

**Mountain Vista Fire District Board Meeting  
2292 W Magee Rd, Suite 180-190**

**Monday, January 3, 2011**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Agenda**

- I. CALL TO ORDER at 6:04 PM by Chairman Archuleta followed by ROLL CALL

**Members Present**

Peter Archuleta, Chairman  
Mike Treece, Treasurer  
Donna Heidinger, Clerk  
Jerry Phillips, Director  
Earle Ruhnke, Director

**Absent**

**Staff Present**

Scott Butler, Administrative Chief  
Lorrie Palmquist, Executive Asst  
Eric Hawkins, Attorney

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

- II. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

There were no applications to speak from the public.

- III. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS

- a. Discussion and/or action regarding the report from Chairman Archuleta on his meeting with John Karolzak of Rural Metro

Counsel Hawkins commented that the Board should discuss any information regarding contract negotiations in an Executive Session. Chairman Archuleta summarized his letter written to the Board regarding his meeting with John Karolzak of Rural Metro. The Board members expressed total agreement with continuing their relationship with Rural Metro on a long-term basis.

Chairman Archuleta suggested that the Board develop some criteria for negotiating a cost-plus contract with Rural Metro. Treasurer Treece commented that if the District is going in that direction, then it is paramount to do it as quickly as possible in order to be ready for the next contract negotiation.

Mr. Karolzak wants to make sure that both sides are protected in the event of another annexation. Rural Metro is not opposed to annexations, but Chairman Archuleta suggests that the Board develop criteria to be used in any future annexation negotiations so that the situation is equitable for both sides.

Chairman Archuleta urged the Board to take full advantage of the services provided under the Rural Metro contract. Along those lines, Chairman Archuleta suggested that the Fire Chief, Tom Brandhuber, should have a seat at the table as a member of the Board. Treasurer Treece asked for clarification of how Chief Brandhuber would be seated at the table, stating that it should only be for operational issues, issues regarding MVFD relationship with RM, and issues regarding the fire services. He further commented that the District wants to avoid a huge conflict of interest. Treasurer Treece stated that Chief Brandhuber cannot go out into the District and represent the Board. Director Ruhnke affirmed that Chief Brandhuber could not be a member of the Board. Chair Archuleta clarified that Chief Brandhuber would sit as a member of *staff* at the Board meetings. Treasurer Treece further commented that Chief Brandhuber should absolutely be present for decisions involving RM. Chairman Archuleta stated that Administrative Chief Butler represents the District in the public. Treasurer Treece stated that Chief Brandhuber is not the District's Fire Chief, but the Fire chief for RM. Administrative Chief Butler commented that the more talent at the table the better. Chief Brandhuber stated that Administrative Chief Butler needs to be the public face for the District, but operationally it does make sense that the Fire Chief participates in the Board decisions. He further agreed that there needs to be some type of delineation. Chief Butler affirmed that it can definitely be worked out with no problem. Mr. Karolzak had indicated to Chairman Archuleta that Tom Brandhuber was the RM representative and the District should be working with him.

Chairman Archuleta suggested a meeting with the Board and Chief Brandhuber and Brian Gibson to discuss contractual specifics. Chief Brandhuber clarified that Brian Gibson is the Chief Operating Officer and reports to the Chief Financial Officer and could be available for the next Board meeting. Chief Brandhuber stated that Mr. Gibson supports an equitable relationship between Rural Metro and MVFD. Counsel Hawkins suggested that a presentation and light conversation would be good, but discussion of future plans is best done in Executive Session. Counsel Hawkins suggested a committee may be a good idea to bring the joint concepts to the Board. Treasurer Treece stated that Mr. Gibson would be coming to reassure the MVFD Board that RM *wants* to work with MVFD and reinforce that he, also, is committed to the process. Counsel Hawkins again stated that any discussion of terms or negotiations should be in Executive Session. The Board reached a general consensus to put Mr. Gibson on the next agenda to give general comments/broad overview, and anticipate possible Executive Session when he is present.

With regards to the idea of cost-plus criteria for negotiations, Counsel Hawkins suggested a Work Study session to develop the ideas. Director Phillips stated that the Board should address this when they receive the contract. Counsel Hawkins recommended that the Board become unified on the issue before requesting anything of RM. Treasurer Treece agreed that the Board as a whole needs to be involved, because coming up with a cost-plus agreement is only the tip of iceberg in negotiations with RM. Director Ruhnke agreed as long as the cost is justified, especially regarding the annexations. Clerk Heidinger commented that she needs the discussion of the other Board members before it goes to committee. Director Phillips stated that if the District pursues annexations, then cost-plus would be a logical way to go. Chairman Archuleta suggested an Executive Session for the next Board meeting to set the ground rules, but also suggested a separate Work Study session to set detailed guidelines for the cost-plus criteria.

Treasurer Treece wants an item on the next regular Board meeting Agenda for Strategic Planning. He suggested to plan on a short Executive Session on that date to just set guidelines, and the schedule a Work Study session for January 24. The Board was in general consensus.

- b. Discussion and/or action regarding the approval of the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) submitted by Lloyd for construction of the Magee facility

Treasurer Treece motioned to go into Executive Session to discuss the construction of the Magee facility. Director Phillips seconded. **Motion carried unanimously.**

The Board recessed at 6:50 PM for a 5 minute break.

*After Executive Session*, the Board reconvened at 8:05 PM.

Director Ruhnke moved to approve the GMP submitted by Lloyd Construction and to proceed with construction of the Magee facility. Director Phillips seconded.

*Vote:* Chairman Archuleta, yes; Treasurer Treece, No; Clerk Heidinger, yes; Director Phillips, yes; Director Ruhnke, yes. **Motion carried 4/1.**

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Director Phillips moved to adjourn the meeting. Clerk Heidinger seconded.  
Meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

**Approved By:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_