

MINUTES OF AN OPEN MEETING OF THE BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS OF THE MONARCH FIRE PROTECTION  
DISTRICT OF ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI,  
HELD ON MONDAY, JUNE 4, 2018

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DISTRICT OF ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI,  
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Chesterfield, Missouri

June 4, 2018

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 Monday, June 4, 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 Crew  
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

7:00 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  
that was posted?

(No response.)

DIRECTOR GANS: Anything to add, or,  
--

DIRECTOR HARRIS: I have none.

DIRECTOR MILLNER: I have none.

DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.

DIRECTOR HARRIS: I have none.

DIRECTOR GANS: Jean can you hear  
Robin?

DIRECTOR MILLNER: I can hear Robin.

DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.

DIRECTOR MILLNER: Hi, Robin.

1                   DIRECTOR HARRIS:       Well, good  
2 evening.

3                   DIRECTOR GANS: Okay. I think that's  
4 good.

5                   Moving on to Citizen Comments.

6                   Do we have any citizens in the  
7 audience who would like to speak, tonight?

8                   (No response.)

9                   DIRECTOR GANS: Seeing and hearing  
10 none, moving on to the President's Report.

11                   Tonight, we will be receiving the  
12 2017 Audit and I will ask the auditors to come to  
13 the podium and to present the audit to the Board.

14                   Highlights? We've done this many  
15 times before.

16                   Bob, if you would like to go ahead.

17                   MISTER OFFERMAN: I've got a couple  
18 of extra copies, too, if anybody needs a copy.

19                   DIRECTOR GANS: Is it any different  
20 than what was sent to us by Michelle?

21                   MISTER OFFERMAN: No.

22                   DIRECTOR GANS: Okay. I have a  
23 copy, electronic.

24                   MISTER OFFERMAN: Do you have a copy,  
25 Matt, or, --

1 MISTER HOFFMAN: I will take one, if  
2 you don't mind.

3

4 DIRECTOR GANS: Any --

5 DIRECTOR OFFERMAN: Yes.

6 DIRECTOR GANS: And I'll remind you  
7 that the court reporter had asked you to state  
8 your name. Address of the firm is fine.

9 DIRECTOR HARRIS: I got 'em.

10 MISTER OFFERMAN: Okay. Yeah.

11 So, my name is Robert Offerman. I'm  
12 a CPA with Hochschild, Bloom & Company.

13 MISTER PURSLEY: I'm Jim Pursley,  
14 auditor, partner.

15 (Loud audio interruption.)

16 MISTER OFFERMAN: Good evening,  
17 everyone.

18 We're going to go over the draft of  
19 the -- the District's financial statements for  
20 2017.

21 (Loud audio interruption.)

22 DIRECTOR GANS: All right. We're  
23 having some feedback from Robin's phone.

24 (Referring to noises.)

25 MISTER OFFERMAN: Okay.

1 ASSISTANT CHIEF CREWS: He's tried  
2 to dial in twice.

3 DIRECTOR GANS: Go ahead.

4 MISTER OFFERMAN: Okay. So, the  
5 first thing you need in the audited financial  
6 statements --

7 DIRECTOR HARRIS: (inaudible)

8 DIRECTOR GANS: Hold on one sec.

9 DIRECTOR HARRIS: I'm working on it.

10 (Referring to audio feedback.)

11 ASSISTANT CHIEF CREWS: (inaudible)

12 DIRECTOR GANS: (inaudible)

13 ASSISTANT CHIEF CREWS: (inaudible)

14 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.

15 ASSISTANT CHIEF CREWS: Hey, Robin?

16 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Yes? (Inaudible)

17 ASSISTANT CHIEF CREWS: I'll send  
18 you the program to call --

19 DIRECTOR GANS: Robin, I'll have to  
20 meet you.

21 Go ahead, Bob.

22 MISTER OFFERMAN: Okay. The first  
23 thing in the draft report is our independent  
24 opinion audit report.

25 And on page two, about a third of

1 the way down, is our opinion paragraph.

2 It says that the District's  
3 financial statements are prepared in accordance  
4 with U.S. generally accepted accounting  
5 principles.

6 This is what's referred to an  
7 unmodified opinion, that you're preparing -- your  
8 financial statements are prepared in accordance  
9 with G.A.A.P.

10 Behind that is the management  
11 discussion and analysis and if you turn over to  
12 page five --

13 Page five has a snapshot of your  
14 government wide financial statements.

15 The government wide financial  
16 statements presents the District's assets and  
17 liabilities on an accrual bases of accounting.

18 And this is a snapshot of your  
19 government wide financial statements.

20 So, you see your assets went from  
21 36.3 million to 37.2 million, so your -- your  
22 assets were up 867,000, or a 2.4 percent increase  
23 in the District's assets.

24 At the same time, the liabilities  
25 went down from 4. -- about 4.3 to 3.7 million



1 dollars, so your liabilities were down  
2 \$572,000.00, or 13 percent.

3 So your assets were up, your  
4 liabilities were down.

5 Your assets, if it's current in  
6 other assets went up a million dollars and the  
7 capital assets were down 179,000.

8 That's because -- there wasn't a lot  
9 of capital assets bought during the year; a  
10 little under a million dollars of new additions.

11 There was about a million-one of  
12 depreciation taken on the capital assets, but  
13 it's all historical costs minus depreciation.

14 So, your liability has a million  
15 dollars in current liabilities and 2.7 million  
16 dollars in long-term liabilities.

17 The long-term liabilities are some  
18 capital leases and compensated absences.

19 But, you see your net position then  
20 went up 1.4 million dollars from 32.1 million to  
21 33.5 million dollars.

22 About 28 percent of your net  
23 position is invested in capital assets. That's  
24 the 9.3 million dollars.

25 The restricted is restricted for

1 pensions. That's about two million dollars, or  
2 six percent of your net position.

3 And your unrestricted is 22.3  
4 million and that's 66 percent of your net  
5 position.

6 So, on the next page six, where did  
7 that million and a half increase in your net  
8 position come from?

9 The revenues at the top -- the  
10 revenues were up 1.8 million dollars. It went  
11 from 20.5 to 22.4.

12 The biggest changes in your revenues  
13 was the ambulance billing.

14 Now that the District, starting in  
15 June One, of 2017, based on a -- a residents'  
16 insurance, the District charges ambulance fees to  
17 the residents.

18 So, the charges for services were up  
19 about 1.2 million dollars.

20 That wasn't all ambulance billings.

21 That was about \$800,000.00 in  
22 increased ambulance billings and \$400,000.00 of  
23 permits. An increase in permits.

24 DIRECTOR GANS: You just answered my  
25 only question, before I asked it.

1 MISTER OFFERMAN: (Loud static  
2 drowned out response.)

3 DIRECTOR GANS: No, I know. I know  
4 why it went up. I just wondered where it was --

5 MISTER OFFERMAN: Okay.

6 DIRECTOR GANS: -- and I figured it  
7 was in there and that's what I wanted to confirm.

8 MISTER OFFERMAN: Yeah. So those  
9 ambulance billings, or the increased ambulance  
10 billings are running about \$112,000.00 a month.

11 And, so, you only billed seven  
12 months.

13 Next year, you'll probably have  
14 around another 550, 560 thousand of additional  
15 revenues, with the additional EMS billings.

16 And so you now have -- you know,  
17 most of the District's revenues come from the  
18 taxes. The taxes were 20 million compared to 19  
19 and a half million.

20 They were up 661,000. It was --  
21 2017 is an odd-numbered year, so it's a re-  
22 assessment year.

23 The reassessment pushed up the  
24 assessed valuation of the property in the  
25 District by about seven and point-six percent to

1 just about 2.5 billion dollars assessed value of  
2 property in the District.

3 And then the other revenues,  
4 investment income, other income -- capital  
5 assets, is less than one percent.

6 Anyway, your -- your 22.4 million  
7 dollars of revenues, and these are on accrual  
8 bases.

9 And your expenses were 20,900,000,  
10 so you can see your expenses were actually down  
11 six bases points, a \$131,000.00 dollar drop in  
12 your expenses.

13 Your revenues were up.

14 Expenses were down.

15 This fiscal year your had a surplus  
16 of 1.4 million.

17 The prior year you had had a deficit  
18 of 520 -- 544,000, so your fund balance then went  
19 up four and a half percent, from the 32.1 to a  
20 33.5 million dollar fund balance.

21 And, basically, the -- 95 percent of  
22 what the District spends is on public safety and  
23 five percent is on dispatching.

24 So that's your government-wide  
25 statements.

1                   So if you look -- turn over to page  
2 12. Page 12 is your -- your governmental funds.

3                   So, governmental funds are modified  
4 accrual. Available resources.

5                   This is how your -- how you do your  
6 budgeting.

7                   So the governmental funds financial  
8 statements, you have assets of twenty-six-point-  
9 nine million dollars, which is about, probably,  
10 ten million dollars less than you had on the  
11 government wide, because if you -- here, if you  
12 buy a new pumper, or an ambulance then it get's  
13 (one word not clear due to static) when you buy  
14 it.

15                   It's sort of how you run your check  
16 book.

17                   So, the general fund had 16.6  
18 million dollars of assets.

19                   The ambulance fund, seven and a  
20 half.

21                   Dispatching, 600,000.

22                   And the pension revenue is like a  
23 conduit. That's just the collecting of the levy  
24 that gets used for the staff's pension benefits.

25                   DIRECTOR GANS: So, you -- you just

1 mixed those two together.

2 MISTER OFFERMAN: Okay.

3 DIRECTOR GANS: The same is true for  
4 each of them.

5 MISTER OFFERMAN: Well, each of them  
6 have their own distinct tax levy. Correct.

7 DIRECTOR GANS: And, but, it's a  
8 collect and -- and remit.

9 MISTER OFFERMAN: Yeah.

10 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.

11 MISTER OFFERMAN: Yeah.

12 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.

13 MISTER OFFERMAN: Good point.

14 So, liabilities, if you -- you don't  
15 have a lot. The District doesn't have a lot of  
16 liabilities, here, because the long-term  
17 liabilities don't -- it's just only the current  
18 liabilities, 1.1 million dollars in liabilities.

19 And then from a governmental tiny  
20 perspective, 4.3 million dollars of your revenue  
21 gets deferred.

22 Because any revenues that don't get  
23 collected in the first 60 days of the current  
24 fiscal year, 2018, get deferred and brought into  
25 income in -- in 2018.

1                   So, at the bottom, it shows your  
2 fund balances.

3                   The general fund had a 14 million  
4 dollar fund balance.

5                   The ambulance, 5.8.

6                   Dispatching is -- is just a break-  
7 even and then the -- the pension revenue had a  
8 one-half million dollar fund balance.

9                   The way that I look at it is on the  
10 general fund, you have unassigned fund balance,  
11 the 4.7 million dollars, which is actually about  
12 5.6 months.

13                   You got a -- the District has a 5.6  
14 month reserve for contingencies.

15                   And, actually, that's an improve-  
16 ment, because in 2017 that was 4.6.

17                   So, it's at about a one month  
18 increase in the available fund balance.

19                   On page 13 is a reconciliation  
20 between the fund -- the fund balance shown on the  
21 governmental funds and the fund balance shown on  
22 your government-wide statement.

23                   And it's basically your capital  
24 assets, the -- the deferred revenues of 4.3  
25 million dollars and your long-term liabilities of

1 2.7 million dollars.

2 So that's the reconciliation between  
3 those two bases of accounting.

4 And on page 14, here are the  
5 activities for the funds for the year.

6 And, you can see, about two-thirds  
7 of the way down, all the way to the right, total,  
8 you had a \$524,000.00 surplus in your fund.

9 So, it's about, just about 2.4  
10 percent of your revenues and about -- the fund  
11 balance went up about two -- 2.5.

12 Because you started with 20 million  
13 -nine-twenty-two and ended up with 20 million-  
14 four-forty-six.

15 So the general fund had a surplus of  
16 five-sixty-eight.

17 The ambulance had a deficit of  
18 seventy -- of 94,000, but that will probably be  
19 made up in 2018, when we have additional  
20 ambulance billings.

21 The pension revenue fund had a  
22 surplus of \$49,000.00.

23 So, that's the -- the basic state-  
24 ments.

25 Otherwise, -- Jim will go through



1 the VEBA and the -- the footnotes and he'll talk  
2 a little bit about the audit process.

3 (Static continues throughout recording.)

4 MISTER PURSLEY: As part of the  
5 audit department, here, back in March, we were  
6 here about four days, working with the staff.  
7 Michelle and -- and the chief.

8 And if anybody's entering an audit,  
9 you know it's just a lot of questions that the  
10 auditors come and -- and knock on your door and  
11 ask you a lot of questions, that usually they  
12 just want you to leave.

13 But, it's part of the process.

14 We -- we -- we hammer through the  
15 numbers and the audit process is a lot more than  
16 just going through the numbers.

17 I mean, we -- we do ask about  
18 policies and procedures and make sure there's  
19 approvals for disbursements and make sure all of  
20 the money is accounted for.

21 For example, your -- your biggest  
22 expenditure is the payroll.

23 So, I mean, we really check the  
24 payroll.

25 And there's other risk areas that we

1 look at that, you know, that could be susceptible  
2 to fraud or abuse.

3 So, we look at the credit cards, the  
4 fuel, petty cash. There's just a lot of little  
5 things that, obviously, we can't -- we're not --  
6 we're not -- our process isn't designed to find  
7 fraud, but, none came to our attention.

8 We ask -- we ask, blatantly, is  
9 there fraud? We, you know, we check around. We  
10 test a lot of balances.

11 We look at a lot of receipts, a lot  
12 of disbursements and in no case we found any  
13 problems.

14 And, you know, as a matter of fact,  
15 there's a -- there's a separate reporting here  
16 that -- that says we did not find any material  
17 weaknesses, or significant deficiencies. So  
18 that's something to be proud of.

19 You had a clean opinion.

20 I always like to say, that the  
21 highest opinion from a CPA firm is the unmodified  
22 opinion. That's what the -- the District is  
23 getting, this year.

24 It's our second year of the audit,  
25 this year, so we've kind of developed a pretty

1 good report' with Michelle and with the chief.

2 And I -- I could really see the  
3 chief's determination to make sure everything is  
4 right.

5 And -- and -- and that's -- it's --  
6 it's a lot of little stuff. It's a lot of paper  
7 trail and making sure the I's are dotted and the  
8 T's are crossed and I could really see that the  
9 management is -- is really looking after that  
10 kind of thing.

11 As far -- as far as the VEBA, the  
12 only thing is that your -- your -- your welfare  
13 benefit trust has a lot of investments in it.  
14 It's got a lot of unusual, I would say, unusual,  
15 because we don't see these type of -- these VEBA  
16 trust funds.

17 There's a lot of -- there's a lot of  
18 different benefits in there and we've worked with  
19 the actuaries and we worked with Michelle.

20 And I think we had to make a little  
21 adjustment on the -- on the budget, through the  
22 Pension Committee, for that.

23 And then it's our understanding that  
24 that -- that's gonna -- that benefits gonna  
25 change a little bit, in the future, as far as the

1 long-term disability being fully insured, instead  
2 of covered by a self-insurance fund.

3 So, we -- we plan to look into that  
4 a little bit more for next year's audit.

5 It's not supposed to be effective  
6 until the 2019 fiscal year.

7 DIRECTOR GANS: Question. You said,  
8 the VEBA investments are unusual. You mean,  
9 having a VEBA is unusual, or the investments --

10 MISTER PURSLEY: It's a little bit of  
11 both. Yeah.

12 There's some alternative investments  
13 and it's a -- it's not -- it's not a typical  
14 program. We don't see it too often.

15 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.

16 MISTER PURSLEY: The way you audit  
17 that is, it's a little bit -- I don't want to  
18 say uncomfortable, but it's just unusual.

19 It's different.

20 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.

21 MISTER PURSLEY: We didn't -- we  
22 didn't have any problems. We -- we'd actually  
23 spoken to the investment advisor and the actuary  
24 and -- and think we under -- have a pretty good  
25 understanding of how it works. So, --

1 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.

2 MISTER OFFERMAN: We did -- we did  
3 have (inaudible due to not being by the  
4 microphone)

5 MISTER PURSLEY: Hm-hm.

6 MISTER OFFERMAN: (inaudible)

7 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.

8 MISTER PURSLEY: Does anyone have  
9 any questions on the audit?

10 It's got a -- a lot of numbers, a  
11 lot of -- a lot of things to go through, but --

12 DIRECTOR GANS: They didn't like the  
13 audit, apparently.

14 (General laughter.)

15 DIRECTOR MILLNER: (inaudible)

16 (Continued static on recording.)

17 DIRECTOR GANS: So, as far as  
18 questions, I'm usually the one with the  
19 questions.

20 And, I have to tell you, the only  
21 one I had, I told you, you already answered,  
22 which I figured was the answer. I just wanted to  
23 make sure, because, as you pointed out.

24 And that's what was the "ah-ha"  
25 moment for me.

1                   It was a partial year of the  
2 ambulance billing.

3                   Because, the number seemed like what  
4 it should be with a four year of the ambulance  
5 billing, but it was the -- also the building  
6 permits.

7                   MISTER OFFERMAN: Hm-hm.

8                   DIRECTOR GANS: Which should've been  
9 in there. So, -- but that made sense.

10                  So that was all I had.

11                  Let me turn Robin's volume up here.

12                  Robin, did you have any questions?

13                  DIRECTOR HARRIS: I did not. Thank  
14 you.

15                  DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.

16                  Jean?

17                  DIRECTOR MILLNER: I have no  
18 questions. Thank you.

19                  DIRECTOR GANS: Anyone else?

20                  CHIEF SPIEGEL: I have one.

21                  DIRECTOR GANS: Okay. Please.

22                  CHIEF SPIEGEL: Bob, you had  
23 mentioned that the ambulance billing was assigned  
24 to the ambulance fund.

25                  When we did billing, you said that

1 there was -- there was not dedicated money that  
2 could be spent, other than ambulance expenses.

3 If I understood --

4 (Speaking over each other)

5 MISTER OFFERMAN: (not clear) a  
6 memo, I think. Is that right?

7 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Yes, sir, you did.

8 MISTER OFFERMAN: And your --  
9 probably on the end of the year.

10 So, the question is, is that money  
11 restricted out --

12 (Speaking over each other.)

13 CHIEF SPIEGEL: You -- you assigned  
14 it to the ambulance fund.

15 MISTER OFFERMAN: Yes. Right. But  
16 I don't think it's (not clear due to static) --

17 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Okay. So  
18 restricted -- (not understandable due to static  
19 and speaking over each other.)

20 MISTER OFFERMAN: (not  
21 understandable due to static and speaking over  
22 each other.) -- legislation, I think that the  
23 records (static) move that money (static) if you  
24 so desire.

25 It's not -- don't -- it's not like

1 the tax levy that (severe static) --

2 DIRECTOR HARRIS: I believe that's  
3 how that memo reads. Okay.

4 MS. DEPEW: I believe that is (not  
5 clear).

6 I think we were surprised to not  
7 find the ambulance billing in unassigned as  
8 opposed to committed, but I think (static) --

9 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Thank you.

10 MISTER OFFERMAN: It would be kind  
11 of hard to track those revenues, because you have  
12 the tax levy coming in and you've got the  
13 ambulance --

14 MS. DEPEW: Right.

15 MISTER OFFERMAN: -- billing coming  
16 in. I think it's (not clear) but I think it's  
17 something, you know, if -- if you had something  
18 that the District (not clear) that that money  
19 should be spent on, I think (static) --

20 DIRECTOR HARRIS: I think the term  
21 was "unrestricted." (Not clear due to static) --  
22 my comfort level.

23 (General chuckles.)

24 DIRECTOR HARRIS: That's all I have.

25 DIRECTOR GANS: All right. Thanks.



1 Well, then, thank you very much and  
2 we'll look forward to your report, next year, as  
3 well.

4 MISTER OFFERMAN: Yeah, we want to  
5 thank the District. If questions come up during  
6 the year from Michelle, or the Directors, you  
7 know, (inaudible) we don't charge you for  
8 questions, so (inaudible).

9 DIRECTOR GANS: All right. Great.  
10 Thank you very much.

11 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Thank you.

12 DIRECTOR GANS: I'm actually going  
13 to put Robin's microphone back on.

14 DIRECTOR MILLNER: (not clear)

15 DIRECTOR GANS: And put him back in  
16 his position. Hopefully, not (not clear).

17 All right. Let me get back on my  
18 agenda here. I'll put Robin's mic back on.

19 That concludes the President's  
20 Report.

21 On to the Secretary's Report.

22 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Thank you.

23 Tonight we have several sets of  
24 Meeting Minutes that are in need of approval.

25 Are you able to hear me?

1 DIRECTOR HARRIS: I -- I can hear  
2 you.

3 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Thanks, Robin.  
4 Virginia, can you hear me now?

5 THE REPORTER: I do.

6 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Okay. Great.

7 I move for the approval of the Open  
8 Meeting Minutes from May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018; May 17, 2018  
9 and May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

10 DIRECTOR GANS: I will second the  
11 motion.

12 Any discussion?

13 (No response.)

14 DIRECTOR GANS: All in favor?

15 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Aye.

16 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Aye.

17 DIRECTOR GANS: Aye.

18 Motion passes three to nothing.

19 DIRECTOR MILLNER: I would also move  
20 for the approval of the Closed Meeting Minutes  
21 for the dates of May 17, 2018 and May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

22 DIRECTOR GANS: Second.

23 Any discussion?

24 (No response.)

25 DIRECTOR GANS: All in favor?

1 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Aye.  
2 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Aye.  
3 DIRECTOR GANS: Aye.  
4 Motion passes three to nothing.  
5 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Thank you.  
6 We have some bids, this evening.  
7 We have concrete bids and we, also,  
8 have landscape rock.  
9 We're going to do concrete bids,  
10 first.  
11 DIRECTOR GANS: What kind of  
12 concretes are these?  
13 (No oral response.)  
14 DIRECTOR GANS: Oh, oh, that kind.  
15 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Ted Drews. Ted  
16 Drews.  
17 DIRECTOR GANS: All right.  
18 DIRECTOR MILLNER: We can eat.  
19 (General chuckles.)  
20 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Accepted.  
21 Okay. So, I have two bids for the  
22 concrete work.  
23 You'll have to tell me where this  
24 is, Chief. Where does this concrete work go?  
25 CHIEF SPIEGEL: Most of the work is

1 at House One.

2 DIRECTOR MILLNER: House One. Okay.  
3 Chief, were the bids received sealed  
4 and on time?

5 CHIEF SPIEGEL: Yes, ma'am, they  
6 were.

7 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Thank you.  
8 All right, the first bid is from L.  
9 Keeley. K-E-E-L-E-Y.

10 It is in two separate envelopes.  
11 I'll be opening both of those before  
12 we move on.

13 (Pause to open bids)

14 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Okay, the first  
15 quote is for House One for the removal and  
16 replacement of 2,448 square feet, to plan spec's.

17 The total, for that, is \$34,820.00.

18 The second quote, also for House  
19 One, is for the removal and replacement of 585  
20 square feet, to plan spec's.

21 The total, for that, is \$5,800.00.

22 (Pause to open bids)

23 DIRECTOR MILLNER: This bid is from  
24 E, period, Meier, spelled M, as in Michael, E-I-  
25 E-R, Contracting.

1                   This bid is to remove and replace  
2 approximately 2,251 square feet of concrete slab.

3                   I won't bore you with all of the  
4 details.

5                   The bid is \$25,850.00.

6                   I'm moving on to the landscape rock  
7 bids.

8                   (Pause to open bids.)

9                   DIRECTOR MILLNER: This bid is from  
10 Baxter Gardens.

11                   B-A-X-T-E-R.

12                   Okay, there are two sites being bid  
13 on.

14                   Oh, I see.

15                   The first job site is House number  
16 Four and this includes removing mulch, weed  
17 barrier -- adding weed barriers, aluminum edging  
18 and labor.

19                   The total of this bid is \$4,382.81.

20                   I'm sorry. Hold on.

21                   I'm going to go back and look at  
22 that again. I've got a contract total here.

23                   (Pause to recheck bid.)

24                   DIRECTOR MILLNER: Okay. New total.

25                   From Baxter Gardens, the total will

1 be \$8,678.96.

2 DIRECTOR GANS: And that is for House  
3 Four?

4 DIRECTOR MILLNER: That's correct.

5 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.

6 DIRECTOR MILLNER: The second bid is  
7 for Headquarters.

8 That, also, includes removing  
9 existing mulch, adding black aluminum edging,  
10 plastic weed barriers and labor.

11 The total of this bid is \$9,301.98.

12 I am a little confused with this  
13 one, because this total is so different.

14 Do you -- do you have any comment on  
15 it?

16 CHIEF SPIEGEL: I'm suggesting that  
17 somebody review the bid with the spec's.

18 If that is the total, --

19 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Hm-hm.

20 CHIEF SPIEGEL: -- that needs to be  
21 identified.

22 Okay. Is there a second, or a  
23 something more? Are there more bids on this  
24 rock?

25 CHIEF SPIEGEL: Just the one bid.

1 DIRECTOR MILLNER: No.

2 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.

3 DIRECTOR MILLNER: One of them is  
4 just written in such a way that the total doesn't  
5 appear to -- to be accurate, but, --

6 That is all I have.

7 DIRECTOR GANS: So you'd like them  
8 to go back and review the bids?

9 DIRECTOR MILLNER: I'm going to  
10 change my (one word not clear.)

11 Okay, Chief, I am instructing you  
12 and the committee to review the bids and return  
13 a recommendation to the Board of Directors.

14 CHIEF SPIEGEL: Yes, ma'am.

15 DIRECTOR GANS: And is that going to  
16 conclude your report?

17 DIRECTOR MILLNER: That concludes  
18 the Secretary's Report.

19 DIRECTOR GANS: All right. I'm not  
20 going to assign you the Treasurer's Report  
21 tonight.

22 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Thank you.

23 DIRECTOR GANS: You're getting off  
24 the hook. I was going to, but now I'm not.

25 Robin, would you like for me to do

1 the Sec -- the Treasurer's Report?

2 DIRECTOR HARRIS: I would greatly  
3 appreciate that, if you would.

4 DIRECTOR GANS: All right. We have  
5 disbursements, tonight, in the amount of  
6 \$85,645.62 for the period.

7 There are four checks over the  
8 amount of \$5,000.00, which include check number  
9 41290 to Montgomery Bank; credit card payment and  
10 various expenses, in the amount of \$9,728.11.

11 Check number 41286 to Mediclaims,  
12 Inc., for \$7,019.31, which are the fees to  
13 collect the ambulance billing.

14 Check number 41266 to Energy  
15 Petroleum, in the amount of \$5,534.22, for fuel.

16 And, finally, check number 41326 to  
17 Welsh Heating in the amount of \$6,166.00, which  
18 is for HV/AC, a new heating and cooling system  
19 installed at -- I'm fumbling through, looking for  
20 where this is.

21 This is for where?

22 CHIEF SPIEGEL: House Four.

23 DIRECTOR GANS: Four?

24 CHIEF SPIEGEL: House Four, yeah.

25 DIRECTOR GANS: This is for House



1 Four. A new HV/AC system.

2 Are there any questions about the  
3 checks that anyone has?

4 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Other than those  
5 you've already answered, just one quick one on  
6 the HV/AC system.

7 I believe that was budgeted for?

8 DIRECTOR GANS: Could you hear his  
9 --

10 CHIEF SPIEGEL: Yes, it was.

11 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.

12 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Thank you. That  
13 was the only question I needed addressed that has  
14 not been.

15 DIRECTOR GANS: All right. And he's  
16 referring to the email that included a number of  
17 checks.

18 Sometimes, there's a few.

19 Sometimes, there's a lot.

20 This was a lot.

21 And the answers that I received to  
22 the email that I had with the questions, I have  
23 to tell you, I was only able to scan them.

24 I may have additional questions, but  
25 I'm satisfied enough to be able to pay the bills.

1                   Is there's anything you would like  
2                   to add to anything that was in -- you look like  
3                   you -- maybe you were expecting other questions.  
4                   No?

5                   CHIEF SPIEGEL:    No.

6                   DIRECTOR GANS:    Okay.

7                   CHIEF SPIEGEL:    Just the -- the one  
8                   check where you question the bid was with  
9                   "Halbert" for that very reason.

10                  DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.    So I caught  
11                  that one.

12                  CHIEF SPIEGEL:    Yes.

13                  DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.    So.

14                  And just for those who aren't  
15                  familiar with the process, we used to ask  
16                  questions about checks during the meeting, but we  
17                  changed our process a year ago.

18                  The very same auditors who were here  
19                  gave us the impression that they would rather  
20                  have us asking the questions in writing, rather  
21                  than during the meeting, so those are asked in  
22                  writing.

23                  They're not a secret.

24                  They are copied to the public file.  
25                  They are available for the public to view, upon

1 request. No charge.

2 And they contain the questions and  
3 the answers from the staff.

4 We had several vehicles towed, for  
5 example, during the past -- since the last check  
6 run and there were questions about those vehicles  
7 and the answers were reasonable and quite a few  
8 questions about the charges on the credit card.

9 We bought a dishwasher and then we  
10 bought another dishwasher, but we returned one  
11 dishwasher, so even though I'm not supposed to  
12 discuss this in the meeting, I am anyway, just to  
13 give a flavor of -- of what kind of questions.

14 The -- the Board is reviewing these  
15 checks and is either aware of what the answers  
16 are, of what we're buying, or what we're having  
17 service done on for, we ask the questions.

18 So, there were a number, this time.

19 If there are no other questions, --  
20 I'll have to get myself back up. One second.

21 In reviewing these disbursements,  
22 they appear to be reasonable and necessary in the  
23 conduct of the District's business.

24 Chief Spiegel, were these checks  
25 prepared per your recommendation?

1 CHIEF SPIEGEL: Yes, they were.

2 DIRECTOR GANS: Do they violate any  
3 state bidding statutes, or constitute installment  
4 payments?

5 CHIEF SPIEGEL: None that I'm aware  
6 of.

7 DIRECTOR GANS: I will make a motion  
8 that we accept the disbursements as prepared.

9 DIRECTOR MILLNER: I will second  
10 your motion.

11 DIRECTOR GANS: All right.  
12 Any discussion?

13 (No response.)

14 DIRECTOR GANS: All in favor?

15 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Aye.

16 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Aye.

17 DIRECTOR GANS: Aye.

18 Motion passes three to nothing.

19 And, unless Robin has anything else,  
20 that will conclude the Treasurer's Report.

21 DIRECTOR HARRIS: I'll reserve any  
22 additional comments, so, thank you.

23 DIRECTOR GANS: Good. So, we'll  
24 move on to the Chief's Report.

25 Chief?

1 CHIEF SPIEGEL: Yes, sir.

2 The only thing I have on the agenda  
3 is the Apparatus Committee is here to make a  
4 recommendation for the 2019 rescue pumper.

5 Chief Schmitt's available to make  
6 that recommendation.

7 B. C. SCHMITT: Dave Schmitt,  
8 battalion chief.

9 We reviewed the bids submitted last  
10 month and what you're holding is our synopsis and  
11 report on that.

12 Just to review, the bids were from  
13 Pierce for 732,845 --

14 Rosenbauer, 619,123.

15 And Smeal Fire Apparatus for  
16 \$545,200.

17 We spent the month reviewing those  
18 bids, extensively.

19 Since there was such a disparity in  
20 those numbers, we wanted to insure that  
21 everything was correct and the -- the low bid and  
22 the specification were met almost completely with  
23 some very minor issues.

24 Color, here. Something, there. You  
25 know. Not -- it's all still red. It doesn't

1 change.

2 (General laughter.)

3 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Since you men-  
4 tioned the color --

5 DIRECTOR GANS: Did you think we  
6 were going to talk about the color of the truck?

7 B. C. SCHMITT: I had a sneaky  
8 suspicion that may come up during some of the  
9 questions.

10 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay. Keep going.  
11 It probably will.

12 B. C. SCHMITT: So, the truck  
13 committee reviewed those proposals and they are  
14 making the recommendation with the adem --  
15 addendums, below.

16 The bid price was 545,200.

17 We're asking for an additional  
18 \$2200.00 for the trips.

19 What we have is in the bid package  
20 is three trips to the factory for -- for three  
21 members.

22 We discussed it before hand because  
23 we've had some additional members come on the  
24 committee and we wanted to increase that to four  
25 people per trip.

1           And I failed to add that to the  
2 specification before they went out to bid.

3           So, basically, it's one person trip  
4 for a total of 2200 additional to the bid.

5           Some information, on that, if you  
6 are interested, is that a trip to the factory is  
7 the premier opportunity to learn, from start to  
8 finish, the apparatus process.

9           And we've gotten new members on the  
10 committee and to increase their education,  
11 background, their knowledge, so that we can make  
12 more informed decisions in the future.

13           It's a -- we don't buy a truck every  
14 week, so there are few and far between  
15 opportunities to visit.

16           So, that's why, on that part of it.

17           DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.

18           B. C. SCHMITT: The next item was  
19 the apparatus update contingency.

20           This follows the same plan we did  
21 with the current truck that we're taking delivery  
22 on at the end of this month.

23           On that contract, last year, you --  
24 you requested and you authorized up to \$5,000.00  
25 more over the bid price, in case there's

1 something that we find, because we won't receive  
2 this truck for a year, so it -- updates in  
3 technology and equipment that happens throughout  
4 the year.

5 But, if we see we can possibly  
6 pursue that would increase the performance or  
7 enhance the truck in some significant way.

8 This truck that we're waiting for,  
9 we're picking up the 2254 truck, we did not use  
10 any of that \$5,000.00 contingency.

11 When we went there for the pre-  
12 construction, the first visit, we were able to  
13 make some changes to the truck and add some stuff  
14 that were zero cost impact.

15 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.

16 B. C. SCHMITT: So, this is just  
17 hedging our bet by one percent. Alrighty?

18 The other thing is the -- the  
19 District can save some money if they do a chassis  
20 pre-pay.

21 The chassis pre-pay will happen  
22 about four months prior to delivery of the truck  
23 and that discount is \$6600.00 with a payment of  
24 \$222,000.00.

25 I talked to Michelle, we ran the



1 numbers, that's about a 2.98 percent savings.

2 And with the four month delivery  
3 time, that increases -- that beats our investment  
4 return significantly.

5 So, we will recommend that, and that  
6 payment will come around March of next year.

7 DIRECTOR GANS: And they don't have  
8 to know that now.

9 B. C. SCHMITT: No, they do not.

10 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.

11 B. C. SCHMITT: No. That is totally  
12 up to us, for your approval, --

13 DIRECTOR GANS: All right.

14 B. C. SCHMITT: -- next year, in  
15 the budget process.

16 DIRECTOR GANS: All right.

17 B. C. SCHMITT: Hm-hm. As things  
18 proceed.

19 So, that's the -- what we're  
20 requesting is the maximum District incumbrance of  
21 the 552,400, is what we're asking for approval of  
22 this time.

23 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay. We'll open it  
24 up to questions.

25 I'm going to start with a question

1 about the trucks that we have now that are  
2 Smeals.

3 B. C. SCHMITT: Yes. We have one,  
4 currently, in service, the 2015, 2224 and then we  
5 have the 2018 that will be delivered at the end  
6 of this month, probably go in service sometime  
7 around August.

8 DIRECTOR GANS: Hm-hm.

9 B. C. SCHMITT: And then this truck  
10 will be -- it's a 390 day delivery schedule, so  
11 we're expecting it, depending upon we -- when we  
12 get the contract signed and all that paperwork  
13 done here, mid-June.

14 So, mid-July of next year would be  
15 the 390 delivery.

16 DIRECTOR GANS: And, I -- without  
17 looking, and I can, I believe there was a repair  
18 on 2224, but that may've been the windshield.

19 B. C. SCHMITT: Yes. There was a  
20 windshield damage, yes.

21 DIRECTOR GANS: And that was not --  
22 so, that was acci -- there was an accidental  
23 damage in maintenance.

24 B. C. SCHMITT: Yes. Hm-hm.

25 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay. So that

1 doesn't count.

2                   How about -- how has the truck been,  
3 otherwise?

4                   B. C. SCHMITT: Very good. There's  
5 been very minimal -- very few problems with it.

6                   There's been a couple of little  
7 warranty issues, which is not surprising with  
8 anything.

9                   But, the guys that operate it and  
10 the way it's held up, the maintenance division is  
11 very pleased with it.

12                   DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.

13                   B. C. SCHMITT: Which is also one of  
14 the deciding factors.

15                   DIRECTOR GANS: About room in the  
16 cab? I know that was an issue a long time ago.

17                   B. C. SCHMITT: Actually, we've had,  
18 to my recollection, zero complaints about cab  
19 sizing on that truck.

20                   DIRECTOR GANS: Okay. And as far as  
21 performance on the scene, pumps and --

22                   B. C. SCHMITT: Yeah, it's -- there  
23 -- a lot of what these trucks have, do share a  
24 lot of common parts. Waterless pumps. "Hapen"  
25 valves.

1           The governors on some of those are  
2 all made by -- most of them are made by the same  
3 company.

4

5           DIRECTOR GANS: Hm-hm.

6           B. C. SCHMITT: So there's a lot of  
7 inter-changeability of parts and availability and  
8 time tested equipment, so we've had very good  
9 luck with it.

10           DIRECTOR GANS: And of our  
11 neighbors, our mutual aid departments, are Smeals  
12 preferred in a -- in a department near us?

13           B. C. SCHMITT: Metro West has had  
14 a couple of Smeals. They've had good luck with  
15 them.

16           There's not a lot of these. There's  
17 a few of them -- I can't (not clear).

18           There's a couple of 'em up in North  
19 County. Ferguson has Smeal.

20           CHIEF SPIEGEL: Didn't the city  
21 purchase several?

22           B. C. SCHMITT: Yeah. The City of  
23 St. Louis just received ten trucks.

24           DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.

25           B. C. SCHMITT: This year.

1                   And that was part of our research  
2 that we did was we visited down there, --

3                   DIRECTOR GANS: Hm-hm.

4                   B. C. SCHMITT:     -- and saw the  
5 condition of those apparatus with the wear and  
6 tear on them and we were very pleased with the  
7 longevity.

8                   DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.

9                   Anyone else? Questions?

10                  (No oral response.)

11                  DIRECTOR GANS: Jean has none.

12                  Robin, do you have any?

13                  DIRECTOR HARRIS: I do not.

14                  DIRECTOR GANS: All right.

15                  Now for the big question.

16                  (General chuckles.)

17                  DIRECTOR GANS: We have plenty of  
18 time for dealing with this, but we expect this  
19 truck to be what color?

20                  B. C. SCHMITT: All red.

21                  DIRECTOR GANS: Like the current  
22 2224?

23                  B. C. SCHMITT: Like the current  
24 2224 and the ambulances are going to all red and  
25 we're changing our motif, if you will.

1 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.

2 B. C. SCHMITT: For lack of a better  
3 term, --

4 DIRECTOR GANS: Hm-hm.

5 B. C. SCHMITT: -- to a -- you  
6 know, you've -- Metro West is yellow trucks.

7 The West County are blue over red.  
8 It's kind of an identifier. Built some (not  
9 clear) type stuff.

10 DIRECTOR GANS: Right. Will -- will  
11 we be able to tell, when we see this truck, that  
12 it's a Monarch truck?

13 B. C. SCHMITT: Absolutely.

14 DIRECTOR HARRIS: (laughter)

15 B. C. SCHMITT: We have -- we've  
16 improved the labeling, the graphic's package on  
17 the truck we're picking up this month.

18 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.

19 B. C. SCHMITT: As well as -- and if  
20 that meets your satisfaction, we will carry it  
21 through on to 2234.

22 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay. Got it.

23 All right. If there are no other  
24 questions, then I will make a motion to purchase  
25 a new Smeal truck to be known as 2234, in

1 accordance with the bid spec's, with the  
2 additions discussed tonight, in the total amount  
3 of \$552,400.00.

4 Do I hear a second?

5 DIRECTOR MILLNER: I will second  
6 that.

7 DIRECTOR GANS: Any discussion?

8 (No response.)

9 DIRECTOR GANS: All in favor?

10 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Aye.

11 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Aye.

12 DIRECTOR GANS: Aye.

13 Motion passes three to nothing.

14 Go ahead and order the truck.

15 B. C. SCHMITT: Very good. Thank  
16 you.

17 DIRECTOR GANS: All right.

18 B. C. SCHMITT: We'll need your  
19 signature.

20 DIRECTOR GANS: I figured that.

21 Okay.

22 CHIEF SPIEGEL: Thanks, Dave.

23 That's all I have.

24 DIRECTOR GANS: All right. Thank  
25 you.

1 Attorney's Report?

2 MISTER HOFFMAN: Sir, I do not have  
3 a report, this evening.

4 DIRECTOR GANS: All right.

5 Any New Business?

6 (No response.)

7 DIRECTOR GANS: No?

8 Any Unfinished Business?

9 (No response.)

10 DIRECTOR GANS: The tentative agenda,  
11 I hope, -- let me look to make sure, for  
12 tonight's meeting includes the possibility of a  
13 Closed Meeting.

14 We're going to hold a brief Closed  
15 Meeting and when we come out, we will announce  
16 any votes. I don't expect there to be any.

17 At this time, I make a motion to go  
18 into Closed session pursuant to Missouri Revised  
19 Statute 610.021, One, Legal Actions and Advice;  
20 Three, Personnel Matters; Nine, Employee Groups  
21 and Negotiations, Thirteen, Personnel Records.

22 Do I hear a second?

23 DIRECTOR MILLNER: I will second  
24 that.

25 DIRECTOR GANS: Any discussion?



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(No response.)  
DIRECTOR GANS: All in favor?  
DIRECTOR MILLNER: Aye.  
DIRECTOR HARRIS: Aye.  
DIRECTOR GANS: Aye.  
Motion passes three to nothing.  
We are off the record and going into  
Closed.

*(Minutes recorded by the Monarch Fire  
Protection District and transcribed by Virginia  
L. Long.)*

(Whereupon, at 7:45 P.M., the Board entered  
into a Closed Meeting, returning to the Open  
Meeting at 8:12 P.M., with Minutes taken by  
Attorney Hoffman.)

Director Gans stated that no votes  
were taken during the Closed Meeting.

With no further business to discuss,  
Director Gans made a motion to adjourn the Open  
Meeting, seconded by Director Millner.

Director Gans, Director Millner and  
Director Harris each voted "Aye" to the motion  
for adjournment.

At 8:14 P.M. the Meeting was  
adjourned and off the record.

1 (A full copy of the Original Minutes may be  
2 seen at the Monarch Fire Protection District's  
3 Headquarters.)

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