

# Meridian Rural Fire Protection District

33 E. Broadway, Suite 210 - Meridian, Idaho 83642

## Meeting Minutes – January 8, 2024

### **Call to Order:**

The Meridian Rural Fire Protection District Annual Budget meeting for January 8, 2024, was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Commissioner Ward. Roll call was taken.

### **Roll Call:**

Attendees: Commissioner Marv Ward, Commissioner Randy Howell, Commissioner Derrick Shannon, MFD Chief Kris Blume, MFD Deputy Chief Charlie Butterfield, , MRFPD Legal Counsel John O. Fitzgerald

### **Approval of Agenda:**

Motion was made and seconded to approve the meeting agenda. Agenda approved. Commissioner Ward made motion and Commissioner Shannon seconded.

### **Approval of the Minutes from the January 8, 2024 MRFPD Monthly Meeting:**

John Fitzgerald asked qualifying question pertaining to 8/19/24 MRFPD Monthly meeting. Confirming the date is for both the regular monthly meeting and the annual MRFPD budget hearing. Date and meeting information confirmed by Commission Shannon. Commissioner Ward made motion to approve minutes. Commissioner Howell seconded. Motion passed.

### **Treasurer's Report: Provided by Commissioner Howell:**

- Approve and pay bills as follows:
  - Check #5506, City of Meridian, \$105,490.64 October A,B,C Budgets, Invoice #3012
  - Check #5507, City of Meridian, \$140,069.81 November A,B,C Budgets, Invoice #3015

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- Check #5508, John O. Fitzgerald, \$1,143.59, General MRFPD Legal Services, Invoice #2024-01
- Check #5509, Kathleen Roma & Associates, MRFPD Accounting and Payroll Services, Invoice #73388
  - Total of \$246,734.04 checks paid out this month
  - City of Meridian invoices have invoice costs broken out by department line item. Commissioner Howell to follow up with Todd Lavoy for clarification.
- Motion made by Commissioner Howell to accept and pay stated bills. Commissioner Ward seconded. Motion passed.
- LGIP \$5,344,689.35 balance
- US Bank \$12,772.10 balance
- Current net cash position is currently \$5,357,461.45
- US Bank Statement- No statement received.
- LGIP Statement December 2023 Received and Reconciled.

### **Old Business:**

- Updated on refurbishment and delivery of the Brush Truck Apparatus. Moved to February 2024 monthly meeting.
- JPA with MRFPD and City of Meridian. MRFPD Legal Counsel John O. Fitzgerald detailed communication with City of Meridian Attorney, City CFO, and Meridian Fire. Discussion of relationship under the terms of the contract. Meeting tentatively set for February 2024.
- Water Tender New Build Update. Chief Butterfield provided update. Water Tender Apparatus slated for completion February 7, 2024 with in-service date scheduled for March 2024. Unit will be housed at station 2.

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- Boise Fire is interested in purchasing existing unit. Potential sale price of around \$100,000.00 Boise Fire looking at grant options for purchase. An offer should be forthcoming in the next couple of months. Legal Counsel John O. Fitzgerald confirmed the sale could go through without bid as the sale is from one agency to another.
- No other old business discussed

### **New Business:**

- Chief Blume provided that the MFD monthly operational update.
  - Safe Grant Approved by City Council for funding for 18 fire fighters.
  - Recruiting underway for entry level fire fighter with no EMT requirement. 650 applicants from the Treasure Valley community. Recruiting is closed currently. Hiring committee opted to remove the EMT requirement to cast the widest net. EMT component will be trained during the fire academy. Academy of 19 is slated to include a lateral transfer. Chief Butterfield described the emphasis on diversity to be more inclusive. Commissioner Shannon brought up that in the end the fire department will only recruit and hire the top candidates. Chief Blume and Chief Butterfield confirmed only the best will be hired and the MFD will not hesitate to wash out candidates who do not measure up. Psychological and physical requirements will be in place in order to be hired.
  - MFD awarded grant for Mobile Air Unit. Air Compressor unit that supports the FARS system. Unit due to arrive by February. Provides the ability to refill air tanks without having to return to the station to refill. Vehicle potential assigned to station with 4-person company Code 2 non-emergency traffic.
  - Chief Winkler retired. Recruiting for a Captain and Chief of Logistics. Job offer extended for Logistics Chief position.

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- Meridian Fire is renewing training for Ice Rescue. New equipment has been purchased and available on apparatus at each station.
- New City council liaison is Anne Little-Roberts.
- MFD is hosting national fire fighter training at the Meridian Marriott February 18-20, 2024. MRFPD is welcome to attend.
- No New Business.

Motion was made by Commissioner Ward and seconded by Commissioner Shannon to adjourn the January 8, 2024 meeting of the Meridian Rural Fire Protection District. Motion approved. The meeting was adjourned at 4:31 PM MT.