

**MOAB EMPLOYMENT CENTER
STATUS REPORT
April 10, 2010**

The big news is our reorganization. With the Service Area Director and the Management Team in place soon, we will be doing business using our new demand-driven concept. This will be more hands-on with the community, taking into account the uniqueness of each area, and the training and services needed to make employers and job seekers successful.

Employment Exchange:

The season is upon us, beginning with the Canyonlands Half Marathon event in March, and more recently over 1000 vehicles were in town for the Easter Jeep Safari event. Our electronic job board is reflecting the need for tourist related occupations. We have over 70 jobs listed.

In addition we have several listings for construction labor for the building of the various new structures: The Moab Swimming Pool complex, Elementary School, Vocational Center, and new hospital.

Job Seekers Registering for Services

	Dec 2009	Jan 2010	Feb 2010	Total
New Registrations (Input by DWS staff)	1	1	2	4
Web Registrations (Input by customer)	Not available at employment center level			
Staff Assisted Job Orders	15	6	24	187
Web Job Orders	33	66	43	

Unemployment Rates				
	Seasonally Adjusted		Not Adjusted	
	Grand County	State of Utah	Grand County	State of Utah
2009/10				
Feb	8.9	7.1	15.6	7.8
Jan	9.0	6.8	17.7	7.4
Dec	9.1	6.6	13.4	6.4
2008/09				
Feb	8.5	6.1	14.6	6.6
Jan	8.1	5.6	16.3	6.0
Dec	7.6	5.1	12.2	4.9
2007/08				
Feb	5.5	3.2	10.2	3.5
Jan	5.5	3.2	11.7	3.5
Dec	5.4	3.1	9.9	3.0

Intensive Services

As of January 25, 2010, 88 persons were enrolled in employment counseling services through the Moab Employment Center. Broken down by category, it looks like this:

Family Employment Program	23
Family Employment Transitional	2
Family Employment – 2 Parent	0
Family Employment Diversion	1
Food Stamp Employment & Training	0
General Assistance (long track)	1
General Assistance (short track)	0
WIA Adult Training	12
WIA Stimulus Adult	10
WIA Adult Follow-up	0
WIA Dislocated Worker Training	1
WIA Stimulus Dislocated	0
WIA Youth Training	20
WIA Stimulus Youth Internship	0
WIA Youth Follow-Up	6
TANF Non-FEP Training	6
UI Profiling	0
Veteran’s Limited Intervention	5
ETV	1

Eligibility Services:

Eligibility Services are now a statewide call center. Numbers are not tracked by region or at an individual level. Food Stamp cases statewide increased from 65,000 in November 2008 to a peak of 91,870 in October 2009.

We are now in the process of transferring all of our cases to a new computer system. Conversion will be complete by June 30. Currently we have approximately 110,000 cases in our new computer software application, e-REP. This represents about 65% of our statewide caseload.

Adult and Family Literacy:

We have a staff person, Melody Harkwright, on this committee. Recently updated information on a brochure for the community. Link to these services from higher education website. We are coordinating efforts with the director, Trish Hedin, and with the high school for those students on the WIA Youth Program who need to complete packets for credit in classes.

WIA Youth Program:

Summer Stimulus Youth Program ended and was very successful. We are serving some of our same youth in the regular WIA Youth Program. We recently attended an intra-agency conference sponsored by the Local Interagency Council (LIC) to network and share resource information in order to better serve youth in our community.

Economic Development:

From the Moab Times Independent, by Craig Bigler

The quest to become the first to develop tar sands for oil extraction in the United States may begin in Moab's backyard. The state Division of Oil, Gas and Mining has conditionally approved an application from Earth Energy Resources, of Alberta, Canada, to develop a tar sands mining operation in Uintah and Grand counties.

The state agency will require Earth Energy Resources to post a \$1.7 million reclamation surety bond, and told the company that it must comply with the regulations of "all local, state and federal agencies with jurisdiction over any aspect of the operator's mining operations," according to a letter from UDOGM to the Grand County Council.

That means a conditional use permit must be obtained from Grand County. A pre-application conference to discuss the Earth Energy project has been scheduled for April 27, according to Grand County Planner Kristine Killoy.

Education:

From the Moab Times Independent:

By Lisa J. Church
staff *writer*

Despite statements from the Utah Legislature that cuts to education funding statewide were minimal, the Grand County School District learned this week that it will lose about 8 percent of its state funding due to legislative changes to education funding statewide.

The final state cuts to Grand's budget are now expected to be about \$492,000, said district business administrator Robert Farnsworth. The district had anticipated a cut of about \$300,000, based on information provided by the Legislature at the close of this year's legislative session.