In addition to the \$1012.10 to reimburse Glenn Kiser, additional reimbursements need to be paid to Glenn Kiser for purchases he made that are related to the 2026 safety fair, including the table and chair rentals, packaging tape, the four sponsor posters, and some other items. We will totally reimburse Glenn when he provides the receipts.

It was estimated that after all expenses for the 2026 safety fair have been paid, the MCSC's bank account will likely be close to \$1500. This means that the MCSC will likely need to raise close to \$5000 to pay for all expenses related to the 2027 safety fair.

Bill Vavek then asked the MCSC to provide him with a letter of need for him to request a sponsorship from Hilltop Community Resources for the annual safety fair. After Bill's request, there were others at the meeting who requested that the letter of need requesting donations be sent to the entire MCSC email list. Jim Pringle said he would draft the letter after he compiles all of the most recent MCSC annual expenses.

### **Initial Planning for the 2027 Mesa County Safety Fair**

- The proposed 2027 Mesa County Safety Fair dates of February 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> were accepted positively by those who responded. Jim Pringle said he would coordinate those proposed dates with SD51 and Mesa Mall this summer. Jason Talley said that the new SD51 elementary school administrator is **Carrie Bollinger**, replacing Ari Goldberg who has a different position in SD51.
- It was suggested that the MCSC board members research the Colorado Army National Guard facility at 2820 Riverside Parkway as a possible backup location for the safety fair if Mesa Mall should not become available in the future.
- One of the exhibitors during the 2026 safety fair suggested that the safety fair exhibitor fee be raised, as his organization pays much more than \$50 to be an exhibitor at similar events elsewhere in Colorado. Jim Pringle said there were 16 exhibitor organizations that paid the optional fee for the 2026 safety fair. It was then suggested that this proposal be discussed at the next MCSC board meeting.
- Potential exhibitor locations for the 2027 safety fair were discussed, including the law enforcement exhibits, MARS, CMU Practical Nursing, GVP, etc. It was determined that we will have to wait and see what is available later this year.
- There was a request to post the finalized mall map of exhibitor locations on the MCSC's website as soon as possible prior to the 2027 safety fair.

- Signage for exhibits and other needs was discussed. Tanya Marchun made a 24" X 36" sign for GVP's exhibit so that the teachers and parents would easily see the location of their exhibit. It was suggested that a sign be made for the CMU Tech Learning Lab trailer and Xcel Gas. Jim Pringle said that a much larger EXIT sign is needed at the exit point of the safety fair, along with an easel to hold it.
- Jim Pringle suggested having the carpet pads (to protect the mall floor from tires) prepositioned where the vehicles will be located just prior to their arrival into the mall on the evening prior to the safety fair. Not doing so can be chaotic!
- Much appreciation was expressed for all 2026 safety fair volunteers, including the exhibitors, the CHS JROTC cadets, and four MCSC board members working the event on both days. Hope this help will happen again for the 2027 safety fair.
- It was suggested that some MCSC board members meet with the CHS cadets the week prior to the 2027 safety fair, so the cadets will be better prepared to assist.
- Vee Edstrom said she will look into St. Mary's Hospital possibly providing the empty swag bags for the 2027 safety fair, as the supply has been depleted.
- It was suggested that the MCSC should again plan on about 1200 children attending the 2027 safety fair based on the 2026 safety fair attendance.
- There was much appreciation to those who helped promote the 2026 safety fair, including KKCO TV's Brian Wiley and Stephen Bowers, KREX TV's Jeff Hinkle, KJOL Radio's Zane Matthews, Tara Flaharty, Bill Vavek, and Joshua Kirschner.
- Those on the 2026 safety fair security/safety team said that everything went well for the safety fair, with plenty of preplanning. Jason Talley said he coordinated with the security/safety personnel for Caprock Academy prior to their students' attendance. The safety fair security/safety team will reconvene in early 2027.
- Much appreciation was expressed to those organizations that donated items and cash (converted to CM gift cards) for the safety fair prizes. Jim Pringle said that all safety fair prizes for winning homeschool families were dropped off at the GJ Chamber of Commerce on March 30th, and remain available for them to pick up. The safety fair prize incentive is planned to occur again for the 2027 safety fair.
- There were no new or updated safety videos or related quizzes for the 2026 Virtual Safety Fair. Jim Pringle plans to send a reminder in Sept. to the MCSC email list about the opportunity to update/provide new safety videos & quizzes.

### **MCSC IT Team Updates**

- No updates were mentioned by those on the team.

### **Donation Resources and Prospects**

- Vee Edstrom said she plans to meet with the manager of the Rimrock Walmart to help with the process of obtaining a Walmart Spark Program grant. Joshua Kirschner said we will then reapply for the grant.
- Jim Pringle said the MCSC should soon receive a payment (check?) from the Grand Junction Rotary Club for their 2026 Snowball Sweepstakes fundraiser.

### **Other Upcoming Events**

- Jim Pringle said he will send exhibitor information as soon as he receives it about participating in the GJ Kiwanis Pancake Day and Fun Fest at the Mesa County Fairgrounds on 6/6/26.
- Jim Pringle said that the Plateau Valley Safety Fair in Collbran on 4/16/26 went well, including a number of organizations that also participated in the 2026 Mesa County Safety Fair. The 2027 Plateau Valley Safety Fair is tentatively scheduled for April 22nd.

### **Other Items**

It was announced that Glenn Kiser has decided it is time to “retire” from the Mesa County Safety Council. Glenn was with the Mesa County Safety Council for ~15 years! It was suggested that donations be collected at the May MCSC meeting to purchase a Sportsman’s Warehouse gift card for Glenn.

The next monthly MCSC meeting is scheduled for May 19, 2026.

At 11:31 AM MST the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Jim Pringle, MCSC Secretary