

BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL TAX ASSESSMENT MEETING MINUTES
April 1, 2008

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION:

- A. The Chairman stated that the meeting was held in conformance with Nevada open meeting law. The agenda was unanimously adopted, and an introduction of MVTV Board members was made: Dan Pray, Chairman, JD Hudrlik, Roy Wilmer, Craig Fabbi, and Dave Borger. Also present were Angie Perani, Sec'y/Treas., Martin L. Welsh from Garry Hayes' law office, Matt LeCroix, County Coordinator, and various members of the public.
- B. The schedule for the meeting included a brief explanation for the proposed \$24 per year special tax assessment by Dan Pray, Chairman, and a question-and-answer session for the public.

PRESENTATION:

Dan Pray discussed the following items:

The federal government has mandated that all television broadcasts be changed to digital from analog, effective February 17, 2009. MVTVD, begun in 1959, has very old equipment that must be replaced for digital service, and the process of funding only from community donations as in the past does not provide enough revenue or revenue stability. This is the third year that the TV Board has held community meetings to discuss funding for a five-year plan of improvements to accomplish both the switch to digital, better service, and developments such as a possible community channel. Throughout these meetings and the three+ year efforts of the Board, no other sources of funding were possible. MVTVD, as a 318 state-chartered district, has by law only the choice of local taxes as revenue; an ad valorem (a percentage), or a flat tax. The Board decided that an annual charge of \$24 per developed property parcel, a flat tax, was fairest to the Community. The Board's best estimated was that the amount chosen would enable the district to accomplish the above objectives over a space of 5 years.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

The public introduced several questions regarding the following:

Q. What if we can't get a signal? A. Transmission should improve, but some areas will never get a signal. MVTVD plans to consider this problem most seriously for taxpayers.

Q. What if we don't want the service? A. This can be true of other tax items as well, such as schools and the library, and the Board is charged with keeping the service intact for the whole community.

Q. How much revenue will this tax give the district? Will valley growth result in much higher revenues to the TV Board? How long will the tax go on? Will the \$24 charge go up? A. The development plan covers 5 years, the first two preparing for digital receiving, and later for digital retransmission. The cost is only an estimate, but equipment prices are falling. A previous estimate of \$35,000 per channel for changeover (we have 7), is not expected to be an absolute cost. MVTVD will reduce the tax amount when the objectives are accomplished. In 1959, when the district began, the cost to valley citizens was \$1.50 per month. This tax plan provides for a cost of \$2 per month. The District has not been willing to spend money to ask for donations for the past two years, while plans were being developed, so in those years the cost to the citizens was zero.

Q. **What** is the process now? A. After the steps that resulted in this meeting, the Board will vote for or against the tax plan, and it will be implemented on the July 2007 tax bills.

Q. Can we appeal this after that? A. Some mechanism should be available to handle individual cases. We need some help from the County on this process, and some further advice from them on the plan.

CONCLUSION:

Of the 2,412 notifications sent to taxpayers, an initial 45-55 people were joined by others to constitute an estimated 75-85 attendees. Of these, while most were opposed to a tax and its possible ramifications, several were interested in assuring that over-the-air television remain available in the valley. The TV Board plans to continue discussion of several suggestions given at the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: Adjourned at 9:07 pm.