



Mesa County Safety Council (MCSC)

September 15, 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 – Shawna Grieger (WCCA), Jesse Peeler (GVP), Matt Aleksa (NWS), Sanatam Khalsa (CO 811), Patrick Jamison (MCSO COP), Erin Noel (Family Health West), Tyler Tobias (Hilltop Community Resources), Vee Edstrom (St. Mary's Hospital), Nicole Heil (WCAHEC), Joshua Kirschner (Valor Tactical), Ben Hoffman (Ute Water & Mesa County LEPC), Tanya Marchun (GVP), Drene Stevens (Grand Valley Brain Injury/Epilepsy), Jim Pringle (NWS liaison & Mesa County LEPC)

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 AM MDT, followed by introductions.

(Action items highlighted in yellow.)

Review 5/19/26 Meeting Minutes

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

TREASURER'S REPORT –

<u>Bank Balance as of 5/19/26</u>	<u>\$3766.44</u>
--	-------------------------

Deposits

- | | |
|--|----------|
| • 5/27/26 | \$16.00 |
| • 6/5/26 – Donation via Square | \$93.80 |
| • 6/12/26 – Cash leftover from JROTC safety fair lunch money | \$113.06 |

<u>Total Deposits</u>	<u>\$222.86</u>
------------------------------	------------------------

Withdrawals

- | | |
|--|---------|
| • 6-12-26 – Visa (to Web Network Solutions – MCSC website) | \$48.19 |
|--|---------|

<u>Total Withdrawals</u>	<u>\$48.19</u>
---------------------------------	-----------------------

<u>Bank Balance as of 9/15/26 (verified with Bank of CO)</u>	<u>\$3941.11</u>
---	-------------------------

Pending Withdrawals:

Receipts for the following purchases by Glenn Kiser for the 2026 safety fair were provided to the MCSC for reimbursement:

2-12-26	Box of T-shirt bags for prefilled swag bags (Sam's Club)	\$19.98
2-13-26	Event Insurance (Philadelphia Insurance Companies)	\$544.00
2-16-26	Packing Tape (Office Depot)	\$19.74
3-4-26	Tables and Chairs Rental (Elite Events)	\$558.80
2-23-26	4 Sponsor Posters (Office Depot)	\$130.85
2-23-26	Utility Knives (Home Depot)	\$19.49
<u>Reimbursement due to Glenn Kiser</u>		<u>\$1292.86</u>

Projected Balance after pending withdrawals **\$2648.25**

Tyler Tobias said that a donation of \$5,000 from Hilltop Community Resources has been approved for the Mesa County Safety Council! The check should arrive soon in the MCSC's mailbox.

Board Member Nominations/Election

- Jim Pringle began the process by stating his appreciation to Vee Edstrom and Derek Felix for doing great jobs as board members and honoring their commitment of serving two years in their positions as vice president and treasurer, respectively. Jim also said he was very grateful to Derek for continuing to serve as the webmaster for the MCSC's website.
- Ben Hoffman (Ute Water and Mesa County LEPC) was nominated for the board position of vice president. The votes for Ben were unanimous!
- Bill Vavak (Hilltop Community Resources) was nominated for the board position of treasurer. The votes for Bill were unanimous!
- There were no nominations for MCSC president, a position that remains vacant.

Planning for the 2027 Mesa County Safety Fair

- Jim Pringle coordinated the proposed 2027 safety fair dates of February 24-25 with School District 51 administration this summer. The SD51 personnel said those dates will work well and they put a "block out" for busses on those dates.
- Jim Pringle also coordinated the proposed safety fair dates with Mesa Mall management this summer. Mesa Mall said those dates will work for them and placed them on their planning schedule. Jim said he is waiting for a confirmation from CBL Properties (owner of Mesa Mall) on the mall's two-day rental cost.
- Jim Pringle suggested that the MCSC board members research and visit the Army National Guard building, 2820 Riverside Parkway, as a possible location for the safety fair if Mesa Mall should not be available in the future.

- Shawna Grieger suggested that the MCSC also research and visit the Clifton Community Center as a possible location for the safety fair if Mesa Mall location should the mall not be available in the future.
- There was a brief discussion on the proposed hours for the 2027 safety fair, and it was agreed that those hours should again be 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM both days.
- Jim said that the MCSC should plan on the 2027 safety fair costs totaling around \$7,000, if most costs remain static from the 2026 safety fair expenses.
- There was a discussion regarding the amount that should be requested for the "suggested" safety fair exhibitor fee. It was recommended to present the fee request to exhibitors as \$50 with optional higher amounts. The MCSC's webmaster, Derek Felix, has the donation page on the MCSC website with the following options:
 - Small donation – \$50.00
 - Medium donation - \$100.00
 - Large donation - \$150.00
- It was recommended that the exhibitor fee continue to be waived for those organizations which operate on a shoestring budget and for those organizations which are not allowed to pay an exhibitor fee. There was general agreement to continue the waiver after an organization representative at the meeting said they would not be able to be an exhibitor if the exhibitor fee would be a requirement.
- Shawna Grieger suggested that an email be sent to the MCSC email list requesting donations now, since many organizations have to plan and coordinate decisions for donations to charitable organizations well before December. Jim Pringle said he would send a donation request to the MCSC email list prior to the October MCSC meeting.
- Shawna also suggested that MCSC members approach business representatives (i.e. local banks) for donations.
- Mesa Mall management told Jim Pringle that Clock Court in the mall should be available as a location for law enforcement exhibits at the 2027 safety fair. Dreene Stevens recommended keeping two exhibitor spots open as a contingency for late exhibitor applications submitted after the exhibitor application deadline.
- It was recommended that GVP and Xcel Energy Gas have large exhibitor signage to be placed in the Cabela's wing to showcase their locations. Tanya Marchun said that Jesse Peeler has made a full-size demonstration trailer for GVP.

- Jim Pringle said that the carpet squares for vehicles in the mall need to be prepositioned where those vehicles will be located prior to entering the mall.
- It was stated that the MCSC will again request volunteer assistance during the safety fair from the Central High School JROTC cadets. Their assistance has been immensely helpful, and without them the responsibilities during the safety fair would be overwhelming. It was agreed that the MCSC will again cover the cost of lunches for all JROTC volunteers.
- During the 2026 safety fair, Vee Edstrom recommended that MCSC board members who will be volunteering during subsequent safety fairs should have an orientation meeting with the JROTC cadets one week prior to an upcoming safety fair to go over basic information pertaining to their responsibilities. That request has been coordinated with John Pennington, CHS's JROTC A/I.
- The MCSC is planning for an estimated attendance of 1200 children at the 2027 safety fair, which is the approximate number that attended the 2026 safety fair.
- Vee Edstrom said that St. Mary's Hospital will again provide the empty swag bags that the children will receive when they arrive for the 2027 safety fair.
- Jim Pringle said that there were 12 exhibitor organizations which provided handout items for the prefilled swag bags for the 2026 safety fair. Some exhibitor organizations do not have sufficient booth staffing to give their safety presentations and simultaneously hand out items to each child. The MCSC will need to obtain a box of "T-shirt bags" for the prefilled swag bags.
- Jim Pringle said the MCSC will need to have a much larger EXIT sign (than the 11" X 17" sign used for the 2026 safety fair) to show teachers and parents the exit location from the safety fair. An easel for that sign will also be needed.
- Jim Pringle said the Safety Fair Security/Safety Team (consisting of MCSO, CSP, GJPD, SD51 Security, and Mesa Mall Security) will reconvene in early 2027. There were no known safety/security incidents during the 2026 safety fair.
- It was recommended that a mall map of all safety fair exhibitor locations be posted on the MCSC's website prior to the safety fair. Although the deadline for safety fair exhibitor applications is two weeks prior to the safety fair, Jim said that he will try to provide a mall map to Derek Felix prior to the 2027 safety fair.
- It was mentioned that the MCSC will again request donations for prizes (cash or tangible items) as incentives for teachers and parents to bring their children to the 2027 safety fair. It was suggested for Jim Pringle to send an email with that request when he sends the "save-the-date" message to the MCSC email list.

- Regarding the 2027 [Virtual Safety Fair](#), Jim Pringle said he would soon send a request to the MCSC email list asking organizations if they would like to provide or update a safety video along with a related short safety quiz.

MCSC IT Team Updates

- It was mentioned that Derek Felix has said he will continue as the MCSC's webmaster. And Tara Flaharty is the MCSC's Facebook page coordinator.

Donation Resources and Prospects

- [Union Pacific Community Ties Giving Program Grant](#): applications due April 2027.
- [GJ Kiwanis Club Grant](#) – Jim Pringle said he will submit the grant application.
- [Walmart Spark Program Grant](#) – Joshua Kirschner said he plans to pursue this grant again.
- A persistent request was made for MCSC members to consider signing up for the City Market Community Rewards Program and designate the charitable donations to the MCSC. It was mentioned that there is no cost for those who participate.

Other Upcoming Events to Promote Safety Messages

- Jim Pringle said he will relay within the next couple of days a request by the City of Fruita for organizations to participate in the 2026 Fruita Truck and Treat event on Saturday, 10/17/26. The deadline for applications is 9/30/26. This event provides a great opportunity for an organization to increase its visibility to the public, particularly to the parents and grandparents who accompany the children.

Other Items

- [The next monthly MCSC meeting is scheduled for October 20, 2026.](#)

At 11:32 AM MST the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Jim Pringle, MCSC Secretary