

Grand County

Current Form of Government

- The “Plan for County Government” was adopted in 1992 under state code section 17-35a-9 using the “General County (Modified)” structure. [Current code reference for “General County (Modified)” is 17-35b-301]
- Consists of a 7 member council. 2 members are elected at-large, and 5 members are elected in districts.
- Current council member salary is \$11,517/year with no major benefits provided.
- Council is considered over-time exempt and part-time.
- Both the “General County (Modified)” structure, as well as the “Plan for County Government” specify that the role of the council will be predominately legislative.
- “County Executive” isn’t specifically mentioned. However, it has been assumed that the council maintains executive power. Yet, it is also required to delegate day-to-day administrative duties to competent professional staff.
- The “Plan for County Government” includes provisions for recall elections, term limits, and non-partisan elections.
- In 2000 the State Legislature required that any newly proposed form of government be one of the current four available. Recall elections, term limits, and non-partisan elections were also prohibited from being introduced into newly proposed forms of government.
- The current form of government is similar to a modern “council-manager” form in that the role of the council is predominately legislative. It is *unlike* the “council-manager” in that there is no designated “county executive” and executive power is delegated via policy as opposed to state law.
- The current form of government is similar to an “expanded commission” in that both the executive and legislative authority is vested in the governing body. It is *unlike* an “expanded commission” in that the council is expected to delegate most of their executive responsibility.