

Mineral Bottom...

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measurements and geotechnical information necessary to determine how the road repairs will be designed. Design and construction for the repairs will use a fast-track approach to maximize the use of available contracting flexibility, Greenwell said.

"This is the type of emergency that the federal highway program was designed to mitigate. I appreciate how quickly everyone on the ground worked together to provide the information to my office so that we could speed the repair forward," Matheson said.

Matheson praised the cooperative efforts of the Grand County Council, the BLM, and

the Utah governor's office for getting a quick approval from ERF0.

"It's a tribute to the spirit of cooperation and the working history here. When there's a problem in this county everyone sits down and works it out," said Shelley Smith, director of the BLM Moab District Office.

The road can only be rebuilt to its approximate original condition, Greenwell said, and ERF0 funds cannot be used to enhance the road or to increase its capacity.

How soon in the 2011 tourist season the work will be completed depends on specific site measurements and geotechnical information necessary to establish a design approach, Greenwell said.

His agency will follow a "fast track approach," by attempting to overlap design and construction "where ever possible," Greenwell said.

Matheson and Greenwell agreed that an economic analysis of the road's importance to the local economy, conducted by the BLM, played a "key role" in the quick approval for federal funding.

The BLM analysis estimated

that the road closure will cost county businesses approximately \$4.9 million in lost sales revenues and could result in the loss of 87 jobs. The study also concluded that \$1.9 million in income will be lost because of the foregone sales and jobs, and \$319,000 in state and local tax receipts will be lost every year the road is closed.

The BLM study estimated the cost of repair will be about \$1.9 million. The actual cost is yet to be determined, Greenwell said.

ERF0's mission "is to provide funding and engineering services to restore access to public lands," according to its website.

The Mineral Bottom Road is owned by the BLM and maintained by Grand County under a long-standing agreement, Smith said.

PILT Funds...

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the two districts each received 20 percent of the PILT money, while the Grand County Recreation Special Service District and the Grand County School District each received 30 percent.

Next year, allocations to the recreation and school districts will remain the same, at 30 percent each. The change is the loss to the transportation district in favor of the health care district under the motion made by council member Gene Ciarus.

Ciarus's motion kept allocation of federal mineral lease moneys the same - the health and transportation districts, and the Grand County Solid Waste Special Service District, will each receive 33.3 percent. All of the money received from the mineral lease bonus payments will be allocated to the recreation district.

No action was taken on a request by Grand County School District Superintendent Margaret Hopkin to recover PILT moneys taken away from the school district to help fund the transportation district during 2010. Council member Greenberg said he was concerned that the reduction in PILT funding happened "just when schools can least afford" to be cut.

Graham said that all the funds going to the recreation district are "too much." She objected to the district's adding money to a reserve fund set aside to build ball fields.

"They have been drawing from the reserve," said council member Chris Baird, who represents the council on the recreation district board. He anticipated that about \$150,000 would be taken from the reserve fund in 2011 in order for the district to meet its obligations to subsidize the Old Spanish Trail Arena, the Grand Center, and Moab's city's recreation center now under construction.

After Ciarus noted that the transportation district has no ongoing obligations, Graham said that makes the district an easy target.

"We're punishing the prudent," she said.

A substitute motion made by council member Pat Holyoak to split the PILT funds 50-50 between the health district and the school district failed for lack of a second.

Dog Park...

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attack, although such incidents are "exceedingly rare" in dog parks, according to the information provided by the city. There are about 1,000 dog parks na-

tionwide, including 15 in Utah, city officials said.

A series of community-wide fund-raising efforts is expected to get under way soon to raise the money needed to construct the facility, Geiger said.

Water Systems...

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coordinator for Grand County's Active Re-Entry program, to a rental property owner was provided to the council to illustrate the need for the county to have power to enforce unsafe building standards.

The letter referred to a natural gas leak and an unsafe floor in

a rental property. While the gas leak was promptly fixed, Allred noted that when she visited the residence to confirm that fix, she found a sagging floor and duct tape, newspapers, and old clothing being used to block drafts from a door.

The sagging floor "caused a prior resident to fall and break a hip," Allred wrote.

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Utah Humanities Council

This program has received funding from the Utah Humanities Council, the Moab Arts Council and the Confluence Literary Festival. The Utah Humanities Council promotes understanding of diverse traditions, values and ideas through informed public discussion.

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