

**BIG SKY FIRE DEPARTMENT "BSFD"
MINUTES OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SPECIAL MEETING OF MARCH 5, 2015**



Introduction of visitors and guests

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Chair Alan McClain at 9:00AM

Present: Trustees Alan McClain, Carol Collins, Steve Johnson and Renae Schumacher; William Farhat, Fire Chief; Alecia Fischer, Office Administrator

Absent: Trustee Kay Reeves

2. Public Comment – None

3. New Business

a. Review of Montana House Bill 262 and consider request to publicly support the legislation – Discussion & Possible Action Required

- The Board is meeting to discuss if they support HB 262 moving forward.
- Trustee McClain spoke to Kevin Germain and he reported that the big employers in the area support the bill. Trustee McClain also spoke to Jamie Kabisch, Big Sky Resort Area District Tax Board (BSRAD), and he reported that BSRAD supports it with a few detail revisions.
- Chief Farhat stated his concerns with the Big Sky Fire District supporting a bill that still has several important details that need to be figured out. He also pointed out that the resort tax board did not come to the fire district and ask for support; that would be a different consideration.
- Trustee Johnson stated his concerns with how the money is raised and who will be managing the funds. The BSRAD is not a management organization and should not be used as such to run the local community. He is not against affordable housing but would like to see it done in a thoughtful, organized way. He also does not like that the 1% increase in resort tax funds that is being discussed is earmarked.
- Trustee Collins is wondering if this bill has a "sunset clause" in it. Currently it does not appear to have this type of clause. She is also concerned about how the additional funding is earmarked and used. Trustee Collins also has reservations that it was not the resort tax board that requested the fire district's involvement.
- Trustee Schumacher questioned the benefit of the fire district supporting this bill.
- **Motion Made and Seconded** by Carol Collins and Steve Johnson move that the fire board, as an entity, does not support writing a letter concerning HB 262. Motion Withdrawn
- **Motion Made and Seconded** by Carol Collins and Renae Schumacher move that the fire board, as an entity, not write a letter concerning HB 262. Passed Unanimously

4. Other Business

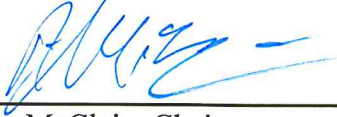
5. Public Comment

6. Date for next regular meeting – March 25, 2015 @ 8:30 AM

7. Adjourn- Meeting was adjourned at 9:33 AM

**BIG SKY FIRE DEPARTMENT
MINUTES OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 5, 2015**

Respectfully submitted,



Alan McClain, Chair



Steve Johnson, Secretary/Treasurer

cc: Board of Trustees
Fire Chief William Farhat
Local 4732
Gallatin Fire Service
Gallatin County Board of Commissioners
Madison County Board of Commissioners