

Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District, May 23

Sibell calls investigation of personnel a “witch hunt”

By Bernard L. Minetti
Former Monument Mayor Sy Sibell labeled an investigation into complaints about Fire Department personnel a “witch hunt” during a recess midway through the May 23 meeting of the Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District.

Board President

Charlie Pocock explained at the start of the meeting that about “two and a half weeks ago ... several of the senior members of the department came to

me.... We met on a Saturday morning, and they had several complaints against several people in the department, and we decided that those complaints were so severe that we did not

... that I did not feel comfortable addressing them and suggested that we retain ... an independent contractor to address those complaints.”
The board met in a

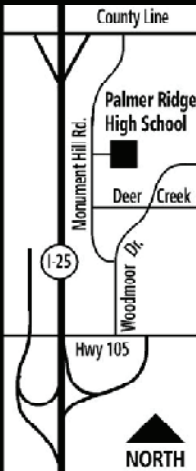
special session on May 8 (see article on page 1) and agreed to pay Mountain States Employers Council, which the district has used in the past, \$10,000 to investigate. At the May 23 meeting, the board increased that sum by another \$2,000.

Pocock said the Employers Council would report its findings the week after Memorial Day. When that happens, the board will hold a special meeting, with notices posted at Station 1, the Administration Center, and the post office. “The first portion of the briefing will be open to the public and that will just be introductions, and then we will go into executive session where we will receive the summary of their findings. ... So tonight, we will not discuss any portion of that investigation

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