

EXHIBIT 4
DATE 2/19/15
HB 504

HB 504 LC2056

55 year resident of Sourdough Fire District (SFD)

4th generation of SFD

Involved in the SFD startup in 1970

24 year board member, 15 years as Chairman

*HB 504 is a housekeeping measure that addresses an error or omission in the current legislation that does not allow for a Fire District and a Fire Service Area to consolidate.

*SFD & Rae Fire Service Area (RFSA) as effectively and efficiently operated as a consolidated fire service delivery company for over 15 years below the board level.

*The State of Montana needs this legislation adjustment to allow the Fire districts and Fire Service Areas to provide the same effectiveness and efficiency afforded 2 fire districts.

* Currently SFD & RFSA operate under an Interlocal Agreement that nearly doubled the volunteers, equipment, apparatus, and service delivery at nearly half the cost to taxpayers of each entity. Also the taxpayers realized a substantial insurance savings due to an improvement of the ISO rating from an 8 to a 4, while at the time Bozeman Fire (fully paid dept with fire hydrants) was a 5. The savings realized by our customers more than offset the construction of our 2.9 million dollar station.

*The Interlocal Agreement has fatal flaws & components we have experienced recently, and narrowly recovered from.

*This measure will help those entities that it effects to greatly improve fire service delivery to its customers with a lot better use of their tax dollars.

Dave Kraft

Sourdough Fire District Trustee Chairman

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