

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE MEHLVILLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT OF
ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI, ON THE
25TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2019

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 25th day of September, 2019.

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 5:00 p.m. and announced the Board to be in session for the transaction of business.

Mr. Hilmer amended the agenda to include ambulance change order and drone presentation.

Mr. Ryan made a motion to approve the Board meeting minutes of August 14 and 28, 2019. Dr. Stegman seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Dr. Stegman made a motion to pay the bills of September 18 and 25, 2019. Mr. Ryan seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Chief Financial Officer Brian Bond presented the August, 2019 Financial Statements. \$33,000 of 2018 tax revenue was received from St. Louis County, bringing the total tax revenues receipts to \$16.137 million, approximately 96.3% of calculated tax revenue. In Capital Expenditures, \$9,000 was spent on mobile radios. The General Fund appears to be slightly in excess of the 2019 budget primarily due to unscheduled

overtime. The Pension Fund appears to be on course with the 2019 budget. Dr. Stegman made a motion to approve the August 2019 Financial Statement and Treasurer's Report as presented. Mr. Ryan seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Fire Marshal Ed Berkel presented two fire hydrant resolutions. Mr. Ryan made a motion to approve a fire hydrant resolution for Ray's Jewelers, a new commercial development in the 7300 block of Lindbergh, and for the Bussen Quarry main extension to service existing houses in the 400 block of Magoffin. Dr. Stegman seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Chief Hendricks discussed several changes to the Employee Manual of Policies & Procedures (EMoPP). The minimum staffing policy takes into consideration the addition of the 12-hour ambulance and adds language in fire operations to encompass a new promotional testing process for the position of engineer. Timelines for the positions of engineer and captain have been added. Minor changes have been made to general tenure requirements for apparatus engineer and rescue engineer and to the point calculation system.

Chief Hendricks said that in the process of reviewing the proposed new ambulance purchases for 2020, Deputy Chief EMS Todd Besancenez and some Field Training Officers identified changes important for personnel safety. The change order would be for \$2,565 per ambulance, for a total cost of \$7,695. Mr. Ryan made a motion to accept the change orders from Osage Emergency Services for \$7,695 for three ambulances to be delivered in 2020. Dr. Stegman seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Chief Hendricks said that District personnel have been researching the implementation of a drone program for the District and are ready to present their results to the Board. District legal counsel has submitted all appropriate documentation to the FAA. He believes the drone program could improve crew safety and increase capability. He introduced Chris Fink from UVT, sales representative for drone aircraft, and Captain Stolarski, who are experts on drone technology and are able to answer technical questions.

Assistant Chief Dan LaFata presented information about the unmanned aircraft system. The program includes the machine, cameras, training, batteries, and ongoing FAA regulation compliance. Drones would be useful in certain kinds of emergency calls, particularly those in which a victim would be easier to locate when searching from above or the extent of an accident would be easier to measure. For example, calls to assist the police to locate victims near the area of river bluffs could be expedited by deploying a drone to search the area from the river side. In addition, drones can much more quickly locate victims who have jumped off the bridges. Train derailments, civil disturbances, and structure fires are other situations where the extent or location of the problem can be more quickly identified with an aerial view. Assistant Chief LaFata showed an example of the video provided by the drone. The District has three certified drone pilots and would like to have a total of 5-6 trained. He presented four quotes for the unmanned aircraft program.

Mr. Hilmer addressed the change to the pension from a defined contribution plan to a defined benefits plan recommended by Captain Ty Cardona on behalf of the employees. He said that the District proposes to add a 2% matched increase to the

defined contribution plan and that the plan would be discussed more at the October 9 Board meeting.

Chief Financial Officer Brian Bond said that the 2019 tax rates would be set at a Board meeting on September 27, 2019.

Mr. Hilmer made a motion that a closed meeting be held for the purpose of discussing a legal matter 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.

Director Ryan yea.

Mr. Hilmer adjourned the meeting at 5:25 p.m.

Dr. Stegman reconvened the meeting at 6:16 p.m. Dr. Stegman made a motion to approve the purchase of an unmanned aircraft system in the amount of \$29,273 from UVT. Mr. Ryan seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

There being no further business, Dr. Stegman adjourned the meeting at 6:20 p.m.

Not Present
Aaron Hilmer, Chairman

ATTEST:

Edmond Ryan
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.

Not Present
Aaron Hilmer

Bonnie C. Stegman
Bonnie C. Stegman

Edmond Ryan
Edmond Ryan