

MINUTES OF AN OPEN MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
DIRECTORS OF THE MONARCH FIRE PROTECTION
DISTRICT OF ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI,
HELD ON THURSDAY, MAY 3, 2018

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Chesterfield, Missouri

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BE IT REMEMBERED, that the Board of Directors of the Monarch Fire Protection District of Saint Louis County, Chesterfield, Missouri, met at the Administration Building, of said District, 13725 Olive Boulevard, in the City of Chesterfield, County of Saint Louis, on Thursday, May 3, 2018 at 7:00 P.M. in an Open Board Meeting. At the above time and place the following Officers and Directors were in attendance.

Rick Gans - President/Chairman and Director
Jean Millner - Secretary and Director
Robin Harris - Treasurer and Director

Also present: Chief Cary Spiegel
Asst. Chief Les Crews
Atty. Matt Hoffman

A quorum being present, Director Gans called the meeting to order and announced the Board of Directors meeting to be in session for the transaction of any and all business to be brought before it at this time.

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P R O C E E D I N G S

7:02 P.M.

DIRECTOR GANS: Call to order the
Open Meeting of the Monarch Fire Protection
District Board of Directors.

Would you please rise and join me in
the Pledge of Allegiance?

(Whereupon, all persons joined in reciting
the Pledge of Allegiance, and the following
proceedings were had.)

DIRECTOR GANS: Approval of Agenda.
Are there any changes to the Agenda
tonight?

DIRECTOR HARRIS: I have none.

DIRECTOR MILLNER: I have none.

CHIEF SPIEGEL: I have none.

DIRECTOR GANS: And, I am going to
add under "Unfinished Business," but I have to
find it; sorry.

Never mind. I'm not adding,
tonight. I'll wait until another time.

So, on to Citizen Comments.

Are there any citizen comments?

(No response.)

DIRECTOR GANS: I see no citizens

1 here that are here for that purpose.

2 So, moving on to the President's
3 Report, on my report, I have the 2018, '19
4 Edition of the Yearbook.

5 And to recap what this is, when I
6 first came on the Board and Robin will tell you
7 how long ago that was, there were --

8 DIRECTOR HARRIS: I wasn't alive
9 yet.

10 DIRECTOR GANS: You were alive.

11 There were -- there was a
12 publication that was put out by, I do not
13 actually know who, but maybe the Fire Chief's
14 Association?

15 Cary, do we know?

16 CHIEF SPIEGEL: I'm not sure.

17 DIRECTOR GANS: Anyway, it -- it was
18 a yearbook, like, if you think of a highschool
19 yearbook, that was -- it is bound and looked like
20 a highschool yearbook would look.

21 And it had department-by-department
22 information about the departments.

23 Some of them included apparatus.

24 But, the primary purpose was to
25 highlight the personnel.

1 And that book was put out about
2 three or four times in my time on the Board.

3 The last time was nearly ten years
4 ago.

5 And, you know, in order to put it
6 together, photographers sent to each department,
7 or district, to take formal photos and those
8 photos were used for the yearbook.

9 It's not mandatory, although I
10 believe most people do participate in it. And
11 it's a nice thing to have.

12 I find it -- I found it valuable
13 then, when I, as a Director, was interfacing with
14 other districts, or departments, to see who the
15 other directors are, the chiefs, pictures of 'em.

16 Sometimes, it saved some
17 embarrassing moments. Other times, it was just
18 good to have the information.

19 And we're on the verge of having
20 that put together now. I believe an email was
21 circulated, letting District personnel know the
22 photos are being shot in the next few weeks.

23 In fact, I need to re-look at that
24 and make sure I don't miss an opportunity to have
25 them shot here.

1 But, I -- the reason I'm bringing
2 this up is, the yearbooks are sold to those
3 people who are interesting in purchasing it.

4 And I will tell you, I always chose
5 to purchase it and I found it valuable and a nice
6 keepsake. I still have them all.

7 So, what I am proposing to the rest
8 of the Board is that the District defray the cost
9 of the yearbooks and pay 50 percent of the cost.

10 I believe they ran about thirty,
11 forty dollars apiece?

12 A VOICE: (inaudible)

13 DIRECTOR GANS: Forty to fifty?
14 Okay.

15 Forty to fifty dollars and -- and
16 I'm suggesting that we pick up half the cost of
17 that, to make it more affordable for our
18 personnel who want to buy -- who want to buy one.

19 The District will buy a few, so we
20 have a -- a few on hand, as a District, but I
21 think it would be a -- a small, but a nice
22 benefit to the employees of the District.

23 So, if there's no objection to that,
24 then I will direct the chief to let all of the
25 personnel know when those are available that the

1 District will defray half the costs of the books.

2 And then I would encourage everyone
3 to participate in the photography sessions. I
4 believe they're all -- they're all held here at
5 Headquarters and there's three sessions, so all
6 three shifts would be able to make it.

7 If someone's on vacation, they can
8 come on a different day and if someone wants to
9 be in and they miss it completely, they are
10 allowed to go to another district, or department,
11 where the shootings taking place and have their
12 photog -- have their photo taken then.

13 And I think it's a -- a good product
14 and I encourage it.

15 So, that concludes the President's
16 Report.

17 Moving on to the Secretary's Report.

18 DIRECTOR MILLNER: All right.

19 I have some Minutes.

20 I move for the approval of the Open
21 Meeting Minutes from April 20, 2018 and April 26,
22 2018.

23 DIRECTOR GANS: I will second the
24 motion.

25 Any discussion?

1 (No response.)
2 DIRECTOR GANS: All in favor?
3 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Aye.
4 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Aye.
5 DIRECTOR GANS: Aye.
6 Motion passes three to nothing.
7 DIRECTOR MILLNER: All right.
8 Hold on.
9 Okay. I move for the approval of
10 the Closed Meeting Minutes from April 20, 2018
11 and April 26, 2018.
12 DIRECTOR GANS: I will second the
13 motion.
14 Any discussion?
15 (No response.)
16 DIRECTOR GANS: All in favor?
17 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Aye.
18 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Aye.
19 DIRECTOR GANS: Aye.
20 Motion passes three to nothing.
21 DIRECTOR MILLNER: All right.
22 That concludes my report.
23 DIRECTOR GANS: Thank you.
24 On to the Treasurer's Report.
25 DIRECTOR HARRIS: We have disburse-

1 ments in the amount of \$79,435.29 for the period.

2 Pardon me.

3 We have three checks over \$5,000.00.

4 Check number 41152 to Mediclaims,
5 Incorporated, in the amount of \$9,987.00 and no
6 cents. March billing.

7 Check number 41131 to Dave Schmidt,
8 in the amount of \$6,365.30.

9 DIRECTOR GANS: I think it's
10 important, at this point, to point out, it's not
11 our Dave Schmitt.

12 DIRECTOR HARRIS: That's good.
13 Because it says, "Head gasket."

14 (General laughter.)

15 DIRECTOR GANS: His head gasket is
16 fine.

17 DIRECTOR HARRIS: I was concerned.

18 DIRECTOR GANS: So, -- but it
19 important to point out, it's a different Dave
20 Schmidt.

21 (Reporters note: The last names are spelled
22 differently, but the pronunciation is the same.)

23 DIRECTOR GANS: Seriously.

24 DIRECTOR HARRIS: And I -- I, --
25 well, I see that. But it's still struck me as

1 unusual.

2 And the third one is to -- sorry.

3 Check number 41132 to "Defend
4 Technology," (sic) LLC, in the amount of
5 \$6,832.00 and no cents.

6 This is for -- pardon me, I'm
7 getting what you have.

8 (Referring to coughing.)

9 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Uniforms.

10 Are there any questions?

11 DIRECTOR GANS: Well, as is my
12 practice, I did send a lengthy email, with
13 questions, or an email with a lot of questions,
14 to Michelle and to Cary.

15 They -- they responded with the
16 answers to the questions.

17 There are a couple of invoices that
18 were provided today, that I'm still going to look
19 through.

20 But, I'm satisfied with the
21 responses and there are a number of questions
22 that had to do with the credit card payment and
23 the -- I -- I understand the need to use the
24 credit card.

25 I emphasize, again, we want to use

1 it as little as possible, but I know there are
2 times when, in -- in today's world, payment by
3 credit card is a -- a normal practice.

4 So, I don't have any questions
5 beyond what was already responded and is
6 available to the public in an email.

7 DIRECTOR MILLNER: I have nothing
8 further.

9 DIRECTOR HARRIS: And I looked at
10 those, actually, met with a couple of staff
11 officers, earlier today, and a -- and a couple of
12 other questions that were resolved without issue.

13 Chief Spiegel, were these checks
14 prepared per your recommendation?

15 CHIEF SPIEGEL: Yes, they were.

16 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Do they violate
17 any state bidding statutes, or constitute
18 installment payments?

19 CHIEF SPIEGEL: None that I'm aware
20 of.

21 DIRECTOR HARRIS: I make a motion
22 that we accept the disbursements as prepared.

23 DIRECTOR MILLNER: I will second
24 that motion.

25 DIRECTOR GANS: I'll second the

1 motion.

2 DIRECTOR MILLNER: I'm sorry. You
3 seconded the motion.

4 Strike mine.

5 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay. Well, the --
6 okay.

7 DIRECTOR MILLNER: I'm in a hurry.

8 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay. The motion
9 has been seconded.

10 The motion's been made and seconded,
11 so, at this time, I'll ask if there's any
12 discussion?

13 DIRECTOR HARRIS: I just wanted to,
14 in discussion, I want to point out that I did not
15 second the motion.

16 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.

17 DIRECTOR MILLNER: (inaudible)

18 DIRECTOR GANS: And my -- and my
19 second is withdrawn, because it was seconded.

20 So, we have a motion, a second, we
21 have no further discussion.

22 All in favor?

23 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Aye.

24 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Aye.

25 DIRECTOR GANS: Aye.

1 Motion passes there to nothing.

2 DIRECTOR HARRIS: I, also, wanted to
3 point out that today, in 1942, the Battle for the
4 Coral Sea began.

5 That initially was an attack by the
6 Japanese into the Solomon Islands, but it
7 initiated the first, what was considered, modern
8 Naval air battle.

9 It lasted several days.

10 Ultimately, the U.S. Navy was
11 considered the victor, though the initial landing
12 by the Japanese was successful.

13 Their subsequent one in Port Moresby
14 New Guinea was withdrawn. They actually had to
15 head back home. They had lost too many aircraft.

16 And I, also, wanted to point out
17 that in 1952 the first aircraft landed at the
18 North Pole.

19 And that concludes the Treasurer's
20 Report.

21 DIRECTOR GANS: All right. Thank
22 you.

23 On to the Chief's Report.

24 CHIEF SPIEGEL: Yes, sir. Item A,
25 included in your packet, Michelle's included the

1 financials for March and she's prepared to answer
2 any questions you may have.

3 DIRECTOR GANS: I'll -- I'll begin.

4 And -- and I do have to admit that
5 I actually don't have the document with me. I
6 failed to email myself a copy of the Board packet
7 with -- but, I do remember what my observations
8 were and they were -- each of them were all in
9 the same area.

10 And that is, on the revenue side, we
11 seem to be running behind.

12 If I take the financials through --
13 these are through April. Is that correct?

14 MS. DEPEW: These are through March.

15 DIRECTOR GANS: These are through
16 March. Okay. That's right.

17 A quarter of the year, --

18 MS. DEPEW: (Inaudible, due to
19 speaking over each other.)

20 DIRECTOR GANS: -- and take the two
21 dates for the quarter of the year, multiple it
22 times four, some of those numbers are ending up
23 short.

24 MS. DEPEW: That's why, once again,
25 you have to understand that for our accrual

1 purposes January and February went back to '17.

2 So, this is not a tax bases, it's an
3 accrual bases.

4 So your out-of-District billing, --

5 DIRECTOR GANS: Yes?

6 MS. DEPEW: -- looks low, but it's
7 not.

8 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.

9 MS. DEPEW: January --

10 DIRECTOR GANS: That's why --

11 MS. DEPEW: -- went back --

12 DIRECTOR GANS: -- it looks --

13 MS. DEPEW: -- to 2017 revenue and
14 (not understandable) to February.

15 DIRECTOR GANS: It's all okay?

16 MS. DEPEW: It's -- it's all okay.

17 DIRECTOR GANS: All right. I want
18 to make sure we pay --

19 MS. DEPEW: It's --

20 DIRECTOR GANS: -- the bills --

21 MS. DEPEW: -- gonna --

22 DIRECTOR GANS: -- when we --

23 MS. DEPEW: -- be fine.

24 DIRECTOR GANS: -- get to the end
25 of the year.

1 All right. On the expense side, it
2 wasn't quite as -- it -- it -- it wasn't as big
3 of an issue. It was just on the revenue side
4 that I had the --

5 That's the only questions I have.

6 Anyone else?

7 DIRECTOR MILLNER: No, I have
8 nothing.

9 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.

10 DIRECTOR HARRIS: My only concerns
11 are answered now, so, --

12 DIRECTOR GANS: Chief?

13 CHIEF SPIEGEL: Yes, sir. Item
14 B, Battalion Chief Schmitt is here. The
15 committee has prepared to make a recommendation
16 for the rescue tools for 2254.

17 DIRECTOR GANS: It's this Dave
18 Schmitt.

19 (General chuckles.)

20 CHIEF SPIEGEL: The real Dave
21 Schmitt.

22 B. C. SCHMITT: Dave Schmitt,
23 battalion chief.

24 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Not -- not the one
25 with the head gasket issue.

1 B. C. SCHMITT: No. But, I do want
2 more money than 6,000.

3 DIRECTOR HARRIS: (inaudible)

4 B. C. SCHMITT: Yeah. This is the
5 rescue, battery operated rescue tools that will
6 go on the new rescue pumper at House Five, 2254.

7 We started evaluating this equipment
8 last fall. We purchases some of it out of last
9 year's lease equipment and then this is the more
10 warranty sensitive stuff, so we wanted to push
11 this off until this year and purchase it as close
12 as we could to the arrival of the truck.

13 We did an evaluation on four
14 different manufacturers of tools, down at the
15 training tower, with tearing up some cars and we
16 did some last fall and eliminated one vendor, did
17 the remaining three vendors, this spring, and
18 narrowed it down by the committee vote to one
19 vendor, to one manufacturer and we're
20 recommending the "Herst" rescue tools.

21 These are a switch for us.

22 Currently, all of our other rescue
23 tools are "Hobacho," (phonetic spelling) but the
24 difference being, on these, these are, if you
25 want to call 'em "stand alone," tools, they're

1 battery operated, so each tool has its own on-
2 board battery.

3 And it's operated solely by battery,
4 where the current "Hobacho's" that we have are
5 hydraulic, supplied by hydraulic hoses off of a
6 pump. They're motor driven electric pump.

7 And those are interchangeable.
8 There's not an issue with this "Herst" inter-
9 changeable, because they're all separate stand-
10 alone units.

11 So we were comfortable, with
12 recommending a different manufacturer, at this
13 time.

14 The committee was very impressed
15 with this tool. These -- the way these operate,
16 the technology, being a "Herst," which if anybody
17 is old, like me, remembers the first hydraulic
18 rescue tools, the original jaws of life, they're
19 manufactured by "Herst."

20 So, they are a long-standing,
21 reputable company and we felt really confident
22 that these would be the tools that best serve and
23 move on from here, because, currently, we're
24 going out to bid on the 2234 and that will be
25 probably the same brand of tools, when we upgrade

1 that truck.

2 DIRECTOR GANS: Are the batteries
3 inter-changeable between the tools?

4 B. C. SCHMITT: Absolutely. Yes.
5 Hm-hm.

6 And the -- the tools -- the tools
7 have the battery onboard and a spare with 'em.

8 So we'll have a total of six
9 batteries in three different tools.

10 There's the regular standard
11 spreaders, the cutters and then a ram for dash
12 holds and various push-pull operations.

13 DIRECTOR GANS: And what -- what
14 kind of longevity?

15 I know that it depends on the
16 application, but if you're a -- the cutting tool,
17 for example?

18 B. C. SCHMITT: These tools and all
19 of the manufacturers are pretty much the same.
20 They're a -- a new version, new generation of
21 lithium ion batteries, 24 volt.

22 We tore three cars completely apart
23 and never had to recharge a battery. They're
24 pretty -- pretty amazing.

25 The technology has gone into these

1 batteries.

2 They also have a battery, a current
3 20 volt adoptive battery that clips into where
4 the battery does clip in and it's got a hundred
5 foot of cord on it.

6 We have -- the only cord we have
7 that we can supply it off of a generator and keep
8 using it if we're into a very extended
9 extrication scenario.

10 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.

11 Are there questions?

12 (No response.)

13 DIRECTOR GANS: So you're recom-
14 mending a bid?

15 B. C. SCHMITT: Yeah. The bid from
16 Sentinel Equipment for the "Herst" tool is
17 \$28,835.51.

18 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.

19 B. C. SCHMITT: And these funds come
20 out of the loose equipment line item and we were
21 projecting \$30,000.00 for this -- these tools.

22 DIRECTOR GANS: All right.

23 I'll make a motion to accept the bid
24 from Sentinel Tool in the amount of \$28,835.51
25 for the "Herst" rescue tools to be used on 2254.

1 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Sec --
2 DIRECTOR GANS: (not clear)
3 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Second.
4 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay. Any dis-
5 cussion?
6 (No response.)
7 DIRECTOR GANS: All in favor?
8 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Aye.
9 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Aye.
10 DIRECTOR GANS: Aye.
11 Motion passes.
12 B. C. SCHMITT: Thank you very much.
13 DIRECTOR HARRIS: I'll look forward
14 -- and you don't need to respond, to hearing, a
15 year from now, how they're operating in the
16 field.
17 B. C. SCHMITT: Okay.
18 DIRECTOR GANS: Chief?
19 CHIEF SPIEGEL: Yes. The last item
20 I have is a request for proposal for landscape.
21 I gave you, Rick, the --
22 DIRECTOR GANS: Right. Okay. Can
23 you -- so I have the --
24 CHIEF SPIEGEL: -- definitions.
25 DIRECTOR GANS: I have the detail

1 here. Can you just maybe give us an overview of
2 what -- what you're thinking?

3 CHIEF SPIEGEL: Well, the -- the
4 mulch at House Four and here, at Headquarters,
5 there's a -- (one word not clear) maintenance
6 problem.

7 It's time consuming.

8 We're proposing to replace that
9 mulch and insert weed control barriers and a
10 decorative rock, in its place.

11 We've defined the bid to a -- to
12 encompass the front of Headquarters and a portion
13 of House Four, with an optional -- the left side
14 of Headquarters, if the -- if the bid comes in,
15 affordable to do that.

16 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay. And when you
17 talk House Four, you're talking about when you're
18 looking at it, the front, then the right side,
19 the front, White Road? That's the area?

20 CHIEF SPIEGEL: I have to -- I'll
21 have to get that detail.

22 DIRECTOR GANS: I know that --

23 CHIEF SPIEGEL: That picture of the
24 front is --

25 DIRECTOR GANS: We're -- we're --

1 CHIEF SPIEGEL: Fassler's got the
2 answer.

3 DIRECTOR HARRIS: A head nod?
4 Affirmative?

5 B. C. FASSLER: Battalion Chief
6 Fassler.

7 Yeah, we are planning for House
8 Four, just as you described, along White Road,
9 wrapping around to where the barbeque overhang
10 area is by the first Engine Bay there by 2247.

11 DIRECTOR GANS: Hm-hm.

12 B. C. FASSLER: So, basically, from
13 that corner, all the way around to the White Road
14 side to the front door where citizens come in,
15 right there.

16 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay. Thank you.

17 B. C. FASSLER: That's it.

18 DIRECTOR GANS: I will make a motion
19 to go out to bid -- to bid for landscaping work
20 as described for House -- House Four and
21 Headquarters, with an option of the left side of
22 Headquarters, with bids due back by four p.m., at
23 the latest, on Friday, June 1st.

24 Do I hear a second?

25 DIRECTOR MILLNER: I'll second that.

1 DIRECTOR GANS: Discussion?
2 (No response.)
3 DIRECTOR GANS: All in favor?
4 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Aye.
5 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Aye.
6 DIRECTOR GANS: Aye.
7 Motion passes.
8 We're going out to bid.
9 CHIEF SPIEGEL: That's all I have.
10 DIRECTOR GANS: All right. Thank
11 you.
12 Attorney's Report.
13 MISTER HOFFMAN: I do not have
14 anything for the Open Meeting tonight.
15 DIRECTOR GANS: All right.
16 New Business?
17 (No response.)
18 DIRECTOR GANS: Unfinished Business?
19 (No response.)
20 DIRECTOR GANS: Well, the Board has
21 not discussed this. Is there a need for a Closed
22 session tonight?
23 DIRECTOR HARRIS: I have a very
24 lengthy, I fear, topic for Closed and it -- it
25 can wait until the --

1 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.

2 DIRECTOR HARRIS: -- the next
3 scheduled Closed Meeting, --

4 DIRECTOR GANS: All right.

5 DIRECTOR HARRIS: -- because it
6 would be time consuming.

7 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay. And we have
8 a Closed Meeting coming up.

9 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Yeah.

10 DIRECTOR GANS: Anything you have?

11 (No oral response.)

12 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay. If no one
13 else has anything else, then I will make a motion
14 to adjourn.

15 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Second.

16 DIRECTOR GANS: All in favor?

17 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Aye.

18 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Aye.

19 DIRECTOR GANS: Aye.

20 Motion passes.

21 We are adjourned.

22 (Meeting adjourned at 7:24 P.M. Recorded
23 by the Monarch Fire Protection District and
24 transcribed to the best of my ability, by
25 Virginia L. Long.)