

**MOUNTAIN VISTA FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2010**

MEETING MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER at 6:32 pm by Chairman Ruhnke followed by ROLL CALL

Members Present

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

Absent

None

Staff Present

Scott Butler, Administrative Chief
Lorrie Palmquist, Executive Assistant
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. CONSENT AGENDA

a. Minutes from meeting September 13, 2010

Clerk Heidinger moved to accept both the regular Board meeting minutes and the Executive Session minutes from September 13, 2010. Treasurer Phillips seconded. *The motion passed unanimously.*

b. Executive Session minutes July 19, 2010

Due to a concern Clerk Heidinger received over the email, she revised the Executive Session minutes from July 19, 2010. Clerk Heidinger moved to accept the revised Executive Session minutes. Director Archuleta seconded. *The motion passed unanimously.*

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE CHIEF'S REPORTS AND UPDATES

a. District Correspondence

Director Treece questioned the MEMORANDUM from Administrative Chief Butler which was included in the Board packet. Chairman Ruhnke responded that this information is being given out at this time as a convenience to the Board members in preparation for the October 18 meeting.

Director Treece commented that he was expecting reports on the recent Chicago trip. He stated that he assumed this information would be under “Chief’s Reports” on this agenda because the policies and procedures say that upon returning from a trip, a report shall be given which should detail what was learned during the trip. Chairman Ruhnke responded that he will prepare a report for the next meeting. Director Treece questioned whether EACH Board member who went on the trip should prepare a report. He further asked for detail on the line item expenses for these types of trips. Director Treece stated that he would like to see a report on file from the Board members regarding what happened and what value it was to the District. Clerk Heidinger commented that this is a fair request and suggested that the item be put on the agenda for the October meeting.

b. August 2010 Financial Statements

Clerk Heidinger commented that she is still have trouble opening reports on the website. Treasurer Phillips stated that he IS now able to access the webpage with no problem. Director Treece asked for .pdf format again. Director Treece commented that he wants to see the Vendor Detail on a monthly basis. The statements were accepted as presented.

c. Rural Metro activity report

Director Treece commented that the map is missing from this report. Chief Stoltenberg responded that he will send a map. Chairman Ruhnke questioned the 3rd item on the report: a call at 4:32 AM in rush hour traffic – must be a mistake. Chief Stoltenberg commented that this August dropped over 50 calls compared to last August even though there is more population in the area now. Treasurer Phillips commented that there was a month like this last year. Chief Stoltenberg further commented that even the hospitals noticed a downturn in patients. He stated that he noticed a significant downturn in the number of people they were transporting. Clerk Heidinger commented that it is possible the population in the area consists of snowbirds who left for that time period. Director Treece inquired about one 25-minute response time listed on the report. Chief Stoltenberg responded that the incident may have been downgraded to a code 2.

d. Presentation on 2006 Fire Code process

Chief Butler stated that we will hold a Public Hearing on the 2006 Fire Code on November 15, the same night as the regular November Board meeting. Notice of the hearing has to be posted 30 days ahead, meaning a posting will go prior to the October meeting. The Board will do a full review of 2006 Fire code at their October meeting. Fire Code books are available for each of the Board members. The purpose of the review will be to bring Board members up to date on the 2006 Code which is the standard in the community. Clerk Heidinger inquired whether the Pima County Building Code utilizes the 2006 Fire Code. Al Moritz, WSM

architects, responded that Pima County uses the 2006 International Building Code which does incorporate the 2006 Fire Code.

V. DISCUSSION AND OR ACTION ITEMS

a. Approval to proceed to permit and bid process on the Magee Station

Chief Butler commented that seeking the permits is the next step in the process for the Magee Facility. We have to do this to allow Lloyd to go to bid for construction. Director Archuleta inquired about the estimate from Lloyd, commenting that some items significantly changed from the original estimate.. Mr. Mickelberg, WSM Architects, responded that many items may have changed since the original estimate because we have more facts. For instance, there may have been more ceramic tile added which wasn't in the original estimate. Mr. Mickelberg further commented that we are now using wood instead of steel trusses. The steel trusses are 4X lower than the wood trusses, so there is a big savings. Director Archuleta stated that the estimate for drywall doubled. Mr. Mickelberg responded that could be due to additional drywall needed now that we are using steel trusses. He further commented that fluctuations should be expected as we proceed. Director Archuleta inquired whether the builders anticipate prices going up in response to the current market conditions. Mr. Mickelberg responded that in some cases, yes, but that most construction materials have remained flat and he is not anticipating huge price swings.

Chairman Ruhnke called for a motion. Director Archuleta moved to proceed to the permit and bid process on the Magee Station. Clerk Heidinger seconded. VOTE: Chairman Ruhnke, yes; Treasurer Phillips, yes; Clerk Heidinger, yes; Director Archuleta, yes; Director Treece, no. *Motion passed.*

b. Relocation of MVFD assigned personnel from Station 75 staff to Shannon facility

Director Archuleta moved to relocate the MVFD assigned personnel from Station 75 to the Shannon facility. Clerk Heidinger seconded. Discussion ensued.

Clerk Heidinger asked for a clarification that Station 75 is the station on Thornydale. She inquired if moving the personnel out of the station means that the station is closing or will someone remain at that station – is this a shutdown of Station 75? Director Treece opined that the response to the Southern part of the District will be seriously affected by this move. Chairman Ruhnke responded that the Southern portion can be handled by the Shannon station within the 6 minute response time. Director Treece commented that maps he has seen indicate that it is impossible to reach the intersection of Thornydale and Ina in 6 minutes. Clerk Heidinger remembered that both Jason Taylor and Lee Mayes

shared this concern with the Board on different occasions. Chairman Ruhnke reminded the Board that Lee spoke as citizen, not as a fireman. Director Archuleta commented that he had seen the maps and the Shannon facility can still meet the 6 minute response time. Chief Butler said he is unable to comment on the matter. Director Treece inquired if it is the intention of the District to do away with the other engine company on Magee. Clerk Heidinger commented that she did recall recent discussions regarding closing the Thornydale. Chairman Ruhnke reiterated that the District is not closing Station 75, but just moving personnel to the Shannon facility. Chief Butler stated that the District is not diminishing its' resources. Director Treece commented that the idea of closing Station 75 has always been defeated in the past, so here we are tonight discussing the closing of 75 ! Director Archuleta inquired if the District had in mind to close Station 75 when it proposed the building of the new Shannon facility. Chief Butler commented that the Board has never discussed or taken any action to close or keep just 2 stations. Director Archuleta commented that the District built the Shannon facility to serve the whole West side of the District. Chief Butler affirmed this statement and added that the Magee station will improve response time for the entire District. Director Archuleta clarified that the facility on Thornydale is, therefore, no longer needed. Chief Butler commented on the negative aspects of Station 75. He further commented that if the District decided on a 3rd station in future, Thornydale would not be the correct site for that 3rd station. Director Treece commented that he heard through the grapevine that Chief Butler and a couple of Board members were planning to go to 2 stations and 2 engine companies. Chief Butler asked Director Treece who told him that. Director Treece responded that he read it. Chief Butler clarified for all present that staff never intended to go to 2 engine companies. Director Treece commented that Station 75 serves the purpose of backing up the area and responding to the major intersection and shopping center at Ina and Thornydale. Director Archuleta pondered why there are stations so close to each other – for instance, the Stargrass/Cortaro station – and is there mutual aid? Director Treece responded that these stations do not provide not automatic aid, and mutual aid response takes quite some time. Director Heidinger questioned if Northwest Fire District is disposed to provide automatic or mutual aid to our District. Director Treece opined that they want Rural Metro out of town and out of business. He further opined that so as long as the District partners with Rural Metro, Northwest will not be happy. If MVFD went to automatic aid, it would generate a huge expense regarding a dispatch system. Director Archuleta commented that this seems very unprofessional that NW would not want to provide mutual aid to MVFD. Chief Butler commented that the entire discussion is way off base from what Northwest is communicating and that it would be better for the Northwest Fire Chief to speak to our Board regarding the many issues involved. He further commented that the issue is couched in legal requirements and there are several pieces of this topic that our Board needs to hear and understand. Both Directors Archuleta and Heidinger stated that it would be a great idea to hear from the NWFD Chief. Director Treece commented that the facility cost of Station 75 is next to nothing, so why not keep them down there and meet response times since

it does not cost MVFD anything. He further opined that this is a step toward going to 2 engine companies. Chief Butler stated that, in fact, MVFD plans to purchase a quint and the October meeting agenda will address the purchase of this ladder truck. Chief Butler reminded everyone that MVFD is in the process of developing a strategic plan in which many of these capital-type issues will be fleshed out. Director Treece responded that it is obvious there is a strategic plan in mind -- what is it?

Vote: Chairman Ruhnke, yes; Treasurer Phillips, yes; Clerk Heidinger, no; Director Archuleta, yes; Director Treece, no. *Motion passed 3/2.*

Chairman Ruhnke stated that Station 75 staff will move to the Shannon facility and it is up to Rural Metro to decide what to do with the Station 75. MVFD does not own that property, we are just moving the personnel.

VI. Adjournment

Treasurer Phillips motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:24 PM. Clerk Heidinger seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Approved by: _____

Date: _____