

MINUTES OF AN OPEN MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
DIRECTORS OF THE MONARCH FIRE PROTECTION
DISTRICT OF ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI,
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 25, 2018

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3 NEW BUSINESS

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5 UNFINISHED BUSINESS..... 27

6 ADJOURNMENT

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DIRECTORS OF THE MONARCH FIRE PROTECTION
DISTRICT OF ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI,
HELD ON WEDNESDAY JULY 25, 2018

Chesterfield, Missouri

July 24, 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 Wednesday, July 25, 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.

1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 7:00 P.M.

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

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

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

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

13 DIRECTOR MILLNER: I have none.

14 DIRECTOR HARRIS: I have none.

15 DIRECTOR GANS: I have none.

16 Chief?

17 CHIEF SPIEGEL: Yes, sir. I would
18 like to postpone item C., until later.

19 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay. We will remove
20 item 8-C from the agenda, tonight.

21 Any other changes?

22 DIRECTOR MILLNER: No.

23 DIRECTOR GANS: All right, hearing
24 none, we're going to move to Citizen Comments.

25 Seeing no citizens, there'll be no

1 Citizen Comments.

2 And, with that, we move to the
3 President's Report.

4 I want to mention something that I
5 haven't actually talked about in years. Many
6 years.

7 And, on one hand, it's not something
8 I ever like to talk about, but, it -- it's what
9 we do.

10 I was monitoring a call, I believe,
11 on the Fourth of July. A house fire in West
12 County's District.

13 This was during a line of storms
14 that moved through and created a large call
15 volume and we know, when we have a large call
16 volume, we end up doing a lot of mutual aid, in
17 and out.

18 The result of that was 2202 had
19 command of a fairly significant house fire in
20 West County's District. I won't name what the
21 subdivision was, but, -- and it'd been a while,
22 but I listened to the call and it was a two alarm
23 call, with a lengthy period of fire suppression.

24 And I want to commend Battalion
25 Chief Fassler for a job well done.

1 You commanded the scene. I was
2 hearing all the "com's" I was mainly listening to
3 the main channel, not the tech channels and you
4 had a lot going on, a lot of equipment; those
5 aren't particularly small lots, but there's
6 limited space to work with what you had.

7 And you had a pretty long event.

8 So I hope that West County
9 appreciated the job that you did and I appreciate
10 the job you did. A job well done.

11 So, thank you.

12 (Generous applause.)

13 DIRECTOR GANS: And that concludes
14 the President's Report.

15 On to the Secretary's Report.

16 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Alrighty.

17 (Inaudible)

18 I have a few Minutes that need
19 approval.

20 I would like to move for the
21 approval of the Open Meeting Minutes for July 12,
22 2018 and July 18, 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: I also move for
8 the approval of the Closed Meeting Minutes from
9 July 12, 2018 and July 18, 2018.
10 DIRECTOR GANS: I will second the
11 motion.
12 Any discussion?
13 DIRECTOR MILLNER: No.
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: And, that con-
20 cludes the Secretary's Report.
21 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.
22 Moving on to the Treasurer's Report.
23 DIRECTOR HARRIS: We have disburse-
24 ments in the amount of \$422,649.20 for the
25 period.

1 We have seven checks over \$5,000.00.
2 Check number 41483 to Ameren
3 Missouri for utilities and it looks like, at
4 least, the training tower was cheap.
5 DIRECTOR GANS: It wasn't cheap on
6 water.
7 (General laughter.)
8 DIRECTOR GANS: If you look at
9 bill.
10 They've gotta stop using so much
11 water there.
12 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Check number 41497
13 to Don Brown.
14 That, I believe, is a dealership.
15 Is that not correct?
16 CHIEF SPIEGEL: Yes, sir.
17 DIRECTOR HARRIS: And that would be
18 for three replacement staff vehicles.
19 And I want to point out that, in
20 fact, those were part of our budget and done
21 without bond money, as we have been doing for the
22 time I've been on the Board.
23 Our staff vehicles come out of just
24 our standard operating budget.
25 CHIEF SPIEGEL: That's correct.

1 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Check number
2 41516.

3 Pardon me. I believe I left out the
4 amount. That was for the Don Brown for three
5 staff vehicles; \$108,237.00 and no cents.

6 Check number 41516 to Mediclaims, in
7 the amount of \$8,246.54.

8 That would be for the June billing.

9 Check number 41521 to Ogletree,
10 Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, in the amount of
11 \$12,219.00 and no cents.

12 That is a June billing for legal
13 expenses.

14 Check number 41525 to Public Safety
15 Upfitters in the amount of \$31,665.00 and no
16 cents.

17 That is for the specialized safety
18 equipment for our three new staff vehicles.

19 I believe, life packages and some
20 other --

21 DIRECTOR GANS: Which the Board has
22 gotten to see.

23 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Yes.

24 DIRECTOR MILLNER: That's pretty
25 cool.

1 DIRECTOR HARRIS: And, actually, as
2 we all know, probably the highest risk to first
3 responders, that in the current era is traffic.

4 And so making sure those vehicles
5 are high-viz, along with our apparatus, I think
6 that new paint scheme will make our trucks and
7 ambulances higher viability.

8

9 Sorry.

10 It's an inside joke, over that paint
11 scheme, but --

12 Check number 41542, to United Health
13 Care in the amount of \$188,482.82.

14 And that is for the August billing
15 for health care.

16 Check number 41543 to UNUM in the
17 amount of \$11,737.46.

18 That is for June and July billing.

19 (Static.)

20 DIRECTOR GANS: Disability?

21 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Yes.

22 DIRECTOR GANS: All right. And
23 that would (static) -- pardon me.

24 DIRECTOR HARRIS: I'm sure that is.

25 Are there any questions?

1 DIRECTOR GANS: As a matter of
2 fact, I did send some questions to Michelle and
3 the chief.

4 And they were satisfactorily
5 answered.

6 I do note that it was the roughest
7 time period for air conditioning units I've ever
8 seen.

9 I'm not sure we didn't replace 2237
10 with the --

11 CHIEF SPIEGEL: We did.

12 DIRECTOR GANS: -- cost of the air
13 conditioning.

14 There -- there were significant
15 bills for that. We all know that we had a very
16 hot May and June and we all had big electric
17 bills and the Fire District ended up with some
18 large air conditioning repair bills for its
19 ambulances.

20 But, of course, we run calls for
21 everything and having a cool ambulance is
22 important.

23 So we should have cool ambulances.

24 Other than that, all the questions
25 were satisfactorily answered. That one was, as

1 well.

2 So I have no further questions.

3 DIRECTOR MILLNER: I have no
4 questions.

5 DIRECTOR HARRIS: And those were all
6 answered satisfactorily.

7 I did have just a request, along
8 those lines.

9 Would you have our maintenance
10 personnel provide, to the Board, a list with the
11 year we acquired -- not the apparatus,
12 ambulances, but the units in the Houses and in
13 Headquarters, so we have sort of a broad overview
14 of where we are on the air conditioning units
15 that provide for our actual facilities?

16 It is something -- I know we've been
17 in a process of upgrading and that may actually
18 be something we're going to bring up in our
19 budget meetings.

20 But, just them if they could;
21 there's not a rush, in the next couple of weeks,
22 generate that.

23 There shouldn't be having -- there
24 shouldn't be that many units.

25 CHIEF SPIEGEL: You're talking about

1 the HVC's in the --

2 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Yeah.

3 CHIEF SPIEGEL: Okay. I'll see what
4 I can come up with.

5 And, previously, our practice has
6 been to budget a replacement per year, out of
7 greed..

8 And that's -- that's been a
9 successful practice.

10 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Yeah, I -- I mean,
11 I have seen that, I think every year I've been on
12 the Board, we're replacing at least one.

13 But, just trying to -- because, it
14 -- it came to the forefront because of the high
15 costs in a -- in this check run.

16 CHIEF SPIEGEL: I'll do it.

17 DIRECTOR HARRIS: In that case, in
18 reviewing these disbursements, they appear to be
19 reasonable and necessary in the conduct of the
20 District's business.

21 Chief Spiegel, were these checks
22 prepared per your recommendation?

23 CHIEF SPIEGEL: Yes, they were.

24 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Do they violate
25 any state bidding statutes, or constitute

1 installment payments?

2 CHIEF SPIEGEL: None that I'm aware
3 of.

4 DIRECTOR HARRIS: I make a motion
5 that we accept the disbursements as prepared.

6 DIRECTOR GANS: I will second the
7 motion.

8 Any discussion?

9 DIRECTOR MILLNER: No.

10 DIRECTOR GANS: All in favor?

11 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Aye.

12 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Aye.

13 DIRECTOR GANS: Aye.

14 Motion passes three to nothing.

15 DIRECTOR HARRIS: And is often my
16 habit, just a quick comment.

17 While today is July 25th, in fact
18 this coming Friday will mark the end, once again,
19 of the Korean War, one which most people tend to
20 forget, which cost a number of Americans their
21 lives and saw some of the, well, heroic acts that
22 were on par with anything in any war or conflict.

23 And, also, on Friday, the 27th is the
24 anniversary of the death of Bob Hope. And that's
25 actually kind of linked, because while he lived

1 to the age of 100, he did, I believe, over 50
2 movies and untold visits to military facilities
3 providing entertainment and support.

4 And that completes the Treasurer's
5 Report.

6 DIRECTOR GANS: Thank you.

7 Moving on to the Chief's Report.

8 CHIEF SPIEGEL: Yes, sir. Item A.,
9 on -- on my agenda is -- we postponed the fire
10 alarm system upgrades, pending a review by the
11 attorney.

12 And Matt has weighed in on that and
13 (inaudible due to coughing) get those approved.

14 DIRECTOR GANS: Matt, --

15 MISTER HOFFMAN: Yes, sir.

16 DIRECTOR GANS: -- we're not on the
17 Attorney's Report, but do you have anything to
18 report on this?

19 MISTER HOFFMAN: Well, I would say
20 that on -- on each one, we want to make a
21 separate motion.

22 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.

23 MISTER HOFFMAN: I've reviewed each
24 document and the prices are -- are different, but
25 similar pricing on each one.

1 So I would do a different motion for
2 each property.

3 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay. And you've
4 reviewed the contracts and they're acceptable?

5 MISTER HOFFMAN: Yes, sir.

6 DIRECTOR GANS: Thank you.

7 At this time, I will make a motion
8 to accept the bid from Tech Electronics for fire
9 -- fire protection, a fire alarm system upgrades
10 for the Administrative Building in the amount of
11 \$29,419.00 and no cents.

12 Do I hear a second?

13 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Second.

14 DIRECTOR GANS: Any discussion?

15 DIRECTOR MILLNER: No.

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 I make a motion to accept the bid
22 from Tech Electronics for fire alarm upgrades for
23 the Maintenance Building in the amount of
24 \$17,694.00 and no cents.

25 Do I hear a second?

1 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Second.
2 DIRECTOR GANS: Discussion?
3 (No response.)
4 DIRECTOR GANS: All in favor?
5 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Aye.
6 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Aye.
7 DIRECTOR GANS: Aye.
8 Motion passes three to nothing.
9 And, finally, I make a motion to
10 accept the bid from Tech Electronics for fire
11 alarm upgrades to Station House Number Five, in
12 the amount of \$21,550.00 and no cents.
13 Do I hear a second?
14 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Second.
15 DIRECTOR GANS: All in favor?
16 Or, is there a discussion?
17 DIRECTOR MILLNER: No.
18 DIRECTOR GANS: All in favor?
19 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Aye.
20 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Aye.
21 DIRECTOR GANS: Aye.
22 Motion passes three to nothing.
23 CHIEF SPIEGEL: Thank you.
24 DIRECTOR GANS: Hm-hm.
25 CHIEF SPIEGEL: Well, item B, some

1 -- a couple of meetings ago I had asked the Board
2 to consider allowing a third party contract lawn
3 care, so we could relieve Randy of some duties.

4 The properties are demanding, time
5 demanding and -- and intense labor demanding.

6 So, we have done that. We have
7 received quotes from several lawn care.

8 The low bid was Wells Lawn Care.

9 Their bid came in at \$456.00 per
10 week, estimated to complete 2018 would be about
11 \$5,400.00.

12 So I would like to make a
13 recommendation that we hire Wells, pending that
14 they have work health insurance and liability
15 insurance.

16 And they have claimed they have the
17 -- we have not received that, yet, but they claim
18 that they have that.

19 DIRECTOR GANS: Is that something
20 we need to vote on?

21 MISTER HOFFMAN: Yes. I would vote
22 on any -- their service, so you -- I guess you
23 don't technically have to, but because there were
24 multiple bidders, I think it's a good idea to --
25 to make a motion and approve.

1 But, I would do the motion subject
2 to receipt -- those insurance documents.

3 DIRECTOR GANS: Right.

4 And this is not under contract, so
5 this is -- all right.

6 CHIEF SPIEGEL: And I would like, if
7 it -- if it -- if it plays out well, that might
8 be something we would entertain on 2019's budget.

9 And then we would go out to bid.

10 Because there were several companies
11 interested in the business.

12 DIRECTOR GANS: All right. Is
13 there any -- do we have any relationship with
14 this company?

15 CHIEF SPIEGEL: We do not.

16 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.

17 Then I will make a motion to engage
18 the services of Wells Landscaping for landscape
19 -- for grass cutting and landscaping?

20 CHIEF SPIEGEL: Wells Lawn Service.

21 DIRECTOR GANS: Wells Lawn Service.

22 And this is for grass cutting only?

23 CHIEF SPIEGEL: Grass cutting,
24 trimming and cleanup.

25 DIRECTOR GANS: Grass cutting.

1 Grass cutting, trimming and cleanup.

2 CHIEF SPIEGEL: And that's for all
3 -- all properties.

4 DIRECTOR GANS: For all properties,
5 in the amount of \$456.00 a week, subject to the
6 receipt of all required documentation of
7 insurance and related matters on a need -- on a
8 as-needed bases at the chief's discretion.

9 Do I hear a second?

10 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Second.

11 DIRECTOR GANS: Discussion?

12 DIRECTOR MILLNER: No.

13 DIRECTOR GANS: All in favor?

14 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Aye.

15 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Aye.

16 DIRECTOR GANS: Aye.

17 Motion passes.

18 CHIEF SPIEGEL: Thank you.

19 That concludes my report.

20 DIRECTOR GANS: All right.

21 Attorney's Report?

22 MISTER HOFFMAN: I -- I do not have
23 anything else, this evening.

24 DIRECTOR GANS: Well, thank you for
25 the report you gave us, though.

1 (General chuckles.)

2 DIRECTOR GANS: That takes us to
3 New Business.

4 The Board has had a discussion about
5 Meeting dates, which we wish to announce now in
6 a public meeting.

7 We are going to hold a Closed
8 session on August 1st at 5:30 P.M.

9 There'll be an Open session at Seven
10 P.M., on August 9th.

11 We then have two unusual times on
12 the next two.

13 There will be an Open Meeting on
14 August 13th at Nine A.M.

15 Finally, there'll be a Closed
16 Meeting on August 24th at Ten A.M.

17 That brings me to budget workshops.
18 The Board needs to begin addressing that.

19 As I look at this schedule, the only
20 dates we'd probably be able to possibly do it
21 would be the 1st, or the 8th.

22 And I'm not even consulting the
23 Board before I consult the head-shaking Michelle,
24 who --

25 (General laughter.)

1 DIRECTOR GANS: -- me telling
2 that, I expected that.

3 So we will take up budget
4 discussions and we'll have to move through them
5 rapidly in September.

6 MS. DEPEW: Absolutely.

7 DIRECTOR GANS: Certainly nothing
8 wrong with sending out information to us in
9 advance for us to mull over what there is.

10 But, when we set the September
11 dates, they will include at least one, if not two
12 budget workshops.

13 (Severe static)

14 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay. Any other
15 New Business?

16 DIRECTOR HARRIS: We don't really
17 need to.

18 DIRECTOR GANS: That's true.

19 (Severe static)

20 DIRECTOR GANS: We're going to move
21 on to any other New Business.

22 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Actually, I just
23 wanted to make a -- a quick comment.

24 Would you please put out information
25 to the Board when you are ready, so we -- we can

1 find dates.

2 I may try to come in, when you --
3 once you get your broad, or more pointed
4 overview, I -- I may still try to come by and
5 just meet with the chief and our controller to
6 take a quick look --

7 (Severe static.)

8 DIRECTOR GANS: (inaudible)

9 DIRECTOR HARRIS: -- so we would
10 appreciate knowing when you're ready.

11 I realize, not -- not the final,
12 budget, just when you're ready at a point where
13 we could hold a discussion.

14 TECHNICIAN: Excuse me. I think I've
15 -- I've tried to maybe hear a little bit of that
16 noise.

17 Could you guys mute your mic's?

18 DIRECTOR HARRIS: We'll go into
19 recess.

20 DIRECTOR GANS: We're going to take
21 a brief recess. We're off the record.

22 We'll all mute our mic's now.

23 (Whereupon, at 7:18 P.M., the Board went
24 off the record and returned on the record at 7:19
25 P.M., as follows.)

1 CHIEF SPIEGEL: (not recorded) a
2 conversation with --

3 DIRECTOR HARRIS: I heard it, too.

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

7 Robin, have you finished what you
8 were saying?

9 DIRECTOR HARRIS: I have. Thank
10 you.

11 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.

12 CHIEF SPIEGEL: As we draft these --
13 these pending budgets, we'll copy the Board.

14 And, certainly, you're invited to
15 any of the staff meetings.

16 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Thanks.

17 DIRECTOR GANS: So, I guess, you do
18 have one other item.

19 Central County meets once a month.
20 I will be out of the country on August 22nd, which
21 is their next scheduled meeting.

22 There are months they don't meet.

23 They generally meet every month, but
24 every once in a while there's not enough on the
25 agenda.

1 We went in tonight, not sure if
2 there was a meeting and I ended up having to
3 leave the meeting before it was over, there was
4 so much.

5 And that doesn't mean you'd be there
6 for hours. We started at five and I left at
7 6:20.

8 So, I need someone to attend in my
9 place on August 22nd at five o'clock.

10 DIRECTOR MILLNER: That'll be fine.
11 I should be able to do that.

12 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay. I think
13 that's --

14 DIRECTOR MILLNER: (not audible due
15 to cross talk.)

16 DIRECTOR GANS: That'll be good for
17 you to go do that.

18 Cary and Les, I'd ask one of you
19 also to go.

20 (More cross talk.)

21 DIRECTOR GANS: Jean, you'll find
22 -- you'll find that helpful. They're, you know,
23 kind of a walk-through with it.

24 DIRECTOR MILLNER: That's August
25 22nd.

1 DIRECTOR GANS: Yes.
2 So, Jean will attend as our rep.
3 Cary, would you check into what we
4 need to do to make that allowable.
5 I think we're -- we now have listed
6 Robin as the alternate.
7 You'll be on that, but we can change
8 that up for this.
9 CHIEF SPIEGEL: We'll make those
10 corrections.
11 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.
12 DIRECTOR HARRIS: I'm not available
13 --
14 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.
15 DIRECTOR HARRIS: -- on the 22nd.
16 DIRECTOR GANS: All right.
17 So, any other New Business?
18 (No response.)
19 DIRECTOR GANS: Any Unfinished
20 Business?
21 (No response.)
22 DIRECTOR GANS: Does anyone have a
23 need for a Closed Meeting?
24 (No response.)
25 DIRECTOR GANS: Hear -- hearing

1 none, I make a motion to adjourn.

2 DIRECTOR MILLNER: I'll second.

3 DIRECTOR GANS: Discussion?

4 (No response.)

5 DIRECTOR GANS: All in favor?

6 DIRECTOR MILLNER: Aye.

7 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Aye.

8 DIRECTOR GANS: Aye.

9 Motion passes three to nothing.

10 We're adjourned and off the record.

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

14 (Whereupon, at 7:20 P.M., the Meeting was
15 adjourned and off the record.)

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