

Missoula Rural Fire District  
Board of Trustees  
Missoula, Montana 59804

December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023

The Missoula Rural Fire District (MRFD) Board of Trustees (BOT) met in a special session at the Station 1 Headquarters meeting room and via a "Zoom" video conference on **Monday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023.**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Murphy called the meeting to order at 08:30 hours.

**ROLL CALL:** Present: Chairman Ben Murphy, Vice-Chairman Larry Hanson, Secretary Dick Mangan, Trustee Jeff Merritt, and Trustee Dan Corti.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** There were no members of the public present for the meeting.

**CLOSED EXECUTIVE MEETING:** Chairman Murphy stated that since the Board would be interviewing and evaluating candidates for the Fire Chief position he found, pursuant to Montana Code Annotated Section 2-3-203, that the demands of individual privacy clearly exceed the merits of public disclosure and the public portion of the meeting would be closed.

**OPENING OF THE PUBLIC MEETING:** Chairman Murphy reconvened the public meeting at 17:15 hours and noted that Secretary Mangan had to leave early. Despite this, they still had a quorum and could proceed.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- 1. Discussion and Offer to Fire Chief Candidate:** Chairman Murphy mentioned that all three candidates for the Fire Chief position had a strong passion and dedication toward the District. Chairman Murphy asked if anyone had any public comments. As there were none, he called for a motion to offer the position to Assistant Chief Paul Finlay. Trustee Merritt made the motion, which was seconded by Vice-Chairman Hanson. Chairman Murphy then gave one final opportunity for public comment before the motion was voted on and passed with 4 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstains.
- 2. Recognition of Fire Chief's Appointment of Assistant Chief:** Chief Finlay appointed Lieutenant Kirk Paulsen as the new Assistant Chief for MRFD. Following this appointment, Chairman Murphy called for a motion to recognize Lieutenant Paulsen as the Assistant Chief. Trustee Merritt made the motion, which was seconded by Vice-Chairman Hanson. The motion was then voted on and passed with 4 ayes, 0 nays and 0 abstains.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Trustee Merritt made a motion to adjourn. Vice-Chairman Hanson seconded the motion. Chairman Murphy adjourned the meeting at 17:18 hours.

Respectfully submitted,



Jenn Culp, Administrative Assistant  
Missoula Rural Fire District



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John (Ben) Murphy, Chairman

12/13/23

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Date



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Dick Mangan, Secretary

12/13/23

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Date