

Meridian Rural Fire Protection District

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

Meeting Minutes – June 15, 2015

Attendees:

Commissioner Rich Greene, Commissioner Clair Bowman, Commissioner Terry Leighton, Fire Chief Mark Niemeyer, and John Fitzgerald of Worst, Fitzgerald & Stover

Note: The June 8th meeting was cancelled due to lack of quorum and rescheduled to today, June 15th, 2015.

Commissioner Greene called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll call was taken.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the meeting agenda as presented. Motion approved.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the meeting minutes from the May 11, 2015, Rural Fire Protection District meeting. Motion approved.

Approve and pay bills as follows:

- Check #5064 to the City of Meridian in the amount of \$113,257.92 for April 2015, A, B & C Budgets, Invoice #2210
- Check #5065 to Jackson Code Consultants in the amount of \$2,171.75 reference receipt #00054, Invoice #2015-14
- Check #5066 to Worst, Fitzgerald & Stover, PLLC in the amount of \$2,768.06 for general legal work, Statement #65826 (this invoice includes two months, April and May, plus the mileage from February that was not included on the March invoice)

A motion was made and seconded to approve and pay checks numbered 5064 through 5066 as presented. Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Net cash position is currently \$1,901,065.04

The May US Bank Statement and LGIP Statement were presented to Chairman Greene for review and approval.

The engagement letter from Zwygart & Associates for the FY2015 Audit was presented to the Commission. The proposal has the same rate as prior years. Motion was made and seconded to authorize the Treasurer, Commissioner Bowman, to sign the engagement letter from Zwygart & Associates for the FY2015 audit. Motion approved.

Old Business:

1. Discussion was held on the status of the City of Meridian's remaining reimbursement to the Meridian Rural Fire Protection District for the cost of construction of Fire Station 5. There is still \$800,000.00 remaining on the reimbursement to the District. These funds would come

Meridian Rural Fire Protection District

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

Meeting Minutes – June 15, 2015

out of the City's Impact Fees fund. Reimbursement is not currently scheduled for the FY2016 budget. Chief Niemeyer recommended that the District wait to pursue reimbursement from the City while the Fire Department works to develop the multi-agency master plan and is also closer to beginning the construction of Station 6.

2. Commissioner Bowman stated that the authorized LGIP users have been changed per the direction of the Commission at a previous meeting. Chief Niemeyer now receives notifications of transfers as well as Commissioner Bowman. Commissioner Bowman will provide the account name and password to Attorney Fitzgerald. Training for the Quicken program for Judy is scheduled for June 25th.
3. The Memorandum of Understanding and Agreement regarding the Contract Service Fee and the Capital Outlay Expenditure budget, between the City and the District, and establishing a base percentage allocation of such costs and expenses was presented to Meridian City Council. The Council had questions regarding capital outlay expenditure budget items outside the city limits verses inside the city limits and how that would work exactly. After Attorney Fitzgerald received comments from the City's attorney, Bill Nary, and in looking at the questions that were presented by the Council, it is Attorney Fitzgerald's recommendation to reduce the Memorandum of Understanding to a simple agreement stating the District's contribution of 15% over the next two years, FY2016 and FY2017. He then suggests reviewing the original Joint Powers Agreement that was drafted in 1998. It makes sense to review the original agreement with the concepts that are now being discussed in this Memorandum of Understanding and the future master plan and to possibly bring the original agreement more up to date. Chief Niemeyer stated that there should be some service level expectation for the contributions of the District. Commissioner Bowman clarified with the Board that he will use a 15% contribution rate for next month's FY2016 draft budget.

Fitzgerald stressed that there are three parts to this discussion, 1) The Master Plan development which would cover having elements of the level of service included in the plan 2) Updating the original JPA in conjunction with the development of the master plan and how the fire department is going to operate into the future and 3) Identifying the allocation of Fire Department property and establishing ownership of the capital items.

Commissioner Greene referenced a previous conversation with Chief Niemeyer where he learned that the Fire Department is having trouble funding the replacement of two fire engines for FY2016. Commissioner Greene made a statement that he wanted noted on the record: He stated that the City of Meridian donated \$4 million to the YMCA and yet they are choosing not to replace fire engines that are well beyond their service life. Yet the District is supposed to accept the fact that these engines, which are well beyond what it is intended to provide service, are being used out in the District. If those engines fail, he believes that our patrons are at an increased risk. There is already a response time issue for calls in the District and it upsets him that the City has money to donate but not put towards a new needed fire engine. He stated that he is not against the YMCA; he feels it is a great organization. But he also feels that the MRFPD pays for service based on the District's population and that they are not really getting the level of service they deserve. Commissioner Greene stressed again that he feels the City is doing the District a disservice. The District has built stations

Meridian Rural Fire Protection District

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

Meeting Minutes – June 15, 2015

for the City so they could service City areas better than they are servicing the District's area. Chief Niemeyer stated that yes, it is a challenge. One of the things that the Fire Department has done is to ensure that we have every bit of data and analysis to articulate the critical needs that the Department has right now. Our fleet is getting very old and exceeding acceptable mileage and hours standards. So far, out of the two engines that were requested initially for FY2016, one is still being considered. There is a possibility that the other engine may still be able to be discussed and/or considered.

Attorney Fitzgerald clarified that he will revise the Memorandum of Understanding to just simply state that for the FY2016 and FY2017 budget the District's percentage of contribution will be 15%.

4. The Multi-Agency Master Plan was presented to Star Fire; they were very favorable and seemed to be on-board with the proposal. The plan was also presented to Kuna Fire and they replied with two questions: they wanted to see an example of an end product and who else had used the company. That information was presented to them. Three other local area fire departments, Middleton, Caldwell and Parma, have contacted Chief Niemeyer and expressed an interest in participating in the Master Plan. Since the Master Plan will look at short-term, mid-term and long-term strategies on how doing things together can reduce costs in the future, Chief Niemeyer felt it may be beneficial to have more departments participate. Any time that we can standardize equipment or apparatus and do a joint purchase, there is the possible advantage of substantial savings.

New Business:

1. None

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the June 15, 2015, meeting of the Meridian Rural Fire Protection District. Motion approved. The meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.