

# Meridian Rural Fire Protection District

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

## Meeting Minutes – January 12, 2026

### **Call to Order:**

The Meridian Rural Fire Protection District monthly meeting for January 12, 2026 was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Commissioner Ward. Roll call was taken.

### **Roll Call:**

Attendees: Commissioner Marv Ward, Commissioner Derrick Shannon, Commissioner Randy Howell, MFD Chief Kris Blume, Deputy Chief Charlie Butterfield. Note: MRFPD Legal Counsel John O. Fitzgerald not in attendance.

### **Approval of Agenda for the January 12, 2026 MRFPD Monthly Meeting:**

Motion was made by Commissioner Howell and seconded by Commissioner Shannon to approve Agenda. Motion passed.

### **Approval of the Minutes for the December 8, 2025 MRFPD Monthly Meeting:**

Motion made by Commissioner Ward to approve meeting minutes  
\*Commissioner Shannon added that his email response to to the commissioner regarding the JPA email Meridian City Attorney Bill Nary sent 11/12/25 by added to the record. Email transcript of correspondence added per direction from MRFPD Legal Counsel John O. Fitzgerald. Commissioner Shannon seconded. Meeting minutes approved.

### **Treasurer's Report- Prepared and presented by Commissioner Randy Howell:**

- Approve and pay bills as follows:
  - Check #5599, City of Meridian, \$146,134.78, October 2025 A,BC Budgets, Invoice #3190

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- Check #5600, City of Meridian, \$137,257.09, November 2025 A,BC Budgets, Invoice #3195 \*Typo correction made to financial balance sheet handout where October was listed but the invoice was November 2025. Commissioner to update.
- Check #5601, Fire Code Consultants Northwest, \$3,686.68 Fire Plan Review Fee's, Invoice MRFD\_SEP\_2025
  - Total of \$287,078.55 checks paid out the month of January 2026
- Motion made by Commissioner Howell to accept and pay stated bills. Commissioner Shannon seconded. Motion passed.
- LGIP \$5,106,540.48 balance
- US Bank \$51,364.12 balance
- Current net cash position is currently \$5,157,904.60
- US Bank Statement- No statement received by meeting date.
- LGIP Statement- November 2025 and December 2025 received and reconciled.
- Commissioner Howell received call from Star/Middleton Chief Tominsky regarding a new development where part of the property is in the MRFPD. Developer may request to have property deannexed from Meridian and moved to Star. A request may come as the developer is in his due diligence period.
- Commissioner is investigating the move from US Bank to ICCU for commission banking. US Bank not able to provide online banking services. ICCU offered to review statements for analysis. Commissioner Howell will report back with findings.

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## Meeting Minutes – January 12, 2026

### **Old Business:**

- Commissioner Howell reported that the MRFPD and the City of Meridian did not have a liaison meeting during the month.
- Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) ongoing discussion. John O. Fitzgerald, MRFPD Legal Counsel. Chief Blume indicated he has not been contacted for discussion. Update to be presented and discussed during the February 2026 monthly meeting.
- Commissioner Shannon stated that MRFPD Legal Counsel will provide paperwork and process during the February 9, 2026 monthly meeting for Commissioner Ward and Commission Shannon being re-elected to their respective MRFPD for a new 4-year term.
- Commissioner Howell received FOYA request from ISFC Association. Commissioner will follow up with request.
- No old business

### **New Business:**

- Chief Kris Blume MFD update.
  - Ken Welborne retiring 1/21/26 retirement at Station #1.
  - Tony Chance is being promoting to C Shift Battalion Chief.
  - Tyler Roundtree taking on six month temporary assignment.
  - Luke Smiley is taking on B Shift Battalion Chief temporarily.
  - New Quint Ladder Truck is in town at Hughes Fire for final inspection and preparation for service. A sequence of training is planned for the unit and will initially serve as a backup should truck 31 or 35 go down. This new unit will allow for two (2) full-time ladder truck service for the City of Meridian. Commissioner Shannon asked if the unit was completely outfitted. Unit came in turn key and only needed initial maintenance. Chief Blume described unit as a scalpel instead of a sledge hammer as there is no bucket on the end, rather straight which can be placed directly in to a window for rescue. New style of truck for the department which

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will greatly added to the capabilities of the department. Deputy Chief Butterfield display pictures of the unit and described some of the difference between existing unit and what this new unit can provide.

- Fire Recruit Academy is planned for September 2026 class of then (10).
- New Community Risk Reduction Specialist Brooke Cortez has joined the department. Department is now fully staffed in admin and the Community Risk Reduction department has three staff.
- Commissioner Shannon asked if the department will use the same recruiting firm for staffing the academy. Chief Blume confirmed the department will use the same firm.
- Deputy Chief Butterfield presented information regarding capital improvements.
  - The department is in the final stages of the capital facilities plan for the older stations to update and modernize. Final version of the plan available February 2026. The need to update systems and resources of the older stations is vital to ongoing growth for MFD. Meridian City Council approved \$2M for remodel of station #3. RFQ completed and decided on design firm Price Fergus Miller (Stations 7 and 8) Core Construction chosen as the contractor. Process underway to move the project forward. Ideally, Core will allow for continued operation while the remodel is underway. Core has implemented this model on passed projects using containers or modular units for the team to work out of during remodel. The entire process for all stations could be at least five years.
- New Meridian City Council has appointed Doug Taylor as the new liaison with MRFPD.
- MFD remodel is currently underway and temporary office relocated to south side of 2nd in the Public Works office space.

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## Meeting Minutes – January 12, 2026

- Commissioner Ward offered that new starts in the community which equals demand from MFD.
- Commissioner Howell asked about building requirements for commercial and residential high-rise. Restrictions based on single stairway access.
- Commissioner Shannon asked about the news regarding Bucee's truck stop and the impact for the City of Meridian and the MFD. No news.
- Commission discussed various growth challenges within the valley from new Costco, lack of street or surface parking, roadways undersized for volume of vehicles.
- No New Business.

Motion was made by Commissioner Ward and seconded by Commissioner Shannon to adjourn the January 12, 2026 monthly of the Meridian Rural Fire Protection District. Motion approved. The meeting was adjourned at 4:29PM MT.