

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE MEHLVILLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT OF
ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI, ON THE
28TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2022

The Board of Directors of the Mehlville Fire Protection District of St. Louis County, Missouri, met at the Mehlville Conference Room, 11020 Mueller Road, St. Louis County, Missouri, on the 28th day of September, 2022.

Present at the meeting were:

Aaron Hilmer, Chairman and Director of the Board;

Bonnie C. Stegman, Treasurer and Director of the Board;

Edmond Ryan, Secretary and Director of the Board; and

Brian Hendricks, Fire Chief of the Mehlville Fire Protection District.

Mr. Hilmer called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and announced the Board to be in session for the transaction of business.

Mr. Ryan made a motion to approve the Board meeting minutes of August 3, 17 and 31, 2022. Dr. Stegman seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Dr. Stegman made a motion to pay the bills of September 21 and 28, 2022. Mr. Hilmer seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Chief Financial Officer Brian Bond presented the August, 2022 Financial Statements. The District received \$28,000 of 2021 tax revenue, bringing the total to \$17.172 million. Cash equivalent resources were \$22.322 million at the end of August. Both the General Fund and the Pension Fund appear to be on course with the budget. Areas of concern include overtime wages and fuel costs. Dr. Stegman made a motion to approve the August, 2022 Financial Statement and Treasurer's Report as presented. Mr. Ryan seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Mr. Hilmer recognized Captain Ty Cardona. Captain Cardona asked if the Board was considering returning to full staffing of 1750 and 1756 in 2023. Also, employees are asking if new Captain promotions were forthcoming, considering the retirement of two captains this summer. Mr. Hilmer said that the Board would be considering staffing at the end of the year, based on options presented by Chief Hendricks.

Chief Hendricks said the staff had been reviewing a continuing education learning management system to allow the tracking of EMS and Fire training. He recommends switching from CE Solutions to Target Solutions, which covers both fire and EMS and increases capability for EMS and Fire training. Dr. Stegman made a motion to approve the contract with Target Solutions for \$14,255. Mr. Ryan seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Dr. Stegman made a motion to approve the changes to the Employee Manual of Policies & Procedures (EMoPP) regarding timely reporting of absence and return to duty. Mr. Ryan seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Chief Hendricks commended Assistant Chief Dan LaFata for his work in applying for grants to benefit the District. We have received a grant from Missouri American Water and another from Missouri Employers Mutual which will be used towards the purchase of five-inch rollers that assist crews on scene and in training to roll hose. The total cost of the package is \$19,450 plus an additional \$2,610 for a hose dolly. Total grant proceeds will be \$10,925, so the net cost to the District will be \$11,135. Dr. Stegman made a motion to accept the grants and approve the use of funds for the purchase of the hose rollers. Mr. Ryan seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Fire Marshal Ed Berkel discussed proposed Ordinances 132 and 133 to adopt the 2021 editions of the International Building Code and International Fire Code. The ordinances would be effective January 1, 2023. Dr. Stegman made a motion to approve Ordinances 132 and 133. Mr. Ryan seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Chief Financial Officer Brian Bond discussed the proposed 2022 tax rates. Assessed values as provided by St. Louis County reflect a \$122 million increase in assessed values over 2021, with a \$6 million increase in real estate assessed values and a \$116 million increase in personal property assessed values. For both the General and Pension funds, the 2022 tax rate calculators were accessed through the State Auditor's website and were used to determine the current year tax rate ceiling. The 2022 Real and Personal Property Tax Rates project \$25.44 million for fiscal year 2023, of which the County will retain 1.5% as their fee, resulting in \$25.058 million available for the 2023 budget. The Revised Statutes of Missouri, Chapter 67, require that the tax rates shall be calculated to produce substantially the same revenues as required in the annual budget that is adopted. The preliminary 2023 budget has been prepared to determine the amount of revenue that would be required to meet the operating and capital expenditures for 2023. There will be no voluntary reductions in the tax rates. Not electing a voluntary reduction this year does not preclude the Board from electing a reduction in future years. From the General Revenue Fund, \$3.327 million will be transferred to the Capital Fund to address capital expenditures including \$583,000 for one-half of an aerial purchase, \$305,000 for an ambulance, \$50,000 for additional apparatus reserve, \$50,000 for SCBA replacement reserve, \$150,000 for future radio replacement, \$112,000 for various fire and

EMS equipment reserves, \$45,000 for a staff vehicle, and \$2,000,000 for construction reserve for future engine house renovations. \$1.211 million will be transferred from the General to the Pension Fund to address current year shortfalls in the Defined Contribution Pension Plan of \$596,000 and disability payments related to the terminated Defined Benefit Plan of \$615,000. 2023 salaries reflect step increases, a 5% pay increase, and staffing additions including a second mechanic position and conversion of 1777 from a 12-hour to a 24-hour ambulance. Unscheduled overtime will increase to \$800,000. Workers compensation is projected to increase 5%. Medical and vision insurance premiums are projected to increase 0%, and dental insurance is projected to increase 5%. Expenses are determined based on rolling three-year averages, current year forecasted expenditures, and itemized needs for 2023. The 2023 preliminary budget projects 2022 total tax revenue will provide \$7.538 million more than the 2022 budget. Due to the projected increases in tax revenue, interest revenue, ambulance collections, and fee revenue, the 2023 preliminary budget forecasts a \$7.906 million increase in total revenue over the 2022 budget. On the expense side, the 2023 preliminary budget forecasts a \$1.375 million increase in total operating expenditures, including a \$883,000 in salaries and overtime, \$302,000 in other personnel costs, and a \$57,000 increase in dispatching costs. Capital expenditures reflect a \$2.151 million increase over 2022 due to a \$2 million construction reserve for future engine house renovations. Overall, the 2023 preliminary budget forecasts a \$1.198 million excess of revenue over expenditures, consisting of \$1.398 million in the General Fund and \$200,000 of strategic spenddown in the Pension Fund. These results demonstrate the need to fix the tax rates at the Tax Rate Ceiling for 2022 in the General Fund and the Pension Fund. The budget will continue to

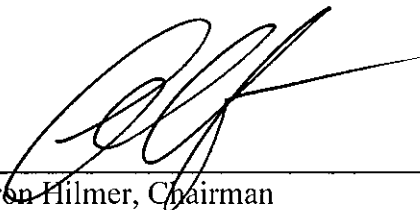
be refined for final presentation in December. Dr. Stegman made a motion to approve the 2022 Tax Rate Resolution that fixes the tax rates at the tax rate ceiling for 2022 and the General Revenue levy and the Pension levy. Mr. Ryan seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Mr. Hilmer made a motion that a closed meeting be held for the purpose of discussing legal matters immediately following the adjournment of the regular meeting. Mr. Hilmer, as part of said motion, moved that said closed meeting not be open to members of the general public under the provisions of Chapter 610 of the Missouri Revised Statutes, commonly referred to as the Sunshine Act. The motion was seconded by Dr. Stegman. A roll call vote on said motion was taken.

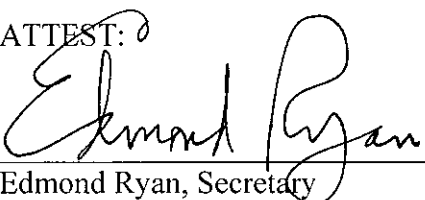
Director Hilmer yea.

Director Stegman yea.

There being no further business, Mr. Hilmer adjourned the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

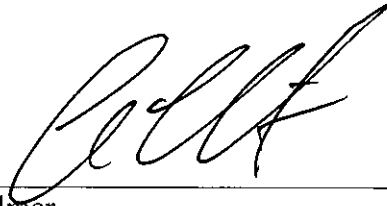


Aaron Hilmer, Chairman

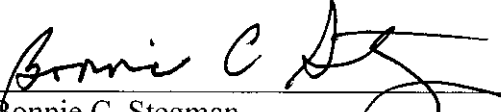
ATTEST:


Edmond Ryan, Secretary

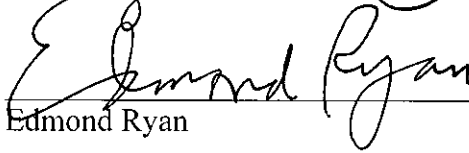
The undersigned, being all members of the Board of Directors of the Mehlville Fire Protection District, have affixed their names thereto in evidence of their consent to the meeting at the time and place indicated, and in evidence of their approval of the actions taken at the said meeting.



Aaron Hillmer



Bonnie C. Stegman



Edmond Ryan