

ROCKVILLE/SPRINGDALE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
PO Box 159
Springdale, UT 84767
March 17, 2018

EMERGENCY MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA

The Rockville/Springdale Fire Protection District will hold a work meeting on Saturday, March 17, at 3:00 PM in the Springdale Council Chambers, 118 Lion Blvd., Utah. Up to two Board members may participate electronically.

Roll Call and Call to Order – Chairman Aton called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm

The following members of the Rockville Springdale Fire Protection District were present. Chuck Passek, Randy Aton, Jeff Carlson, and Bob Ford. Chief Ballard present.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Agenda – Bob Ford made a motion to approve the agenda. Jeff Carlson seconded, and a roll call vote indicated all those present in favor

A. Discussion/Information/Non-action items:

1. Discussion of the contract with the Hurricane Valley Fire Protection District – Chairman Aton introduced the contract that has been prepared and provided by Hurricane Valley Fire. No public comment will be heard. The Washington County Commissioners will be meeting on Tuesday, March 20 to review this contract and this meeting will allow the Board to get together recommendations/suggestions of any needed changes.
Don Buckley Fire Marshal for the RSFPD asked about his status of employment as he was just notified on March 16, 2018 that Hurricane Valley Fire (HVF) will be taking over the fire and emergency services. Jeff Carlson stated this is not the forum or time to discuss this information but would be willing to stay after and have a meeting.
Bob Ford stated that it his opinion this meeting is out of order and doesn't believe that it was given proper notification of time, nor have the meetings with the Washington County Commissioners been shared. The contract does not have a place for the RSFPD Board to sign, only the Washington County Commissioners and Hurricane Valley Fire, therefore there is no need to have this meeting since no input will be heard and questioned the Board's authority.
Chairman Aton concurred and stated himself and Jeff Carlson have been discussing with Eric Clark the county attorney because of issues with the contract.
Bob Ford asked if the contract had been shared with the fire districts attorney. Chairman Aton stated it has not.
Further discussion between the Board regarding the timeframe, contract, and purpose of meeting.
Bob Ford suggested a motion to dissolve the Board and put it all to the Washington County Commissioners. Chairman Aton does not feel this is a responsible step as he feels the Board has responsibility to protect the communities and making sure the contract is fulfilled as required.
Chairman Aton continued with contract
Item 2 – Chairman Aton wants to ensure the funds paid to Hurricane Valley Fire is the amount needed to provide the services. Tom Kuhlmann comments on the contract is concerned the funds will not be enough due to contingencies.
Bob Ford asked who will make the budget and who will have the input. Chairman Aton responded the latest agreement does not include a budget other than the initial proposal previously provided. In the latest agreement instead of doing a single line item there was a one-page form stating RSFPD would compensation HVF for fire and EMS services through 12/31/18 and would be prorated from May 1 forward. In January 2019 a new contract amount will begin. (Costs list of items itemized out but did

not include the figures). Jeff Carlson stated he believes the budget needs to be further discussed and brought to the Washington County Commissioners attention to have visibility of what those expenditures are. Bob Ford asked if the RSFPD funds will be used to pay for the HVF shortfall of funds. Asked about the current emergency personnel, Chief, and Clerk. Chairman Aton stated the Chief and Clerk will not be retained. Bob Ford thinks that Chief Kuhlmann does not appear willing to present those figures, so all are aware of costs. Difference of \$182,000 going to HVF but unsure of where it's going and what it is for. Chairman Aton stated it's in the contract and the variances of the two budgets which includes paying their personnel more per hour and includes benefits. Jeff Carlson stated the items that need to be addressed to understand budgetary process and max amount of visibility the RSFPD Board will have into those expenses to clarify the visibility. Chuck Passek stated this needs to be fine tuned as some of the figures have changed. Jeff Carlson suggested making a list of items that need to be addressed. Bob Ford stated he wants to clarify the budgetary process so in the future when long term funding is secured the community understands the Board is prepared and able to build the RSFPD again.

Continued Board discussion of items in the agreement as stated and those items that may need to be address. Chairman Aton would like to clarify variance of figures in the budgets versus what the RSFPD shows. Additionally, if funds aren't used those funds should come back to the RSFPD reserve. Bob Ford questioned future access to reserve funds and ability to use these funds as needed. Chairman Aton responded he believes the Board can spend up to \$10,000, but anything over that amount will have to be approved by the Washington County Commissioners.

Bob Ford stated he thinks the Board has put themselves in an untenable position.

Chuck Passek wanted to reiterate that if contingency funds aren't used those funds come back to the RSFPD. Bob Ford asked if the HVF will have access to our funds. Chairman Aton confirmed, but feels it's valid to request a report of expenditures to verify. Chuck Passek clarified if they need additional funding on top of that, they will come back to the RSFPD Board and the Washington County Commissioners to request a budget amendment.

Discussion of meeting attendance from HVF representative at all Board meetings

Bob Ford suggested having an attorney look at the insurance and liability to ensure that the RSFPD is not responsible in the event of catastrophe.

Bob Ford wants clarification on grievance issues including staff, community, etc. Will they come to the RSFPD Board or directly to Chief Kuhlmann? Chairman Aton stated his understanding of contract is HVF is supplying personnel, so their personnel will go to Chief Kuhlmann. Community grievances need to go to the Board and will then be taken to Chief Kuhlmann and the HVF Board.

Bob Ford questioned delinquent standby fees and how they will be handled. Chairman Aton stated per the agreement it appears HVF will be collecting the standby fees. Delinquent fees will be sent to the County to be added to property taxes. Bob Ford is concerned this will cause issues with the community. Jeff Carlson asked Bob for his recommendation on how to handle this issue. Bob Ford stated he believes it should be handled by within the Board/District, not with outside forces and to retain the clerk. Chairman Aton stated this will cost the District more money. If the community has to address these issues with an outside force he's concerned they will stop paying. Chairman Aton stated the Clerk sends invoices and then sends to the County, and questioned what the difference is between the current Clerk or HVF submitting? Item needs to be reviewed/clarified.

Bob Ford asked about current personnel and their status. Chairman Aton read contract to answer.

Clarification on position opportunities within HVF discussed.

Bob Ford asked about the Fire Marshal position. Believes this position will end as of May 1 as well as all other positions since the contract states HVF will take over all operations as of May 1.

B. Adjourn

MOTION: Jeff Carlson made a motion to adjourn. Chuck Passek seconded, and a roll call vote indicated all those present in favor. Meeting adjourned at 3:53 pm.