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, 2020

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, 2020.

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

Dan LaFata, Assistant Chief of Mehlville Fire Protection District.

Brian Hendricks, Fire Chief of Mehlville Fire Protection District, was absent.

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.

Chief Financial Officer Brian Bond discussed the proposed 2020 tax rates. Assessed values as provided by St. Louis County reflect a \$13.8 million increase in assessed values over 2019. \$5.7 million pertains to an increase in real estate assessed values, and \$8.1 million pertains to an increase in personal property. For both the General and Pension funds, the 2020 tax rate calculators were accessed through the State Auditor's website and were used to determine the current year tax rate ceiling. In aggregate, the 2020 rate is only slightly changed from the 2019 rate. The tax rates project \$17.56 million for fiscal year 2021, of which the County will retain 1.5% as their fee, resulting in \$17.297 million available for the 2021 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 2021 budget has been prepared to determine the amount of revenue that would be required to meet the operating and capital expenditures for 2021. 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, \$951,000 will be transferred to the Capital Fund to address capital expenditures including \$300,000 for the second installment towards a pumper purchase. \$281,000 for an ambulance, \$50,000 in reserves for future aerial apparatus replacement and \$111,000 for various fire and EMS reserves. \$40,000 is budgeted for a staff vehicle. and \$100,000 is budgeted for a future construction reserve. A little over \$1 million will be transferred from the General Fund to the Pension Fund to address current year shortfalls in the Pension Fund and future disability payments. 2021 salaries expense reflect step increases and a 1.3% pay increase based on the CPI. Unscheduled overtime is going to increase from \$500,000 to \$650,000 based on the current staffing model servicing seven ambulances during the day and five ambulances at night. Workers Compensation premiums are projected to increase 20%. Medical insurance premiums are projected to increase 20%, and dental and vision insurance are projected to increase 5%. Expenses are determined based on rolling three-year averages, specific items, and the current year budget. The 2021 preliminary budget projects 2020 total tax revenue will provide \$94,000 more than the 2020 budget. Ambulance collections and permit fees revenue are also expected to increase, offset by a decrease in fee and interest revenue, bringing the total increase in revenue to \$448,000. On the expense side, the 2021 preliminary budget forecasts \$649,000 of increase over 2020, including a \$397,000

increase in salaries. Personnel costs are forecast to increase \$439,000. Dispatching costs, which is based on assessed valuation, will increase \$33,000. On the capital side, there is a \$1.058 decrease over the 2020 budget, but the 2020 budget included a spenddown of \$1.5 million of capital reserves for the burn tower and two ambulances, capital expenditures are increasing \$450,000. The \$649,000 increase in operating expenses and \$450,000 increase in capital expenditures means that the District is looking at a \$1.1 million increase in expenses with only a \$488,000 increase in revenue. Overall, the preliminary budget projects a \$1.165 million excess of expenditures over revenue. The budget will continue to be refined for final presentation in December. Dr. Stegman made a motion to approve the 2020 Tax Rate Resolution that fixes the tax rates at the tax rate ceiling for 2020 and the General Revenue levy and the Pension levy. Mr. Ryan seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

There being no further business, Mr. Hilmer adjourned the meeting at 5:15 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 Hilmer

Bonnie C. Stegman

Edmond Ryan