

Meridian Rural Fire Protection District

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

Meeting Minutes – May 11, 2026

Call to Order:

The Meridian Rural Fire Protection District monthly meeting for May 11, 2026 was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Commissioner Shannon. Roll call was taken.

Roll Call:

Attendees: Commissioner Derrick Shannon, Commissioner Randy Howell, MRFPD Legal Counsel John O. Fitzgerald, MFD Deputy Chief Charlie Butterfield, MFD Chief Kris Blume, Deputy Chief Steven Taulbee, John Russell with Zwygart John CPA's, Angela Fish with ICCU. Commissioner Ward not in attendance.

Approval of Agenda for the May 11, 2026 MRFPD Monthly Meeting:

Motion was made by Commissioner Shannon and seconded by Commissioner Howell to approve the meeting agenda. Agenda approved.

Approval of the Minutes for the April 20, 2025 MRFPD Monthly Meeting: Motion made by Commissioner Shannon to approve meeting minutes, Commissioner Howell seconded. Meeting minutes approved.

Moved ICCU from Old Business: Ms. Fish with ICCU provided transition process documents for Commissioners to sign in order to move checking account business from US Bank to ICCU. Commissioner Shannon and Commissioner Howell signed documents. Commissioner Howell provided a MRFPD check for \$5,000 to open the account. Motion by Commissioner Howell and seconded by Commissioner Shannon.

Moved MRFPD Annual Audit report from new business. John Russell with Zwygart John CPA's provided audit recap for fiscal year ending

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September 30, 2025. Mr. Russell stated the suit was “clean” with no issues or irregularities (page 3). The MRFPD uses solid and sound accounting practices. Mr. Russell further explained the MRFPD balance sheets and income statement were completed in accordance with standard accounting practices and reflected accurate budget reconciliation. (Page 7) Balance Sheet review. (Page 9) Income Statement. \$1.2 million loss related to the MFD station 7 expense coverage. (Page 15). Discussed wisdom is the money placed in LGIP. (Page 18) Budgetary accounting schedule. Reflected new required accounting processes. Income higher than expected but expenditures were more than budgeted due to the contract services expenses explanation. (Page 21) reflects internal MRFPD uses and no weaknesses found. Mr. Russell offered the move to ICCU was a positive step for the MRFPD.

Treasurer’s Report- Provided by Commissioner Howell,

Approve and pay bills as follows:

- Check #5611, City of Meridian, \$156,053.45 March 2026 A,B,C Budgets, Invoice #3217
- Check #5612, Fire Code Consultants Northwest, \$669.71 Fire Plan Review Fee’s, Invoice #MRFD_APR_2-26
- Check #5613, Hahn Certified Public Accountants, \$248.00 Accounting and Payroll Services, Invoice #12145
- Check #5614, ICCU, \$5,000.00 New Account Funding
- Check #5615, John O. Fitzgerald, \$1,078.10 MRFPD General Legal Services, Invoice #2026-05
- Check #5616, Zwygart John & Associates CPA’s PLLC, \$6,3000.00, FY2025 Annual Audit, Invoice #13202
- Total of \$169,349.26 checks paid out this month

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- Motion made by Commissioner Howell to accept and pay stated bills. Commissioner Shannon seconded. Motion passed.
- LGIP \$5,803,344.00 balance
- US Bank \$25,035.07 balance
- Current net cash position is currently \$5,828,379.07
- US Bank Statement- No US Bank statements received by May 11, 2026 meeting date and time.
- LGIP Statement- April 2026 statement received and reconciled.
- Kathleen Roma updated quickbooks.
- Transparent Idaho is moving accounting practices from December to July.
- Watertower lots in order and no weeds.

Old Business:

- Updated Joint Powers Agreement and discussion- John O. Fitzgerald. No Updates provided as the language of the modified agreement is with the City of Meridian Attorney pending further review.
- Plan Review Review Administration. Chief Blume. The plan is for the City to bring fire plan review in-house over three years and no longer use Fire Code Consultants Northwest. Chief Blume positioned the opportunity for the MRFPD to utilize the city of Meridian Plan Review Process moving forward should the commission choose. The City of Meridian has not made a final decision. The MRFPD did agree that the rural would favor the move should the final decision. Commissioner Howell offered we would want to understand what financial impact. Commissioner Shannon asked if the review process would be handled with the MFD. Deputy Chief Taulbee stated the

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review process would be housed with Community Development. The rationale for the City of Meridian to move in this direction is the cost of using Fire Code Consultants Northwest. The City of Meridian is looking for a cost savings and improved efficiency. No success metric established at this time. Commissioner Shannon asked how the process would work for processing times and completion. Where does the rural stand regarding priority. No metric discussed at this time. No staffing plan discussed at this time as the City of Meridian is in the initial discovery process. The plan at this time is 1-3 years for development and implementation. Nampa and Caldwell complete Fire Plan review in-house within their fire department where City of Boise uses Community Development for Fire Plan reviews.

- No old business

New Business:

- MFD Department Updates from MFD Chief Blume:
 - Prepping for budget season
 - Also preparing for contract negotiation with line staff
 - September fire academy on the books
 - New Quint Ladder Truck in operation station 35. All staff trained on usage. No bucket or platform. Called a straight stick. First one is MFD history.
 - Deputy Chief Butterfield-Training Tower at Station is twenty year old. The training Tower needs either upgrades or replacement. The department is looking at whether the tower is best utilized at station #1. Department is looking at alternative locations for the construction of a multi-phased and multi-use training facility for the larger City of Meridian operations. Future budget discussion. Nothing proposed for this year or next year at this time.
 - Commissioner Shannon asked about call times and transit times. Deputy Chief Butterfield offered that times are holding steady

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according to miovision. The crews are reporting anecdotally that times seem better. Deputy Chief Butterfield stated a greater deep dive into the data to parse out statistics. There is an understanding that with call times remaining close to the same and the increase in traffic, congestion, and population, the data is actually favorable as there has been improvements made to hold the call times steady. Current department focus is on truly emergent calls, this will impact accreditation and reporting.

- Commissioner Shannon asked about the departmental staff in temporary roles. No determination made if the temp positions will become permanent.
- MFD is looking to create Battalion 32. Working through the process to implement. Likely will be included in the new budget and the position and battalion is needed to support growth. Chief Blume indication that the MFD is understaffed and under-resourced to keep up with current growth.
- No New Business.

Motion was made by Commissioner Shannon and seconded by Commissioner Howell to adjourn the May 11, 2026 meeting of the Meridian Rural Fire Protection District. Motion approved. The meeting was adjourned at 4:50PM MT.